

IUPUI Center for Service and Learning
Strategic Plan for Research Collaborative (CSLRC)

Mission of CSL-RC

To collaborate on service learning research and scholarship by convening scholars, providing resources, securing funding, conducting research, and disseminating information to further advance the knowledge of good practice, the campus mission, and the public purposes of higher education.

Vision

To make research on service learning a distinctive aspect of IUPUI.

Slogan

“Expanding the network of service learning scholars in higher education.”

Values

CSL staff and associated scholars of the SLRC value scholarly work that

- Uses sound qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches to improve service learning and civic engagement practices among all stakeholders;
- Contributes to knowledge within the scholar’s discipline and to cross-disciplinary knowledge as well;
- Contributes to the improvement of social conditions in communities;
- Integrates the local knowledge of students, community organizations, community members, faculty, and program staff;
- Is based on ethical practice.

CSL staff and associated scholars of the SLRC value collaborative relationships that

- Celebrate and recognize the contributions of others;
- Promote integrity and commitment;
- Are formed through constructive dialogue;
- Develop over time;
- Respect diverse perspectives of all stakeholders.

Goals/Objectives

1. To increase capacity of IUPUI scholars to conduct research on service learning.
 - Provide resources (e.g., travel stipends, books, web resources).
 - Facilitate annual cohort of Boyer Scholars at IUPUI.
 - Increase number of IUPUI faculty conducting scholarship on service learning.
 - Host a bi-annual training institute on research methodology in service learning.
 - Publish monograph on Research on Service Learning.

2. To convene scholars to develop new conceptual frameworks and methodological tools for research on service learning.
 - Sponsor two annual Symposia for scholars on key topics (i.e., international service learning, assessing outcomes, diversity and retention)
 - Co-sponsor the “Civic Engagement” track for the annual Assessment Institute Conference, held each year in Indianapolis.
 - Co-sponsor with International Partnership for Service Learning, the 3rd Annual International Service Learning workshop, March 2008.
 - Host 10th Annual International Research Conference on Service Learning, Oct 2010

3. To conduct and publish research on service learning.
 - Write semi-annual Research Briefs on service learning, civic engagement, campus-community partnership programs.
 - Publish annual Service Learning Research Monographs (i.e., international service learning, assessing outcomes, diversity and retention).
 - Complete current research projects on retention, campus-community partnerships, business students, and articles on civic engagement terminology, and book reviews.

4. To disseminate information on service learning scholarship.
 - Collaborate with National Service Learning Clearinghouse, Campus Compact, and Indiana Campus Compact and other organizations on dissemination.
 - Support CSL staff and IUPUI faculty participation in local, regional, national, international conferences.
 - Develop a new SLRC website to disseminate research tools, collect campus case studies, conference information, and convene scholars.
 - Share information with community partners to improve service learning outcomes.

5. To secure external funding that supports research and the scholarship of service learning.
 - Create grant template of information to date on service learning research.
 - Submit grant proposals that target key research priorities.
 - Collaborate with other scholars and organizations on grant proposals.