Service Learning and Intergenerational Justice: Celebrating Sustainability in Indiana

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The Bicentennial Green Legacy Award is given in recognition of a class that has at least 60% of its membership practicing 3 or more climate solutions.

- **URBAN FARMING COLLECTIVE**: Jared Burger and Caleb Hagan are meeting with Ephraim Smiley and other volunteers to identify how they teach city youth the fundamentals of farming. The collective gives a significant amount of produce grown on the farm to food insecure residents in Fort Wayne.
- **TREES INDIANA**: Rachel Filipiak and Hampton Churchill are meeting with Carol Cavell to identify how their organization involves youth in planting and caring for trees in Allen County.
- **SAVE MAUMEE**: Meghan Wiseman and Nick Dutiel are meeting with Abigail King to identify how they educate, engage and inspire Allen County residents to value and engage in the upkeep of Allen County’s waterways.
- **FORT WAYNE METALS**: Mikaela Stockel, Justin Schoepf and Zach Williams are meeting with Korinda Walls to identify how this sustainable business recycles, reduces waste and nurtures a garden on their location.

**Service Learning Course Design**

- The majority of service learning projects focus on meeting unmet needs (Russo 2010).
- Civic engagement includes integrating service-learning and social justice (Cipolle 2010).
- Intergenerational justice engages students in a long-term focus that critically reflects on social change and environmental sustainability (Russo 2010).
- Employing reciprocity as a threshold concept, the service learning component was collaboratively designed in conversation with our partners (Harrison & Clayton 2012).
- Concrete sustainability examples are identified as a narrative rooted in course concepts pertaining to norms, resocialization, the social construction of reality & social change.
- Students meet with representatives from sustainability exemplars identified by our collaborative partner, Sustainable Indiana 2016, to describe the organizations’ contributions to Indiana’s sustainable future.
- Student contributions will be considered for publication in Sustainable Indiana’s book documenting examples of sustainability in Indiana.

**REFERENCES**

- Harrison, Barbara & Patti Clayton. 2012. Reciprocity as a Threshold Concept for Faculty Who are Learning to Teach with Service Learning. *The Journal of Faculty Development* 26(3).

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- **FORT WAYNE RAIN GARDEN PROGRAM**: This high performance multimedia studio assists students and specializes in 3D production, graphic design, CD/DVD authoring, audio/video & web presentation.
- **FORT WAYNE METHANE PROJECT**: Brandon Barker and Nick Powell are meeting with Doug Fasick to discuss how the city of Fort Wayne’s water pollution control plant is reducing emissions through this initiative.
- **INTERFAITH EARTH CARE COALITION**: Chloie Williams and Tori Dantzer are meeting with Megan Sutton to talk about how faith congregations are working together for energy conservation, energy generation (solar panels), rain gardens, etc.
- **GREEN FLEET**: Aubrea Kobryn and Heather Gonzales are meeting with Larry Campbell to talk about Fort Wayne’s award winning program involving hybrids, biodiesel and electric modes of transportation.
- **SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT**: Katlyn Fischer and Michelle Riley are meeting with Jodi Leamon to discuss Allen County’s outreach programs and the business awards they have received for recycling.

Above: From left to right, Caleb Hagan, Ephraim Smiley, Harry Mitchell and Ephraim on the tractor.