

Service Learning Community Engagement Poster Awards Competition and Celebration

In celebration of the connection between academic learning and community engagement, the UAB Office for Service Learning is hosting a poster competition for students currently or previously enrolled in for-credit service learning courses (courses that combine academic learning, civic learning, and meaningful service to the community). This is an opportunity for service learning students to synthesize and present their service learning experiences in a creative poster form.

A panel of three judges will select ten finalist PowerPoint poster slides that will be printed as posters and exhibited at the Awards Celebration, giving student finalists the opportunity to discuss their learning experiences with influential people from across campus.

The winners will be announced at the Awards Celebration on Wednesday, **January 27, 2010** at 4:00 p.m. on the Fifth Floor of Heritage Hall. Community partners, students, faculty, and staff will be in attendance.

IMPORTANT DATES - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

UAB Online Drop Box submissions of PowerPoint poster slides opens:
Monday, November 2, 2009

UAB Online Drop Box submissions of PowerPoint poster slides closes:
Friday, December 4, 2009 @ noon

Service Learning Community Engagement Awards Celebration:
Wednesday, January 27, 2010 @ 4:00 p.m.

AWARDS FOR BEST POSTERS

First Prize - \$300

Second Prize - \$200

Third Prize - \$100

POSTERS

Posters can be made using a single slide layout on PowerPoint. Simply open a new/blank presentation, and use the "Page Setup" option in the File Menu to change the height and the width of the slide to the required dimensions below. You can start with the sample template or create your own. From here, you can create textboxes and insert images or graphics. It is best to create a smaller scaled paper layout of content, text, and picture placement before actually designing the poster in PowerPoint. By doing so you can create a poster that will effectively convey your overall service learning experience as described. Photographs must be high resolution so that they will not be pixelated if enlarged and printed.

DIMENSIONS OF POWERPOINT POSTER SLIDE:

Slides submitted must be 36" by 48"

CONTENT OF POWERPOINT POSTER SLIDE MUST INCLUDE:

- **TITLE** (e.g. "Service Learning with [Name of Community Partner]")
- Your name, year, major, service-learning course title and number, semester, year, instructor's name, UAB

CONTENT:

Description in words and graphics of your service-learning experience that includes:

- **Enhanced Academic Learning** - how the service with the community partner related to your academic learning in the course.
- **Purposeful Civic Learning** - how the course raised your awareness and understanding of community needs, the broader social context of your service, and how your actions as an individual can impact the community.
- **Relevant and Meaningful Service with the Community** - how your service was organized (place, date, times, how you set it up); how your service correlated with your academic and civic learning; what community needs your service was responding to; how your service impacted the community with whom you engaged.
- **Integration Strategies** - the learning activities that encourage integration of the service experience and academic learning and promoted critical reflection and analysis.
- **What You Learned** - how the experience contributed to your understanding of community issues/needs; in what way it might increase your future involvement with the broader community; how the experience furthered your understanding of how the knowledge, skills, and abilities learned in the course apply to every day life; what you enjoyed and what was challenging; your overall feelings about the value of service.

POWER POINT POSTER SLIDES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED VIA THE UAB DROP BOX WWW.UAB.EDU/IT/DROPBOX TO NORMA-MAY ISAKOW AT NMISAKOW@UAB.EDU.

You will receive an email confirmation once your PowerPoint poster slide has been received. If you do not receive confirmation, please email nmisakow@uab.edu or call 205.996.7080 to confirm receipt.

CRITERIA FOR JUDGING POWERPOINT POSTER SLIDES WILL INCLUDE:

Clarity of Description

Does the PowerPoint poster slide clearly convey that the student understands the different components of service learning (enhanced academic learning, purposeful civic learning, and relevant and meaningful service to the community) and how they apply to the student's own service learning experience?

Clarity of Presentation

Is the wording of the text of the poster slide clear? Has the student chosen the appropriate aspects of his or her service learning experience to describe in the poster slide?

Integration of Text and Images

Do the text and images relate to one another and are they well integrated? Are photographs of high resolution so that they are not pixilated if enlarged and printed?

Ease of Viewing

Is the layout of the poster slide conducive to viewing and understanding the service learning experience? Can the text be easily read? Can the graphics be easily made out and is their relevance readily apparent?

Helpful link for creating posters:

<http://www.cur.org/pdf/Presentations.PDF>

A student who submits a PowerPoint poster slide may submit the same slide for consideration for the UAB Expo to be held on Friday, April 23, 2010.

QUESTIONS? Email Norma-May Isakow, Director of the Office for Service Learning, at nmisakow@uab.edu.