Seeing Differently Together
Pluralism, Interdependence, and Our Democracy

Summit & Presidents’ Awards Luncheon
April 10, 2019
St. Catherine University
We come together today both to celebrate the good work already being done across the state and to consider ways of building on that work for greater impact.

Vital communities, a strong democracy, and shared prosperity require engagement from all of us. In a time of visible polarization, we support the practices of storytelling and deep listening, both to build interpersonal connections and to inform critical thinking about the systems and contexts that shape our experiences.

Thanks to all our members, affiliates, partners, and other allies who advance that work in distinctive ways. Please continue to share your stories, insights, and opportunities for collaboration with MNCC and each other!

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**WiFi:** stKate-guest

**Gender-neutral restrooms** are past the registration tables and down the hall

**Prayer space** is available in room 370 or the 4th floor Atrium. Prayer rugs are available for checkout. Ask registration for more information.

**A lactation room** is available in the Library, attached to this building. Ask registration for more information.
Program

11:45 Welcome
- Rebecca Roloff, President, St. Catherine University
- Tom Ries, President, Concordia University, St. Paul; Chair, MNCC Board of Dir.

“This I Believe” Awardee Remarks
- Zaynab Abdi, St. Catherine University, Newman Civic Fellow
- Mohamed Mohamud, St. Cloud State University, Newman Civic Fellow
- Sue Simon, Nurse Manager, Mayo Clinic
- Teresa Forliti, Executive Director, Breaking Free
- Marvin Anderson, Rondo Avenue, Inc. and Rondo Commemorative Plaza

Presentation of Awards
- Tom Ries, President, Concordia University, St. Paul; Chair, MNCC Board of Dir.
- Emily Shields, Acting Executive Director, Minnesota Campus Compact and Executive Director, Iowa Campus Compact

1:30 Keynote — Justice Natalie Hudson, Minnesota Supreme Court
Seeing Differently Together: Pluralism, Interdependence, and Our Democracy

2:15 Community Colleges for Democracy — Verdis Robinson, Director of Community College Engagement, Campus Compact

2:30 Roundtable Discussions (join two of the following)
- The Arts and Social Change — Valentine Cadieux, Assistant Professor and Director of Sustainability and Environmental Studies, Hamline University; Doug Scholz-Carlson, Artistic Director, Great River Shakespeare Festival
- Community Dialogue Toward Inclusivity — Victoria McWane-Creek, Director of Housing and Residential Life, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
- Critical Perspectives on Community-Engaged Learning — Kristina Medina-Vilariño, Assistant Professor of Spanish, St. Olaf College
- Helping Students Find and Use Their Gifts in Community — Jeanne Lojovich, Assistant Director, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program, Concordia University, St. Paul
- Institutional Partnerships for Thriving Rural Communities — Pat Thomas, Director, Southwest Adult Basic Education
- Intergenerational Strategies for Connected Communities — Syndey Bauer, Student, University of Minnesota, Morris; Charlie Dunne, Student, University of St. Thomas
- PK-12 Partnerships for Inclusive Excellence in Higher Education — Amy Hornby Uribe, Associate Professor, and Linda D’Amico, Professor, Global Studies and World Languages, Winona State University
- Reconnecting: 2018 bushCONNECT Delegation Gathering — Sinda Nichols, Associate Director, Minnesota Campus Compact
- Seeing Ourselves as Agents of Change in Our Own Communities — Teresa Forliti, Executive Director, Breaking Free

Alternate Breakouts
- Shaping Our Network’s Future: Iowa and Minnesota Collaboration (Room 361) — Emily Shields, Acting Executive Director, Minnesota Campus Compact and Executive Director, Iowa Campus Compact
- Community Colleges for Democracy (President’s Dining Room) — Verdis Robinson, Director of Community College Engagement, Campus Compact

3:30 Adjourn
Each year Minnesota Campus Compact invites member presidents and chancellors to give statewide recognition to civic engagement leaders in three categories. We are also delighted to recognize the students they nominate for the national Campus Compact’s Newman Civic Fellowship.

