



# CENTER FOR ACADEMIC SERVICE-LEARNING

## 2020-2021 YEAR IN REVIEW

19

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

50

ENGAGED FACULTY

115

SERVICE-LEARNING COURSE SECTIONS

2,213

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PLACEMENTS

32,535

HOURS OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY

Although different than anticipated, we had a fantastic 2020-2021 academic year in the Center for Academic Service-Learning at Azusa Pacific University as community-engaged learning continued through virtual projects during the season of remote learning. The eagerness and innovation of dedicated faculty paired with the commitment and collaboration of our community partners have provided **meaningful reciprocal learning opportunities for APU students and community programs**. In the midst of a year marked with uncertainty and unrest, APU students provided academic support to local students, built relationships with older adults in residential facilities, created marketing plans and materials for non-profit agencies, developed nutrition information and resources for families, facilitated online lessons and activities in local classrooms, and much more!

We look forward to how the experiences of the last year will inform new and creative approaches to community-engaged learning!

*Michelle LaPorte, Director*

### ACADEMIC SERVICE-LEARNING

A teaching & learning method that promotes student learning through active participation in meaningful service experiences in the community that are directly related to the course content.

#### FOCUS AREAS:



CONNECTING THEORY TO PRACTICE



CRITICAL REFLECTIVE THINKING



PERSONAL & CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY



FAITH INTEGRATION



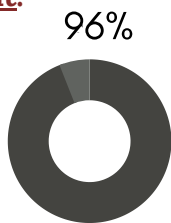
RELATIONSHIP TO PLANNED VOCATION

# STUDENT EVALUATION DATA

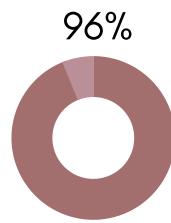
## TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING

At the end of the term, 876 students completed an evaluation of the service-learning component of their course, and results confirmed valuable impact! Outcomes reveal strong, holistic learning that deepened students' perspective in understanding themselves, their faith, and their commitment to be difference makers in the community.

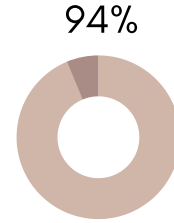
The percentages below display results of students affirming growth in five key focus areas, as a result of their service-learning engagement.



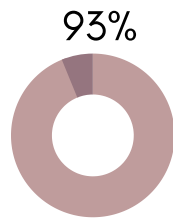
**Connecting Theory to Practice**



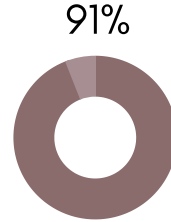
**Vocational Preparation**



**Critical Reflective Thinking**



**Faith Integration**



**Personal & Civic Responsibility**

"This has encouraged me... and taught me it is crucial to continue developing professional and social skills to contribute something positive to the community."

"The service-learning project encouraged me to love as Christ loves us."

"After this experience, I am more excited to do nonprofit work and see how I can apply new skills to help more organizations."

## EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Survey results also identified practical attributes for future employment that service-learning experiences equipped students with. The top five skills students reported that they were able to demonstrate were:

- 1) **Plan, organize and prioritize work,**
- 2) **Demonstrate initiative, maturity, positivity and dependability,**
- 3) **Show interest and enthusiasm,**
- 4) **Demonstrate good working relationship with others,** and
- 5) **Demonstrate cross-cultural understanding and communication skills.**

For more information about service-learning at APU, including course and community partner lists and faculty/community partner resources, visit our website at [APU.EDU/SERVICE-LEARNING](http://APU.EDU/SERVICE-LEARNING)