

2016-2017 PROGRESS REPORT

THE STUDENT SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP COLLABORATIVE

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



PREFACE

In 2014, the Student Service and Leadership Collaborative (The Collaborative) launched as a new program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) to provide UNO students with opportunities to engage the university with the greater Omaha metropolitan community through action projects that lead to positive social change.

2016-17 marked the completion of a third year for the program. In that time, a number of iterations have occurred to expand UNO student engagement with service and the overall impact of the program. In navigating this report, the student leaders associated with this program and their accomplishments are showcased from their work with area non-profits through to their intentional reflections and learning featured within their e-portfolios.

Notable Achievements and Changes

- » 3,155 hours were contributed to non-profit partners in the Omaha Metro Area by Collaborative students during the 2016-17 academic year.
- » In an effort to better support our non-profit partners and expose more students to different issue areas addressed by the Collaborative, Signature Service Days were redesigned to focus on a specific issue area and featured Collaborative partners on a rotating basis. The Collaborative students also served as volunteer leads, assisting with the coordination of projects featuring their specific partner, and recruiting students to attend these events to begin learning more about service in the Omaha community.

- » Six Collaborative student employees were able to work through the summer to provide additional support and see project commitments through to completion for some of our partners that are focused heavily on summer programming.
- » Two Collaborative student groups had commitments accepted by the Clinton Global Initiative University. Four of the students will be attending the conference to learn about strategies to support their commitments at the national conference in October 2017.
- » The caliber of partners hosting Collaborative students increased through active recruitment by the Collaborative Program Coordinator. Several of these projects are highlighted in the Student Project Spotlight section of this report.

All of these significant achievements and advances to support community engagement within the Omaha Metro Area have all been made possible through generous gifts through the NU Foundation.



THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Administrators can share their perceptions and assessments of the program, but hearing from students sheds new light into the right learning and development taking place through the Collaborative. Here are two students' perspectives on their time as members of the Collaborative.

"My time with The Collaborative has been an enriching experience that has led me to be more involved with the community around me through the act of serving. During my experience with my nonprofit, QLI (Quality Living Inc.), I have been given the opportunity to bring my knowledge to surface by helping those who have just faced a catastrophic accident. In my role as a Program Manager, I am responsible for conducting research, observing therapies, and conducting informal therapy sessions for current residents at QLI. I am grateful that QLI has provided me the opportunity to understand my role and responsibilities as a future Speech-Language Pathologist."

Kelsey Wagner, Program Manager, QLI

"The Collaborative has exposed me to the possibility of a career in the field of non-profit work, something I would not have considered otherwise. I am grateful for the professional skills I have developed as a Program Manager. Additionally, my experience has provided valuable access to relationships and connections in the nonprofit sector."

Treyten Ozuna, Program Manager, Tribal Emergency Management Services



COLLABORATIVE STUDENT PROFILES

Hannah Lopez

Service Supervisor
Sustained Dialogue
Social Justice
Omaha, NE
Speech Language Pathology, 2017

Danielle Galvin

Service Supervisor
No More Empty Pots
Environmental Stewardship
Omaha, NE
Social Work, Public Administration, MSW, MPA, 2019

Brandon Struebing

Service Supervisor
Catholic Charities Phoenix House
Health & Wellness
Albion, NE
Social Work, MS, 2018

Anson Dsouza

Service Supervisor
WhyArts?
Educational Support
Mumbai, India
Management Information Systems, MS, 2017

Robia Qasimyar

Service Supervisor
Conservation Fusion
International Service
Omaha, NE
Public Administration, MPA, 2018

Kyla Miller

Program Manager
A Time to Heal
Health & Wellness
Lincoln, NE
Psychology and International Studies, 2019

Casey Jones

Program Manager
Hope Center for Kids
Educational Support
Bellevue, NE
International Studies, 2020

Mandeep Singh

Program Manager
Hope Center for Kids
Educational Support
Hyderabad, India
Management Information Systems, MS, 2018

Annabelle Abisset

Program Manager
OneOmaha
Social Justice
Omaha, NE
International Studies, 2017

Christopher Schmidt

Program Manager
UNO Office of Sustainability
Environmental Stewardship
Omaha, NE
Political Science and Philosophy, 2020

Paige Nelson

Program Manager
Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska
Educational Support
Omaha, NE
Marketing and Management, 2018

Ali Alghaithi

Program Manager
S.E.H.R. Mission
Educational Support
Sohar, Oman
Mathematics, 2019

