Engaging through Duke

2014

ANNUAL REPORT

Duke UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
We are pleased to present to you the Duke Office of Civic Engagement’s first annual report. I trust that in the pages that follow you will come to better understand the deep civic vitality of our campus. By amplifying, coordinating and incubating—the mission of this office—we at the DOCE strive to unleash and catalyze the civic energy of our university to nurture a community of engaged students, scholars, staff and alumni.

The Duke Office of Civic Engagement (DOCE) approaches our work with the conviction that the important question isn’t simply, “What is civic engagement?” or even, “What is civic engagement in higher education?” but instead “What is civic engagement at Duke?” Engaging through Duke provides a snapshot not only of the DOCE’s work in the past year but also of the diverse and ever-changing landscape of academic courses, university programs and student initiatives that our university offers.

Duke was named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service 2014 Honor Roll, which recognizes institutions of higher education that support exemplary community service programs and raise the visibility of effective practices in campus community partnerships. What distinguishes Duke as a leader in civic engagement in higher education is the breadth of programs that we offer, the depth of the knowledge we share and the spirit of commitment and innovation found at all levels of the Duke community. Thank you for letting us share our excitement with you.

Sincerely,
Eric Mlyn, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Provost for Civic Engagement
Peter Lange Executive Director of DukeEngage
Lecturer, Sanford School of Public Policy

“A Duke is recognized for its demonstrated commitment to civic engagement, a commitment that spans mission, culture, leadership and resources. Civic engagement—putting knowledge in service to society—is incorporated in our teaching and learning, both in and out of the classroom, locally, nationally and internationally. But Duke is always looking for ways to do even better, as evidenced by this report.”

- Steve Nowicki, Dean and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
What We Do

As a small office, the DOCE prides itself on being nimble and responsive to grassroots efforts related to civic engagement as they emerge among our faculty, students, staff and alumni. We facilitate collegial conversations through a variety of forums, make connections and encourage collaborations by providing seed funding and meeting space, and coordinate and co-host campus visits from thought leaders in civic engagement.

“The Duke Office of Civic Engagement was instrumental in shaping my Duke experience, which continues to influence the professional decisions I make today. Whether through funding, mentorship or resources, the DOCE was incredibly supportive.”

- Prachiti Dalvi, 2014 Clinton Global Initiative University Campus Representative

Engagement by the Numbers...

55 faculty members conducting engaged research
67 university-run engagement programs
143 courses with engagement components
214 student organizations engaging locally and globally

For the past two years, we have been collecting data on how our university community engages civically through courses, programs, faculty research projects and student initiatives. As with most institutions, Duke does not have a system for consistently tracking this ever-changing landscape of engagement opportunities. These numbers are a snapshot of our count to date. For more information visit http://bit.ly/course-listings.
Highlights of Engagement 2014

Clinton Global Initiative University Growing Exponentially

The DOCE leads Duke’s participation in the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U), designed to bring together the next generation of changemakers from around the world. Each year, students are invited to create Commitments to Action, innovative ideas to ameliorate some of the world’s most intractable problems.

Through a selective application process, a small number of students are invited to attend CGI U’s annual meeting, which brings together students, university representatives and national experts.

In 2014, 29 Duke graduate and undergraduate students were invited to CGI U’s annual meeting, held this year at Arizona State Univ. Duke ranked in the top five schools nationally both in the number of students who applied and the number invited.

Most of Duke’s project teams were multidisciplinary, representing a total of 15 academic majors. The students’ projects took place in 10 different countries, and seven of the projects were carried out in the Triangle region of North Carolina. For the second year in a row, Duke committed $10,000 to support and sustain several projects that demonstrated a high level of integration with Duke’s academic and extracurricular resources.

“I’m so grateful to the DOCE for the opportunities I was given, especially through the Clinton Global Initiative University Annual Meeting, to meet like-minded peers and learn from excellent mentors who gave me the inspiration to be intentional about bringing about change in the community.”

- Pranali Dalvi, 2014 Clinton Global Initiative
Duke Campus Representative

Civic Lives Video Project

In 2014, we launched the Civic Lives video project to feature the many ways members of our university community extend Duke’s intellectual and material resources in support of community-based actions and initiatives. To date we have produced 12 videos in which faculty, students, staff and alumni describe the meaning and purpose of their civic work through Duke. View an archive of these videos at bit.ly/civiclives.
“Duke has a rich, storied and sprawling tradition of civic and community engagement. Precisely because the university's civic work is so broad, the Duke Office of Civic Engagement is indispensable in coordinating, convening and lifting up this essential work. The DOCE helps make public service at Duke more than the sum of its parts.”

- David Scobey, Former Dean
The New School for Public Engagement
2013 DOCE Civic Engagement Distinguished Lecturer

Distinguished Lecture by Mellon Foundation President

In September 2014, the DOCE hosted Andrew W. Mellon Foundation President Earl Lewis for our third annual Civic Engagement Distinguished Lecture.

Intended to be intimate and informal, the event included an invited audience of 50 faculty, staff and special guests.

After delivering a brief address, Lewis then joined Dean of Arts & Sciences Laurie Patton and Sanford School Dean Kelly Brownell for a discussion, moderated by Dean Patton, on public scholarship and the roles of the university for social good.

