

Engaged Signature work and the Civic-Minded Graduate

Bonner Workshop

Fall 2017

Drawing on AAC&U's *Signature Work* and the IUPUI Center for Service and Learning's *Civic-Minded Graduate Model*, this workshop will explore the multiple dimensions of a strong, comprehensive and impactful civic engagement effort leading to a culminating **Engaged Signature Projects** for Bonner students and others. Participants will have the opportunity to reflect on the strength and weaknesses of their own campus and community. What are possible next steps or first steps in building on the strength of their particular community and institution?

- I. Introductions and focus of the workshop - where this idea came from
- II. Opening imaginative activity "The Civic Minded Graduate from your school" (worksheet)
 - a) Have each participant fill out the imaginary graduate – may want to think of actual grads
What does she or he know?
What does she or he value or believe in?
What does this graduate do as a vocation, avocation, or life commitment?
 - b) Share in pairs and then large group feedback
- III. The Civic-Minded Graduate: North Star (handout)
(Steinberg, Hatcher and Bringle MJCSL Fall 2011, pp. 19-33)
 - a) Share Venn diagram
- 3 Circles – explain the concepts – Identity, Educational Experience, and Civic Experience (page 20)
 - b) Brainstorm
 - space 1 - Identity and Education (no civic experience)
 - space 2 - Education and Civic (no identity)
 - space 3 - Identity and Civic (no education)
- IV. AAC&U Signature work
 - a) Brief history of Signature work
 - b) Definition of Engaged Signature work:

Community Engaged Signature Work addresses the capacity-building needs that nonprofits, schools, government agencies, and other external partners have. Individual or group projects could potentially help a

community agency fulfill a range of needs that strengthen the organization, program, reach, and/or impact of their work.

V. Case Studies

a) Introduction of activity

b) In groups:

- Where is the student on the Venn diagram?
- Does the focus of the student's Senior Project have potential to be an Engaged Signature Project?
- How could you imagine you or a member of your faculty assisting this student in integrating their diverse experiences as they move toward graduating as a Civic Minded Graduate?

VI. Concluding reflection – one application to their work with students on their campus