Kelsey Wagner

Program Manager
QLI
Health & Wellness
Omaha, NE
Speech Language Pathology, 2020

Treyten Ozuna

Program Manager
Tribal Emergency Management Services
International Service
Omaha, NE
Environmental Science, 2018

Chantel Bruha

Program Manager
Heartland Family Service
Economic Sufficiency
Ord, NE
Social Work, MSW, 2018

Monique (Xan) Burgess

Program Manager
Nebraska Civic Engagement Table
Social Justice
Omaha, NE
Political Science, 2018

Cassandra Griffin

Program Manager
Nebraska Civic Engagement Table
Social Justice
Bellevue, NE
Political Science, 2020

Abdullah Allahyani

Program Manager
Refugee Empowerment Center
Economic Sufficiency
Mecca, Saudi Arabia
Business Administration, 2019

Niveen Kaddoura

Program Manager
Reading Drive for Africa
International Service
Omaha, NE
Public Health, 2018

Natalynn Butz

Program Manager
Red Oak, IA
Emergency Management, 2018

Lauren Butz

Program Manager
Red Oak, IA
Business Management and Music, 2018

Clement Allou

Program Manager
Abidjan, Cote D' Ivoire
Accounting, MA 2020

Abigayle Hansen

Program Manager
Papillion, NE
Biology, 2020

Tomoka Muramoto

Program Manager
Yamaguchi, Japan
International Studies, 2018

STUDENT PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

Over the last year, the caliber of the work and culminating projects that the Collaborative students have been connected to has risen exponentially. This section spotlights just a few of the significant projects that Collaborative student participated in over the last year.

Danielle Galvin

Service Supervisor – No More Empty Pots

- » As a Lead Analyst for No More Empty Pots, Danielle was responsible for submitting several grant proposals. Her duties included proper articulation to funders in order to connect the mission of No More Empty Pots with their history of giving. Danielle also worked to maintain and enhance bookkeeping functions for her nonprofit partner and would eventually train and support newly hired employees of No More Empty Pots.

Brandon Struebing

Service Supervisor –Catholic Charities Phoenix House

- » As a Court Advocate, Brandon was responsible for meeting with survivors of sexual abuse or domestic violence during the initial phase of their court process. During these meetings, Brandon was responsible for connecting clients with resources offered through the Phoenix House. In addition, Brandon was able to use his background in business and finance to conduct financial literacy workshops for survivors staying at the Phoenix House. Workshop topics included, budget maintenance, responsible use of credit, and the consequences of filing bankruptcy.

Anson Dsouza

Service Supervisor –WhyArts?

- » As the Lead Design and IT Analyst for WhyArts, Anson organized and implemented several workshops to connect local artists with teens and adults. Anson was responsible for filming the performances that were a product of the workshops. Subsequently, Anson assembled the raw files into finished products that were hosted on the WhyArts website. Anson also updated his nonprofit’s website using the training and certification in Wordpress, which he attained while partnered with WhyArts.

Mandeep Singh

Program Manager – Hope Center for Kids

- » The Collaborative’s partnership with The Hope Center for Kids is designed to promote increased interest in higher education for youth in North Omaha. As the Program Manager, Mandeep developed programming to facilitate nation-wide college visits, increased access to SAT and ACT preparatory courses as well as guest lectures from professionals in higher education. Through his contacts within the Indian Government and his Sikh Temple, Mandeep was able to secure funding to purchase four laptop computers for the College Readiness Program at The Hope Center for Kids.

Annabelle Abisset

Program Manager – OneOmaha

- » Using her fluency in Spanish, Annabelle facilitated the LEAD Neighborhood Engagement Program for native Spanish speakers. Her workshops focused on the education of members to make them more aware of the resources available in their communities. She also worked to prepare members take on leadership roles within their neighborhoods. In addition, Annabelle conducted Asset Mapping surveys to accumulate the strengths of members within in each community. The results of these surveys were filed and stored for members to access.

Ali Alghaithi

Program Manager – S.E.H.R. Mission

- » As a Program Manager, Ali worked with the Volunteer Coordinator at SEHR Mission to institute an immersive English language and cultural readiness program led by UNO students in support of children (ages 6-14) of Syrian refugees in Omaha. He worked with various UNO entities to recruit, manage and educate UNO student volunteers to serve as tutors and mentors.

Niveen Kaddoura

Program Manager – Reading Drive for Africa

- » As the Program Manager for Reading Drive for Africa, Niveen worked to design a comprehensive STEM curriculum for a 10-day Science Camp scheduled to occur in Cameroon next summer. Niveen also developed a resource guide entailing various funding opportunities available to fund this endeavor. In addition, Niveen’s responsibilities included the development of marketing materials and a social media platform for her nonprofit partner.



