Student Philanthropy Project @ UofL

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE®

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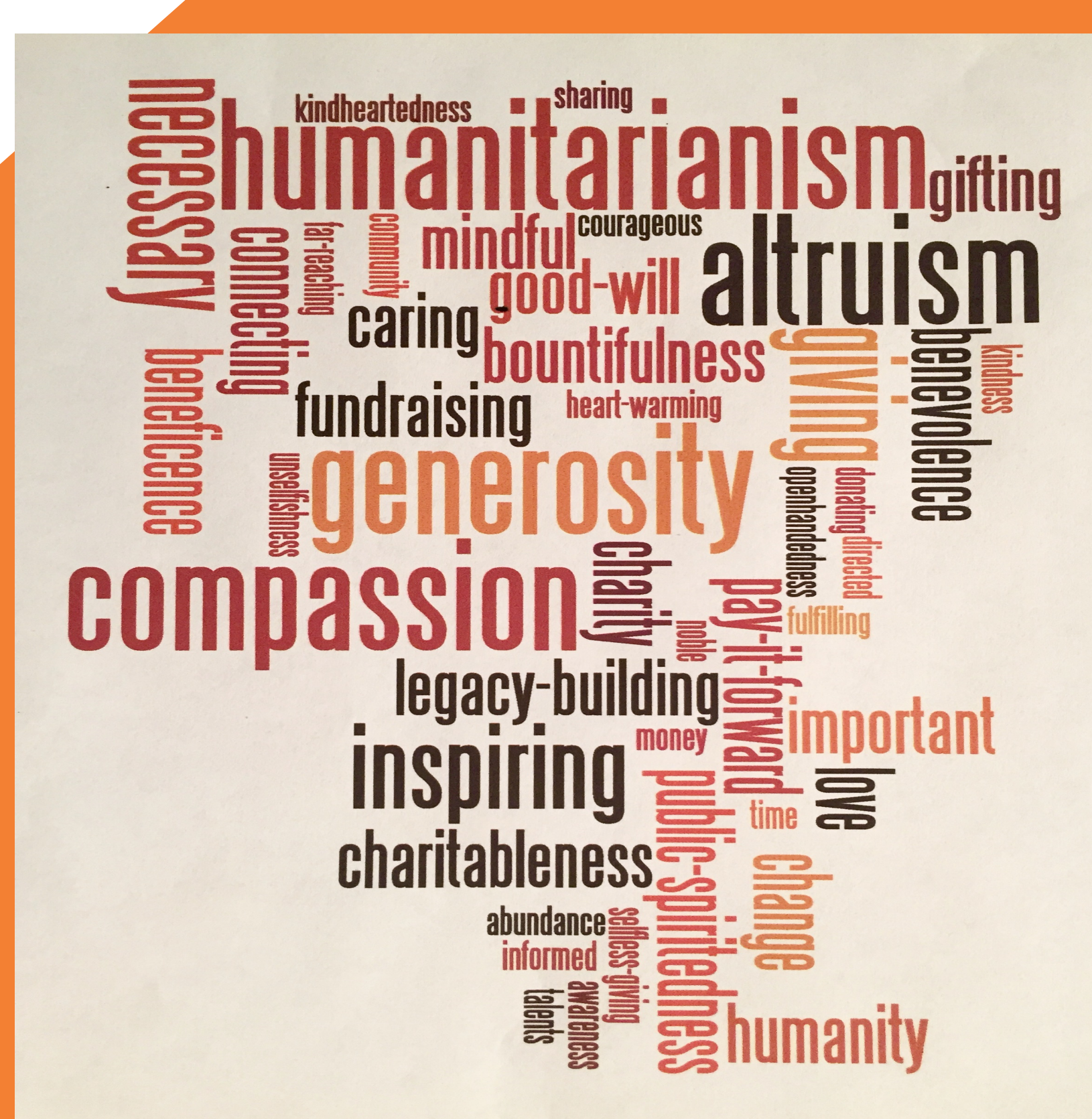
Abstract
The Student Philanthropy Program at the University of Louisville allows students to study community organizations and the role they play in addressing social issues and to make informed decisions to invest in these organizations. Students learn the importance of giving, not only of their time and talents but also of giving financial resources to help community organizations meet their goals of helping others. Students work with local nonprofit organizations in the community to apply knowledge gained in the classroom to real-world situations. Students in each class are given $1,000 and asked to select a nonprofit organization deserving to receive a small grant to further its mission.

What is Student Philanthropy? Student Philanthropy is a form of community-based learning (CBL). In such CBL courses, students identify non-profit organizations in the community and provide them with small grants. Student philanthropy projects have been integrated into a cross section of courses in various disciplines. In these classes, a philanthropic project is imbedded in the course syllabus. For example, a classical music course might include a project requiring students to identify, work with, and fund a nonprofit organization that provides instruction in classical music to children in the community.

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH A GIVING HEART
National Philanthropy Day®

November 15

Philanthropy is "the love of humankind," and National Philanthropy Day® (NPD) is the day that thousands of people around the world come together to both (1) put that word into action and (2) recognize the change that word has brought to our communities.