The program ended with a dynamic question and answer period. Important conversations about how we might effectively apply university resources to ameliorate pressing issues of our time continue to resonate across our campus.

“I really liked the open-endedness of the format, the good humor and will of people, and the significant food for thought. Thank you for organizing this excellent event!”

- Orin Starn, DOCE Faculty Advisory Board Guest at 2014 Civic Engagement Distinguished Lecture

Read about the ideas discussed at this year's Distinguished Lecture.
University Council on Civic Engagement

Civic engagement program leaders and faculty from across the university join together on the University Council on Civic Engagement. Executive Director Elaine Madison and Faculty Chair Robert Korstad lead the Council. In 2014 the group heard from civic engagement leaders from within and outside of Duke, including:

- Eboo Patel, president of the Interfaith Youth Core
- Sam Miglarese, director of the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership
- Provost Sally Kornbluth
- Dean and Vice President for Undergraduate Education Steve Nowicki
- Managing Director for Social Entrepreneurship Matt Nash

Our November meeting was held at Joe’s Diner, famous for its hot dogs and sometimes called ‘the heart of Northeast Durham.” There we discussed Duke’s engagement in Durham and heard from several students about projects they’re working on locally.

“As the energetic hub of civic engagement on campus, the Duke Office of Civic Engagement connects faculty, students and staff with the myriad of civic engagement programs and opportunities available at Duke. The DOCE deepens our impact on the world and the world’s impact on us.”

- Laurie Patton, Dean, Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Collaborations & Conversations

A major function of the DOCE is to participate in and convene conversations about emerging issues in civic engagement at Duke and in higher education nationally. In 2014 we organized formal conversations not only through our faculty advisory board, University Council on Civic Engagement and Distinguished Lecture, but also on many levels more informally. Examples of national and campus events we participated in include:

- Clinton Global Initiative University Meetings in New York City and at Arizona State
- Imagining America Conference at Emory University
- Ashoka U Exchange, a social entrepreneurship conference at Brown University
- Connecting Communities panel sponsored by Duke Student Government and the University Center for Activities & Events
- Civic engagement orientation sessions sponsored by Duke Service-Learning
- Context and Connections Tour hosted by Duke Service-Learning
- Retreat for civic engagement faculty and staff sponsored by the Academic Advising Center and Duke Service-Learning
Our Durham Focus Continues

Our efforts in Durham and the surrounding region were a major focus of the DOCE in 2014. In April, Director Megan Granda spoke at Connecting Communities, a panel sponsored by Duke Student Government that brought civic engagement leaders from across campus together with Durham Mayor Bill Bell to discuss Duke’s engagement in Durham.

DOCE faculty advisory board chair, Professor Robert Korstad, co-taught a course with UNC-Chapel Hill Professor James Leloudis on the history of poverty in Durham that connected students with antipoverty initiatives in and around Durham. Many members of our faculty advisory board, representing nine of Duke’s schools, conduct Durham-based research and scholarship through their respective departments.

Our Durham focus will continue in 2015, as the DOCE and Trinity College of Arts and Sciences together will launch the inaugural Engaged Faculty Fellowship. This will provide funds to a different faculty member annually to support new and existing engaged research taking place in Durham.

In the last 10 years, downtown Durham has undergone significant revitalization. However, this prosperity stands in stark contrast to the intractable poverty that still exists in sections of the city. Thanks to the excellent work of the Duke-Durham Neighborhood Partnership, Duke has a strong track record of poverty alleviation projects in Durham. Duke is poised to continue this work in 2015 and beyond.

“The DOCE seed money allowed us the time to explore thoroughly what a long-term, successful and collaborative partnership with Durham Public Schools would look like. Using inquiry- and evidence-based approaches to develop pilot writing studio models has resulted in ongoing and expanding literacy projects uniting DPS students, teachers, principals and media centers with Duke students, faculty and staff.”

- Jennifer Ahern-Dodson
  Thompson Writing Program Director

Learn more about the Thompson Writing Program.
Who We Are

The DOCE Faculty Advisory Board in 2014

Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Affairs Stephen Nowicki appointed several new members to the DOCE faculty advisory board this year. Douglas Campbell (Divinity School), Aaron Chatterji (Fuqua School of Business), A. Michelle Hartman (School of Nursing) and Michelle Lyn (School of Medicine) have joined the board to serve as advisors and ambassadors of civic engagement at Duke.

A priority of the board in 2014 was to discuss ways to connect faculty scholarship with Durham community needs and priorities. In March, Durham Mayor Bill Bell attended our meeting to discuss the poverty issues facing Durham and the surrounding region as well as his new poverty reduction initiative.

Robert Korstad, Chair
Sanford School of Public Policy

Douglas Campbell
Divinity School

Aaron Chatterji
Fuqua School of Business

Dennis Clements
School of Medicine

Michaeline Crichlow
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Ann Michelle Hartman
School of Nursing

Keval Khalsa
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Emily Klein
Nicholas School of the Environment

Hsiao-Mei Ku
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Michelle Lyn
School of Medicine

Nancy MacLean
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Louise Meintjes
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Theresa Newman
School of Law

William Reichert
Pratt School of Engineering

Orin Starn
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Donald Taylor
Sanford School of Public Policy

Kathi Weeks
Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Learn more at: civic.duke.edu