



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

ELISE KIEFFER | MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

ENDOWMENT FUNDED EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: FACILITATING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

ABSTRACT:

This is an examination of student reflections following their participation in an endowment funded experiential learning opportunity at a regional state university located in a rural community. With a hope of promoting this teaching method in other programs, and an aim of encouraging institutions to engage with their local communities, this analysis reveals how students understood and interpreted the real-world impact of their grant making experience. In contrast to traditional classroom practice exercises, the real-world impact of their involvement in this course affected every student in some way.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LISTENING CLOSELY | SURPRISING COLLABORATIONS

BIO(S):

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Program Director and Assistant Professor of Nonprofit Leadership Studies at Murray State University, director of the Nonprofit Resource Center, providing professional development and resources across West Kentucky. Professional affiliations: Social Theory, Politics, and the Arts (VP of Conferences); Journal of Nonprofit Education and Leadership (Editorial Board); International Journal of Regional Issues in the Arts (Editor). Research focuses: Developing capacity at arts organizations serving rural communities, and inter-sector collaboration. Current Project: Rural Arts Management (Routledge, 2024, along with co-author, Dr. Jerome Socolof). She is published in Business Issues in the Arts, Local Government in Small-town America, Effective Methods for Teaching Business Related Topics During and Post Crisis, Journal of Nonprofit Innovation, American Journal of Arts Management, International Journal of Lifelong Learning in Art Education, and International Journal of Social, Political, and Community Agendas in the Arts.

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