**Presidents’ Student Leadership Award**
This award is for an individual student or a student organization that models a deep commitment to civic responsibility and leadership, evidenced by initiative, innovative and collaborative approaches to addressing public issues, effective community building, and integration of civic engagement into the college experience.

**Newman Civic Fellowship**
This program honors the legacy of Frank Newman by recognizing community-committed students who engage in collaborative action with others from campus or from surrounding communities in order to create long-term social change, take action in addressing issues of inequality and political polarization, and demonstrate the motivation and potential for effective long-term civic engagement.

**Presidents’ Community Partner Award**
This award is for a community-based organization that has enhanced the quality of life in the community in meaningful and measurable ways and has engaged in the development of sustained, reciprocal partnerships with the college or university, thus enriching educational as well as community outcomes.

**Presidents’ Civic Engagement Steward Award**
This award is for a member of the faculty, administration, or staff or for a group (e.g., advisory committee, task force, project team) that has significantly advanced their campus’ distinctive civic mission by forming strong partnerships, supporting others’ civic engagement, and working to institutionalize a culture and practice of engagement.

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**Our Shared Commitments:**
See more at compact.org/actionstatement.

We empower our students, faculty, staff, and community partners to co-create mutually respectful partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities beyond the campus.

We prepare our students for lives of engaged citizenship, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.

We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities—economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.

We harness the capacity of our institutions—through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practice—to challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future.

We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.
Augsburg Garden Team, Augsburg University
Nell Gehrke and Urgesa Chiri cultivate storytelling, listening, connections, and lots of vegetables in the Augsburg Community Garden. Last year, they supported gardeners through a major garden renovation, offering extra support, recruiting students to help, and acting on concerns to make the garden more accessible, welcoming, and beautiful for campus and community.

Ehkhudah Zar, Bethel University
Ehkhudah demonstrated a deep commitment to civic engagement through spending her summers working with the Urban Farm and Garden Alliance to create just food systems. She also organized a Dakota Sacred Sites tour with Healing MN Stories to educate the Bethel community on the stories of Dakota people.

Juliette Bobrow, Carleton College
Juliette is a trusted, creative, collaborative, and joyful leader. In addition to overseeing 13 student-led volunteer programs dedicated to the health and wellbeing of local communities, Juliette has completed two community-engaged internships, researched transnational feminist peace networks, and serves on the board for the Undergraduate Journal of Humanistic Studies.

Laura Precourt, College of Saint Benedict
Laura’s civic engagement activities reflect her passion for finding sustainable solutions to community issues through the promotion of local food, a personal commitment to environmental sustainability, by seeking sustainable solutions to social and economic inequity, and via women’s leadership development.

Brooke Steigauf, Concordia University, St. Paul
Brooke has been a courageous activist for building bridges between our student body on controversial topics. Her leadership of CSP’s PEACE club and her role as the Editor-in-Chief of our student newspaper have given her avenues to bring humanitarian issues and differing opinions to the forefront.

Brian Mayén, Gustavus Adolphus College
Brian has been the student coordinator of Language Buddies for three years. He is wholeheartedly committed to advancing better communication and integration among diverse groups in St. Peter and on campus. His dedication to connecting college students to the ELL youth and adults in our area has been remarkable.

Emma Kiley, Hamline University
Emma Kiley is an outstanding member of our Hamline community. She has developed an intense interest around the issue of food insecurity. Co-founding the Feed Your Brain student organization was only the beginning. She faced many challenges and has remained committed in her leadership in addressing a very real concern.

Josie Neveu, Inver Hills Community College
Josie is a mother, a Student Ambassador, on the leadership team of VIBE Club, Nursing Club, Choir Club, and is the Student Senate President. Josie has worked on our civic and voter engagement efforts, made improvements to student spaces and orientation, and develops other student leaders.

Andy Han, Macalester College
Andy is a campus leader who has also found a home at Expo Elementary for over four years. He has been an important bridge between Expo and Macalester, inspiring student engagement. He is a Bonner Community Scholar who supports civic engagement in a variety of ways across campus.
Presidents’ Student Leadership Awards

Julie Chau, Metropolitan State University
Julie is a student coordinator for Saturday Science events and K-12 school visits at Metro. Both of these free events are designed for underrepresented youth. Julie takes leadership on building out kid-friendly science experiments, coordinating student volunteers, and encouraging youth to see themselves as scholars and college students.