DOCUMENTING STUDENT LEARNING THROUGH E-PORTFOLIOS

Electronic portfolios, also known as e-portfolios, “are web-based, student generated collections of learning artifacts (papers, multimedia projects, speeches, images, etc.) and related reflections, focused on learning and growth” (Eynon & Gambino, 2017).

E-portfolios were first piloted in 2015 with students working within the Collaborative as a part of the Office of Civic and Social Responsibility. The goal was to illustrate the significant learning taking place as a result of these experiences while also coaching students on how to be curators of their own learning.

E-portfolios represented a vehicle for documenting student learning across the entire student experience over the course of a student’s academic career. This tool also allows for students to share the full breadth of their learning over time, not just their involvements within the Collaborative Now in its third iteration, e-portfolios are mapped to the co-curricular learning outcomes on the back end while the external-facing content is organized in way that is responsive to the needs of students and prospective employers.

Assessment of Learning

For the 2016-17, the e-portfolios and accompanying final presentations of the Collaborative students were used to assess student learning related to the civic and social responsibility and communication co-curricular learning outcomes (CLO). Based on rubrics used to evaluate the level of student learning the following findings were identified:

CIVIC AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CLO DEVELOPMENT

Community tab reflections and artifacts

- 1. Identifies and addresses the needs of community partners in an empathic way to create projects supporting partners’ initiatives
 - 2. Engages in creating and maintaining a thriving community
 - 3. Understands the value in engaging in service
- » Advanced – 33.3% » Developing – 22.2%
- » Proficient – 33.3% » Minimal – 11.1%

Career tab reflections and artifacts

- 1. Applies what he/she has learned through service and involvement to the professional setting
 - 2. Describes how experiences through service have shaped professional aspirations
- » Advanced – 33.3% » Developing – 27.8%
- » Proficient – 27.8% » Minimal – 11.1%

Leader tab reflections and artifacts

- 1. Reflects on a time that he/she was inspired by someone. What qualities who he/she emulate about that person to be an effective leader and why?
 - 2. Why is the success of the whole team more important than the success of just one?
- » Advanced – 50.0% » Developing – 18.8%
- » Proficient – 22.2% » Minimal – 0.0%

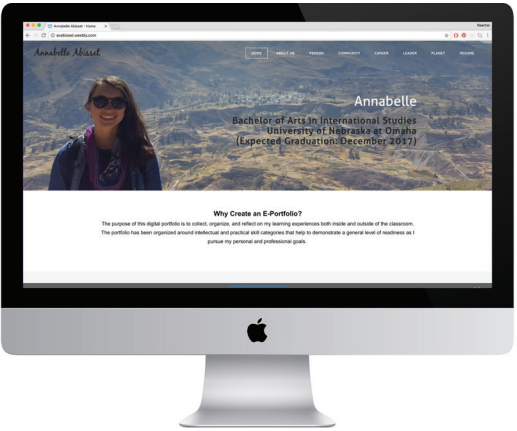
COMMUNICATION SKILLS CLO DEVELOPMENT

- 1. Articulate ideas in oral, visual, and electronic formats
 - 2. Adapt style to the occasion, task, and audience
- » Advanced – 25.1% » Developing – 22.2%
- » Proficient – 56.3% » Minimal – 5.6%
- » Advanced – 25.1% » Developing – 18.8%
- » Proficient – 56.3% » Minimal – 0.0%

