



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

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COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY: SIMULTANEOUS SKILL-BUILDING IN COLLEGE COURSES

ABSTRACT:

Community-engaged learning helps students develop awareness of the need to inform audiences about challenges communities face. To act on their new awareness, students need strong communication skills. LSU has a long history of embedding communication skills training into coursework, including service-learning classes. This poster presentation outlines approaches to embedding communication skill development into community-engaged courses and incorporates student testimonials to illustrate the connection between these two high-impact practices.

THEMATIC FOCUS:

Convergence and Intersections: How increasing or decreasing hyperconnectivity can impact community engagement.

BIO:

Sarah Becker is an Associate Professor of African and African American Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies who has been honored with institutional and community awards for her community-engaged and pedagogical work including: the "Power of 9" Volunteer Award from Channel 9 WAFB in Baton Rouge (2016); the Outstanding Service-Learning Faculty Award at LSU (2016); and the Excellence in Teaching Award in Sociology at LSU (2012). She is currently Director of LSU's Center for Community Engagement, Learning, and Leadership.