Lele Exum, Minneapolis Community & Technical College
Lele was awarded the True Advocacy Fellowship through which she advocated at state and national levels for LGBTQ+ youth who are or have experienced homelessness. She co-founded Minnesota’s first LGBTQ+ rapid rehousing program and works with The Link, a non-profit organization, to provide services to underrepresented youth.

M State Dental Assisting Student Organization and M State Student American Dental Hygiene Association, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
The student organizations demonstrate a commitment to civic responsibility by providing innovative solutions to community needs. Students provide dental care at public events and at the community-serving campus dental clinic. The free and reduced cost dental cleanings ensure all community members have access to much-needed dental assistance.

Yasmeen Black, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Yasmeen is consistently active in campus and community involvement. She interned with the VARP at MSU where she helped identify community partners to provide care for students who were victims of violence. She also organized events about healing from child sexual abuse including a film showing of “Invisible Scars”.

Manuel De Jesus Alanis Andrade, Normandale Community College
Manuel is a first-generation, underrepresented student in higher education. Manuel developed strong civic responsibility, leadership skills, is the President for the Latinos-United at Normandale in Action, and part-time student worker with TRIO SSS. Manuel has volunteered for school district 191, Normandale Ambassador Program, Spanish Debate-Minnesota Urban Debate League and many other organizations.

Students Serving Our Community Club, North Hennepin Community College
Students Serving Our Community Club empowers the community through responsible civic engagement and public outreach. Students engage in first-hand opportunities at places like the Center for Victims of Torture, Feed my Starving Children and the 360 Communities program. Their volunteerism reflects the club’s dedication to service and improving people’s lives.

Sarah Engen, Northwestern Health Sciences University
Sarah has worked tirelessly to ensure that Northwestern is an inclusive and welcoming environment for all students. She is a Diversity Scholar and leader of JEDI (Justice, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion).

Gary Harala, Saint John’s University
Gary is a detail oriented, first-generation college student with proven skills in problem solving, leadership, and sustainability. Honors include SJU Caritas Man of Extraordinary Service, Elks Student of the Year, Entrepreneur Scholar, and First-Gen Scholar. He manages the Greenhouse and is Co-Coordinator in the Experience and Professional Development Office.

Goly Yang, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
Goly has a deep commitment to civic responsibility. Goly is actively engaged in community youth advocacy work in St. Paul. She has developed and implemented youth literacy courses and coordinated a variety of community events, including hands-on opportunities for teacher education candidates, at the Conway Community Center.
Kyle Cavenah, South Central College
Kyle is very deserving of this award. Completely on his own, he has spearheaded a new initiative to institute civic discussions on campus. He leads students on hot-button, culturally relevant discussions to demonstrate meaningful, respectful, civil discourse.

Aaron Bible, Southwest Minnesota State University
Aaron consistently displays a passion for bringing the students of SMSU together and exemplifies what it means to be inclusive and welcoming on campus. Aaron knows how to get even the most hesitant of students engaged in community and team-building activities.

Sadia Farah, St. Catherine University
Sadia researched and authored the religious holiday accommodation policy to benefit all St. Catherine University students who may observe a religious holiday without academic penalty. Sadia impacts the broader community through her work with Nursing faculty Dr. Bessette Gorlin, Children's Hospitals and StoryCorps Legacy, developing educational materials for families.

Kappa Phi Omega Sorority, St. Cloud State University
Kappa Phi Omega is a local sorority founded at St. Cloud State University in 1985 to build better citizens, sisters, and women. They are extremely involved on campus and in the St. Cloud community, hosting numerous service events to raise awareness and funds for sexual assault, domestic violence and Cystic Fibrosis.

Sydney Bauer, University of Minnesota, Morris
Sydney is a leader in a sustainability engagement project called the Morris Model, which connects city, county, school, and campus partners around key sustainability goals. In this and many other community roles, Sydney is personable and deeply engaged in making our community a better place to live and work.

