

## Consultation and Support Available to Mott Faculty:

Part of the mission of the Office of Professional Development and Experiential Learning is to encourage and support meaningful, active, hands-on experiences for Mott students that meet academic learning objectives as well as community needs.

Toward this end, we can provide assistance with the following:

- Integrate service learning into course syllabi
- Develop learning objectives for service opportunities
- Establish realistic parameters for projects / experiences
- Choose a service format (e.g., extra-credit, mandatory)
- Assist with site orientations and behavioral expectations
- Develop post-experience reflection activities / assignments
- Evaluate effectiveness of service learning projects



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*“Don’t look at this service as something you have to do,  
but look at it as making a difference.”*

*“You may find a part of yourself that you didn’t know  
was in there—compassion and empathy.”*

## Incorporate a *Meaningful* Service Learning Component into Your Academic Course

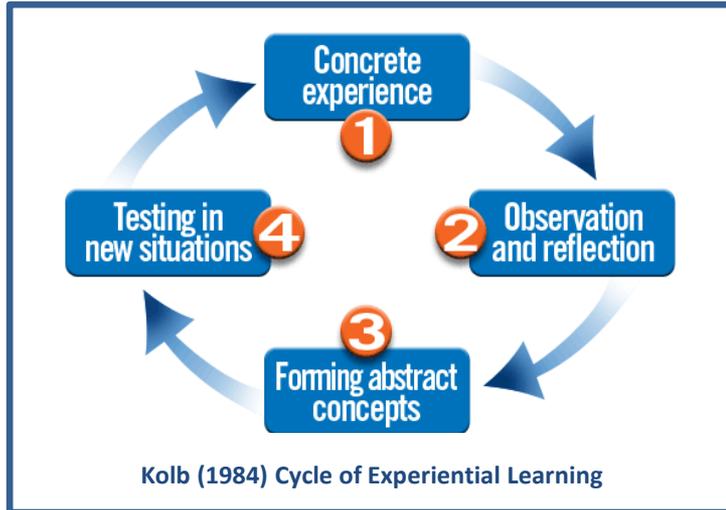


**Faculty Support  
Provided by the Office of  
Professional Development and  
Experiential Learning**

## How Service Learning Differs From Experiential Learning

The field of Experiential Education was enhanced greatly by David A. Kolb (see his model below). While a form of experiential learning, service learning is distinguished by three pedagogical tenets: (a) reflection, (b) civic responsibility, and (c) community reciprocity. According to Janet Eyler and D.E. Giles:

*Service learning is a form of experiential education where learning occurs through a cycle of action and reflection as students work with others ... applying what they are learning to community problems ... as they seek to achieve real objectives for the community and deeper understanding and skills for themselves (Eyler & Giles, 1999).*



### Benefits of Service Learning for Students . . .

Participation in service learning has a significant positive effect on college students. For example, service learning can enhance their academic performance, critical thinking, self-efficacy and leadership skills. Service can also increase students' (a) engagement in the classroom, (b) application of course content to real world settings, (c) awareness of important social-economic issues, and (d) their commitment to service.

*"Give volunteering a chance! You will be surprised how much your service can make others' lives a little easier."*

### Benefits of Service Learning for Faculty Members . . .

Service learning promotes student success, satisfaction and retention in the classroom. Students involved in service are better able to retain course content while gaining valuable life experience. For faculty who work directly alongside students providing service, stronger student-faculty relationships can be developed. In addition, professional recognition and opportunities to publish may result.

### Benefits of Service Learning for the Community . . .

The most effective service learning projects address local needs as identified by community partners. This is very important for two-year colleges seeking to serve their local community and surrounding areas. Student volunteers can provide skills and expertise to local agencies at little to no cost. In return, students become more aware of the role non-profit organizations play and are more likely to support them as community members.

### Finding a Community Partner for Service Opportunities

Assistance is available to faculty who want to identify a community partner to host service opportunities for students. The following organizations have established formal partnership agreements with Mott Community College: (a) *Boys & Girls Club of Greater Flint*, (b) *Carriage Town Ministries*, (c) *Center for Gerontology*, (d) *Flint Eastside Mission*, (e) *Genesee County Habitat for Humanity*, (f) *Humane Society of Genesee County*, (g) *New Century Adult Day Program*, (h) *North End Soup Kitchen*, (i) *Resource Genesee*, (j) *St. Luke's NEW Life Center* and (k) *the YWCA of Greater Flint*.

*"Learning the history behind the doors at Whaley's [Children Center] made the experience very meaningful...that you can take a piece of home with you in your heart."*