Mission Statement
Rooted in the Catholic Jesuit tradition of education, the Center for Service and Community Engagement at Saint Louis University brings together students, faculty and staff, and community partners to work toward an equitable and just society through service, community-based learning, and research.

Strategic Goals and Objectives

**Campus Collaboration:** Coordinate collaboration and communication among university programs to enrich service and learning about issues of social justice among our students, faculty, and staff.

**Objectives:**
1. Provide opportunities for representatives from programs integral to the Center’s mission to share funding opportunities, intellectual and educational resources, and best practices.
   a. During year 2008-2009, create a database of services provided and resources available to each program.
      • Conducted interviews with more than 50 University faculty and staff to determine services and resources.
      • Met with faculty and/or administrators about Casa de Salud, Global and Local Justice Initiatives, Health & Wellness, Ignatian Pedagogy, Urban Education.
   b. Use the database to determine strengths and opportunities for growth.
      • Analysis of data is underway with preliminary results.
2. Drawing on the results of this process, identify a short list of key needs not being met at the University in the Center’s area of responsibility and initiate one or more major new initiatives to address them. The advisory board of the Center, as needed, will form teams involving faculty, staff and community partners to initiate strategic planning and explore applications for grants and gifts.
   • In progress based on network analysis data
   • Center strategic plan framed to integrate Center’s mission, Division Strategic Goals & Objectives, University Plan.

**Service Learning:** Promote the coordination of academic learning and community engagement by supporting faculty, staff, students, and community partners involved in community-based service learning courses.

**Objectives:**
1. Identify faculty and staff who use community service learning and determine their best practices and resources, including those who work with learning communities (2008-2009).
   • In progress based on network analysis.
   • Met with faculty from Accounting, Communication, Theological Studies. Resulted in revised syllabi incorporating service learning.
• Met with graduate students in CTE certificate to develop their portfolios.
• Met with Susan Fanale to identify how Center can support learning communities in 2010-11.

   • Workshops held in fall 2009 and spring 2010

3. Increase participation in the Faculty Scholars Program from 6 faculty (summer 2008) to 8.
   • With the ending of VOICES funding, the program will be redesigned by service learning director in 2010-11.

4. Identify reflective activities to link service opportunities to learning (ongoing).
   • With support from CTE and VOICES, sponsored presentation by Patti Clayton on 9/11/09.
   • Hosted Coffee Break and Learn Series on 10/26 and 10/28 on topic “Reflection: Tools to Assess Deeper Learning.”

5. Identify and engage a cohort of community partners interested in community-based service learning. Ideally, those we work most closely with should be involved in the key initiatives identified under Campus Collaboration.
   • In progress based on network analysis
   • Hosted “Meet and Greet” events in fall and spring.

**Student research integrated with faculty and staff research:** Involve students in intentionally designed community-based research projects that better the community.

**Objectives:**
1. Identify faculty and staff who are engaged with students and community-based research.
   • In progress based on network analysis.
2. Coordinate with the Office of Research (and its Office of Undergraduate Research) in initiatives to promote more collaborative social justice research at the University.
   • Community-based research added to President’s Research Fund with VOICES funding.
3. Seek information on the design and implementation of highly successful community-based research models such as the PULSE program at Boston University and the Center for Urban Environmental Research and Policy and the Center for Urban Research and Learning, both at Loyola University Chicago (2008-2009).
   • Interviews held with both as well as with those on campus who do community-based research.

**Community Outreach:** Continue to assist students to recognize the role service plays in their own development and education, by involving them in co-curricular projects and opportunities, both one-time and ongoing, that will reveal and enhance their talents, skills, knowledge, and values.

**Objectives:**
1. Increase participation in the ENGAGED program, connecting the students of various residence hall floors with a local non-profit to form a continuous service partnership, by 50%
   • Met with Associate Director of Housing and Residential Life. Recommend we reconsider this objective.
2. Increase the involvement of the students from the Greek community in service projects, moving them from a "philanthropy" mode of charity to a "service for social change" mode.
   - Campus Ministry with Greek community students organized a spring break mission trip.
   - Met with student representatives of Alpha Epsilon Delta to develop tutoring program at Roosevelt and Vashon High Schools.
   - Presented to Greek Philanthropy Chairs on differences of philanthropy, volunteering, and service, and how we can work with them to advance in this continuum.

3. Partner with Campus Ministry on one domestic service trip utilizing appropriate reflective activities, and/or host a session on the importance of reflection on their service experience, as well as how to continue to work for change when the students return.
   - On April 9, students from spring break mission trips reflected on their experiences as a Homelessness Awareness Week panel.

4. Continue and enhance major student service events/activities (Added)
   - Community Involvement Fair (60 agencies took part)
   - Make a Difference Day, October 24, 2009 (2554 students faculty and staff worked at 107 sites with theme of “Connecting Global and Local Justice: The Millennium Development Goals”)
   - Blue Santa Toy Drive and Christmas at SLU
   - APO Showers of Service (643 participants)
   - Homeless Awareness Week
   - Relay for Life (Raised more than $150,000 for cancer research)
   - Campus Kitchen (2,500+ meals delivered per month, Turkey Palooza, Culinary Job Training Program)
   - Worked with Student Conduct to place more than 305 students in service
   - Connected an additional 362 students, plus 21 classes, student groups, and other campus organizations, to service opportunities.

**Operational Goals**

For 2008-2009 (and 2009-2010):

- + Determine physical space requirements and start up needs for the Center.
- + House initial staff, that might include Assistant Director for CTE, Program Manager for Community Outreach, and Jumpstart/America Reads Coordinator, in determined space
- + Reappoint original committee members to work with staff listed above to further advance the vision and mission of the Center.
  - Held six Advisory Committee meetings
- + Identify University salary, program, and research budget lines that support current staff and programs.
- + Explore and determine funding, both for routine programming and possible new initiatives such as servant leadership, mediation skills and techniques.
- + Explore and determine funding to advance strategic goals and objectives.
- + Recruit additional members from key stakeholder groups to serve on advisory board.
• +/- Develop job description for the Director of Center and conduct national search.
• + Develop and propose a budget for 2009-2010.
  + Revisit Center structure and job descriptions and revise as needed in line with strategic planning.
  + Develop database of faculty and administrative contacts for service learning.