Ashley Cope, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Ashley, Lead Peer Advisor in the Center for Community-Engaged Learning, is a double major in Art History and Gender, Women Sexuality Studies. Since 2016 Ashley has connected interested UMN stakeholders with community engagement opportunities. Ashley has worked with MIA, the Weisman Art Museum, Tretter Collection, and Free Arts Minnesota.

Asian Student Fellowship, University of Northwestern – St. Paul
Lisa Yang Fredericks and Yeng Sam Vang co-founded the Asian Student Fellowship in 2016. ASF brings students from a diversity of Asian cultures together to strengthen community by creating cultural, educational, and celebratory events in order to inspire, empower, and give voice to members of Asian communities on campus.

Big Brother Big Sister Cohort, University of St. Thomas
The Big Brother Big Sister Cohort is a group of 24 first-year students who have volunteered weekly at Four Seasons Elementary School for the 2018-2019 academic year. They are committed to addressing Minnesota’s opportunity gap and are invested in making an impact in the lives of these students.

Catherine Pinter, Winona State University
Catherine is a founding member of WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) at WSU, and she has nurtured and created a culture of engagement in all the clubs she's involved in by modeling and seeking out opportunities for service. Catherine plans to attend dental school and eventually work for Dentists Abroad.
Lesly Gonzalez-Barragan, College of Saint Benedict

Lesly is a student leader who has used her deep passion for authentic social engagement in Latinx Ministry and Catholic social justice work. In internships for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, she thoughtfully worked to make systemic change in the ways society and the Catholic Church engage with Latinx youth. She seeks to address root causes of inequity disadvantaging Latinx populations in America.

Hilda Davis, Bethel University

A social work major and student leader, Hilda has developed relationships with people of all ages in the Frogtown and Summit-University communities as a tutor, event coordinator, and community gardener. She also interns at the Irreducible Grace Foundation, co-facilitates self-care groups, guides participants in the development of trauma-informed educational workshops, and participates in fundraising and grant writing to support additional programming.

Ryan Perez, Macalester College

Ryan Perez is a tireless advocate and leader for community involvement, voter education, and advocacy work around campus and in the local community. He has been a leader in “Get Out the Vote” efforts on campus and in the community, worked on campaigns and in the offices of several elected officials and candidates for office, and been involved in several efforts to impact public policy issues that he is passionate about.

Jason Popkin, Normandale Community College

Jason runs a non-profit soccer organization and is the acting president to Normandale’s Exercise Science Club. Through his work in the soccer organization, Jason works to bring diversity and help direct those in need of financial assistance to the services that are available to them. Jason has made positive changes in the lives of people he has touched, who would otherwise be unable to participate in the soccer organization.

Michael Syverud, Saint John’s University

Michael’s passion for service reaches a diverse range of individuals and service groups and is represented by his work with a variety of organizations, including the Hennepin County Jury Office, Boys and Girls Club of Central Minnesota, and Highland Friends Club. As part of the campus Bonner Leader Program, Michael has made a four-year commitment to participate in frequent service and leadership seminars focusing on community engagement and sustainable development.

Zaynab Abdi, St. Catherine University

Zaynab lives out our University’s vision of “educating women to lead and influence” and has taken on many leadership roles. She has also already practiced public leadership in the broader context as well, in Minnesota and throughout the country, in an effort to bring about positive change. Zaynab is a collaborative leader, great role model, strong woman of color and a fierce advocate for women, girls, and refugees; she is smart and determined to make this world a better place.

Mohamed Mohamud, St. Cloud State University

Mohamed, a senior at St. Cloud State University double-majoring in Social Studies Education and History, is active in addressing issues of social and racial justice on and off campus. His multiple perspectives as a Muslim, immigrant, and student-leader aid him in his approach to working with others as they grapple with challenging issues and bringing people together to discuss solutions. In the past year, he helped lead efforts for a racial and cultural understanding rally and presented on an Islamophobia panel.
Robert Harper, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Robert is a 2nd Year Masters of Public Policy Student at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. As a Supplier Diversity Manager at the University, he has spent the past two years combating disparities in public contracts. As a Page Scholar, he has volunteered as a mentor to minority youth with a number of Twin Cities non-profits. He has a strong value for mentorship, especially in the African American community.