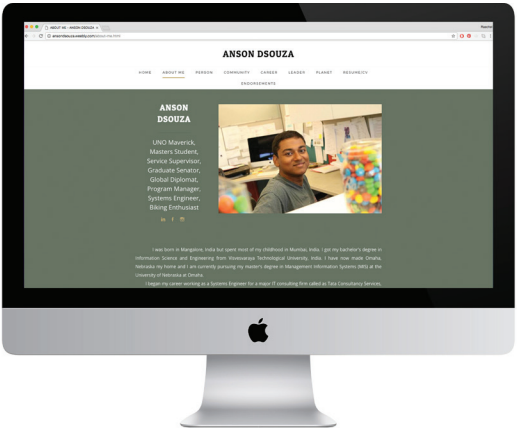
INCLUDED DIGITAL CONTENT

- » Photos – 93.3%
- » Video – 80.0%
- » Other Digital Content – 100.0%

DIGITAL E-PORTFOLIO STUDENT EXAMPLES



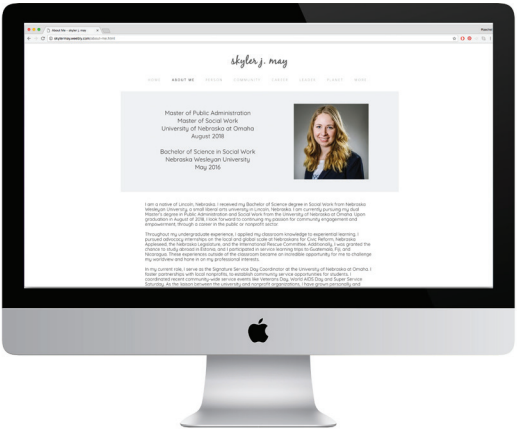
avabisset.weebly.com



ansondsouza.weebly.com



treytenozuna.weebly.com



skylermay.weebly.com

Links to Other Electronic Portfolios

Hannah Lopez | Social Justice
hannahjlopez.weebly.com

Christopher Schmidt | Environmental Stewardship
christopherschmidt.weebly.com

Paige Nelson | Educational Support
paigeenelson.weebly.com

Casey Jones | International Service
caseymariejones.weebly.com

Sandy Griffin | Educational Support
cassandragriffin.weebly.com

Chantel Bruha | Economic Sufficiency
cbruha.weebly.com

Kyla Miller | Health & Wellness
kylaelainemiller.weebly.com

Danielle Galvin | Environmental Stewardship
dmgalvin.weebly.com

Kelsey Wagner | Health & Wellness
kjjwagner.weebly.com

Ali Al Ghaithi | Educational Support
alialghaithi.weebly.com

Niveen Kaddoura | International Service
niveenkaddoura.weebly.com

Brandon Struebing | Health & Wellness
bstruebing.weebly.com

Monique Burgess | Social Justice
xanburgess.weebly.com

Abigayle Hansen | Environmental Stewardship
abihansen.weebly.com

NON-PROFIT PARTNER FEEDBACK



Office of Civic & Social Responsibility
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge Street CEC
Omaha, NE 68182

June 27th, 2017

To whom it may concern:

The Collaborative has been a critical asset to ONE Omaha in 2017. As ONE is a fledgling nonprofit initiative of Nebraskans for Civic Reform, the additional staff assistance is a tremendous asset to our community development work. From semester to semester the diverse interest areas, skills and backgrounds of Collaborative student workers provide a fresh perspective and approach to ONE’s work within communities.

The Collaborative student worker for 2017, Annabelle Abbisset, enhanced an ongoing neighborhood leadership development program by researching, writing, and designing a Neighborhood Project Toolkit. The toolkit serves as a guide and how-to for neighborhood projects and was finalized in May. By the end of June it has already been distributed to dozens of Omaha neighborhood groups and was featured at a national neighborhood conference. Projects like this toolkit are out of the scope of capacity for ONE because of our limited staff and resources. These types of projects are usually executed by contractors, but with Annabelle’s help ONE staff was able to work closely with her through research, and design process, which gave us the ability to make it finalized and executed with more consideration for the people we serve. This project highlights what a meaningful role Collaborative student workers play in ONE’s short term and long term achievements.

In gratitude,

Julie Smith
Program Director
ONE Omaha

1111 Lincoln Mall | Suite 350 | Lincoln, NE | 68508 402-904-5191 nereform.org



Carolyn Owen Anderson - Director
carolyn.o.anderson@gmail.com
www.WhyArtsINC.org

July 6, 2017

Office of Civic and Social Responsibility
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge Street CEC
Omaha, NE 68182

To whom it may concern

WhyArts has had the privilege of having our office space within the Collaborative for the past 2 1/2 years. Being a part of the positive energy , intellectual discussions, and camaraderie of the student managers has been energizing for my office staff and team of artists.

WhyArts is a non-profit arts organization which contracts with local professional artists who deliver specialized arts opportunities to underserved populations, specifically individuals with special needs, low income seniors and at risk youth and families. We lead over 1200 workshops each year with a core of 35 artists. Each workshop is specialized to the unique skills of the participants.

A tremendous asset to our programming this past year has been our Collaborative student manager, Anson Dsouza. Anson not only coordinated all of our website and data collection but assisted regularly with workshops. Every Monday night Anson worked with one of our artists at Northstar, (a local boys club), and with VODEC, (which serves adults with developmental disabilities) every Tuesday. His assistance to WhyArts is so great that he is now working for us this summer and will continue in some capacity after this summer.

WhyArts loves being right in the middle of the Collaborative and values the opportunity to be there. Thank you!

Carolyn Anderson
Director, WhyArts

The Student Service and Leadership Collaborative

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