

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Judy Hutchinson, Ph.D.

Executive Director

Michelle LaPorte M.Ed.

Associate Director

Debra Fetterly, M.A.

Coordinator for
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Catherine Wade

Office Manager

Presentation Title: Service-Learning : Expanding Education and Job Opportunities

Conference: Western Regional Careers in Student Affairs Day (WRCSAD)

Location: Azusa CA

Presentation Date: October 25, 2015

Presenters:

Judy Hutchinson, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Center for Academic Service-Learning and Research

Karen Sorensen-Lang M.A.

First-Year Seminar Coordinator and Lead Scholar for Service-Learning Faculty Fellows

Michelle LaPorte M.Ed.

Associate Director, Center for Academic Service-Learning and Research

Abstract:

APU Panel addresses academic service-learning and employability in Student Affairs.

Panel presenters from APU included Judy Hutchinson, Executive Director of the Center for Academic Service-Learning & Research (CASLR), Michelle LaPorte, Associate Director of CASLR and Karen Sorensen-Lang, Lead Scholar in CASLR. The majority of the students present had never considered service-learning as a career path; in fact, most had not heard of or had any experience with service-learning. Hutchinson was able to address the definitions, philosophy, ethos and values of service-learning, while LaPorte described sample service-learning programs and their reciprocal positive impact along the potential career paths for Student Affairs professionals. Lang, with both her classroom experience in service-learning, but also her on-going research was able to clearly demonstrate the relationship between the high impact practice of service-learning and the path to employability both for these future Student Affairs professionals and for the college students they would serve.

Future student affairs professionals from schools ranging from San Diego State University to Loyola Marymount expressed excitement and requested additional information about the APU program and APU's model of the role of Academic Service-Learning in transformational learning and scholarship. They were particularly interested in the potential of careers either directly in the field of service-learning as well as in concrete ways of enhancing the impact of other student affairs positions by connections with academic service-learning.