National Philanthropy Day® Official Website – AFP

GOALS of the Student Philanthropy Program @UofL:

The goals of student philanthropy programs are similar to those of service-learning programs—integrating learning experiences that encourage charitable giving and civic engagement into a variety of fields of academic study. More specifically, the student philanthropy program seeks to:

- Enhance student awareness of social problems and the efforts of nonprofit organizations to address these problems,

- Influence student attitudes and behaviors related to social responsibility, civic engagement, and charitable giving,

- Increase student knowledge of philanthropy, grant-seeking and grant-making processes,

- Improve learning outcomes related to the area of academic study through integration of theory and practice, and

- Improve critical thinking, communication, leadership and other work-life skills *(Miller & Olberdin, 2009)*.

Departments involved in the program:

English
Health & Sport Sciences
Pan African Studies
Political Science
Psychological & Brain Sciences
Women & Gender Studies

Student Philanthropy Program – Grant Recipient List Since Inception

Year	Course	Award Recipient	$ Amount
Fall 2012	Health and Sport Science: Event Management	Neighborhood House	$1,000
Spring 2013	Political Science: Diversity Politics and Policy	Wayside Christian Mission	$1,000
	Health and Sport Science: Non-profit Sport Management	St. Joseph's Children's Home	$1,000
Fall 2013	Women and Gender Studies	Catholic Charities of Louisville	$500
		Girls on the Run of Louisville	$1,000
		PACT in Action	$1,000
	English: Community Literacy Class	Neighborhood House	$1,000
		Women in Transition	$1,000
	Pan African Studies: Introduction to Caribbean Studies	Iroquois Library	$1,000
		Americana Community Center	$1,000
Spring 2014	Political Science: Diversity Politics and Policy	New Directions Housing Corporation	$1,000
	Psych and Brain Sciences: Life-Span Human Development	Center for Women and Families	$1,000
	Health and Sport Science: Non-profit Sport Management	Gilda's Club	$1,000
Fall 2014	Women and Gender Studies	Catholic Charities Hope Campaign	$500
		Muhammad Ali Center	$500
		Girls on the Run of Louisville	$500
		Americana Community Center	$500
	Pan African Studies: Introduction to Caribbean Studies	Doors to Hope	$1,000
Spring 2015	Political Science: Diversity, Politics and Policy	Family Scholar House	$1,000
	Psych and Brain Sciences: Life-Span Human Development	Kentucky Refugee Ministries	$1,000
	Health and Sport Science: Non-profit Sport Management	Southwick Community Center	$1,000
		TOTAL AWARD $ to date:	**$18,500**

Henry Cunningham
Office of Community Engagement
PAS 206 Introduction to Caribbean Studies
Student Philanthropy Project –
- Students working in groups engage in service-learning with non-profit organizations
- Students study the non-profit organization to identify a need that can be addressed through a $1,0000 award
- Each group develops a persuasive presentation or video on the need they identified for their non-profit and present it to the class
- The class votes on the idea and the non-profit that they believe is worth funding

Gary Bernstein
Health & Sport Sciences
SPAD 536 Non-profit Sport Management
Student Philanthropy Project –
Sport administration students learn how to raise money and what it's like to give it away. Among other things, the SPAD program is intended to:
- Increase student awareness of social problems and the work of nonprofit organizations to address them,
- influence student attitudes and behaviors related to social responsibility, civic engagement and charitable giving, and
- teach students about grant-seeking and grant-making processes.

Lora Haynes
Psychological & Brain Sciences
PSYC 363 Life-Span Human Development
Student Philanthropy Project –
- Students have 50-point Service-Learning Project w/one of 7 pre-approved sites, where 28 direct service hours are required, along with critical reflection journals and a critical reflection paper.
- Students coordinate w/each other and their site supervisor to prepare a presentation for the class about the organization.
- Each site/group gives a 7-minute presentation at end of semester.
- Following the series of presentations, the full class VOTES to determine which ONE site will be given the **Philanthropy Award of $1000.**

→ Those goals are in line with UofL's mission of community engagement. Students already complete thousands of hours of service through programs like the Signature Partnership, which focuses on creating, enhancing and launching programs designed to eliminate or reduce disparities that West Louisville residents experience in education, health, economic development and social services.
→ Each class involved in the program is invited to the Student Philanthropy Project Award Ceremony where the **$1000 Philanthropy Award** is presented to the winner from each class

We MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET, BUT WE *make a life* BY WHAT WE GIVE
★ WINSTON CHURCHILL

Lessons Learned and Outcomes for the Future:

1. Great opportunities for scholarly work to be done in conjunction with philanthropy and for faculty to provide a hands-on approach to teaching and learning.
2. Faculty need to include discussion or reading on philanthropy to ensure students understand the concept.
3. It is suggested that the award be given for a specific purpose to ensure funds are spent appropriately and to better assess impact later.
4. Require that nonprofits provide a report on how funds were used.
5. Plans are in place to develop an endowment to expand and fund the program in perpetuity.
6. Efforts are underway to continue to document these efforts and to produce a TOOLKIT that UofL's Office of Community Engagement can share with other institutions and organizations to sustain this kind of work.

http://louisville.edu/communityengagement/

"TRUE PHILANTHROPY REQUIRES A DISRUPTIVE MINDSET, INNOVATIVE THINKING AND A PHILOSOPHY DRIVEN BY ENTREPRENEURIAL INSIGHTS AND CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES."
NAVEEN JAIN
@ Lifehack Quotes

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