Andrew Spencer, University of St. Thomas
Andrew is a student leader who works to address issues surrounding food inequity. He is involved with BrightSide Produce, a group working to achieve food justice in the Twin Cities. Andrew’s dedication to justice and equity also led him to participate in HECUA’s Inequality in America program this fall where he interned with the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, working to advance economic justice for workers in the metro area.

Benjamin Ellgen, Winona State University
Ben has worked in several ways to encourage his fellow students and the broader community to become more thoughtful, critical, and responsible participants of our democratic communities. He has served as a Government Relations Intern with Students United, as a trained moderator for National Issues Forum, and as moderator for several deliberative events. Ben also served as a Campus Election Engagement Project Fellow in 2018, working on voter registration, voter education, and GOTV (Get Out The Vote).

Upcoming Opportunities

Co-Chair a 2019-20 Community of Practice
MNCC, together with the University of Minnesota Office for Public Engagement and the Campus Compacts in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin, invites proposals to co-chair year-long, online issue-focused communities of practice. Apply by April 22, 2019; for guidelines, see mncampuscompact.org under initiatives. Stipends provided to selected co-chairs.

Accepting Applications: College Health Corps VISTA
Do you know a graduating senior seeking a year of experience focused on health equity, food justice, or resources for low-income college students and communities? We're accepting applications for positions around the state through May 3, 2019. For the detailed listings, see mncampuscompact.org under initiatives.

Engage the 2020 Census
April 1, 2020 is less than a year away — the next census! Higher education has a number of roles to play in supporting a complete census count in 2020. Over the coming year, we will be sharing resources, tools, and opportunities to learn, plan, and collaborate about engaging the census. Learn more at mncampuscompact.org under initiatives. If you’d like to get involved, meet, or just receive updates, email Sinda at sinda@mncampuscompact.org.
Trinity Lutheran Congregation, Augsburg University
In 1872 Augsburg moved to Minneapolis at the invitation of Trinity Lutheran Congregation. Since then we have worked together to enhance the lives of residents in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. We collaborate on learning opportunities for students, faculty and community members through after-school homework help, Wednesday Night suppers, and interfaith work.

Breaking Free, Bethel University
Bethel has partnered with Breaking Free in their educational efforts to prevent sex trafficking and provide housing and care for survivors of sex trafficking, programming that empowers survivors to develop vocational and other essential life skills, and treatment programs for offenders who have purchased sex from trafficked women.

Northfield Public Library, Carleton College
The Northfield Public Library is an inclusive and welcoming space — an excellent venue and partner for blending college and community events. The library hosts Carleton College interns, work-study students, is a site for academic civic engagement courses, and partners with us to offer municipal identifications to college students.

Jayne Greeney Schill, Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID), College of Saint Benedict
AVID trains educators to make learning more effective by providing engaging, rigorous, and collaborative classrooms. The program impacts two million students annually. Schill has facilitated service-learning experiences with AVID for multiple CSB students, and she finds creative ways to work with our students to achieve their goals.

Lori Greene, Concordia University, St. Paul
Community mosaic artist Lori Greene has created a community space enabling a variety of Concordia community art projects. Lori has partnered with professor Cate Vermeland for over 15 years by exhibiting the work of mosaic artists in our Gallery. Mosaic on a Stick provides a backbone for St. Paul community arts.

Family Tree Clinic, Hamline University
The Family Tree Clinic serves some of our most marginalized communities with caring staff and factual information about reproductive health. The two courses that were designed for Public Health students’ participation offered opportunities to engage in research vital to advancing reproductive justice and equity in health care.

Kathy Anderson, Living Well Disability Services, Inver Hills Community College
100% of students who complete service learning with Living Well say they would recommend it to another student, and are happy with their experience. Kathy and her team are co-educators, and give generously of their time to design projects, coordinate guest speakers and guide reflection.

Saint Paul Public Library, Macalester College
In the ever-busy, vibrant Rondo Library, Macalester students work weekly as tutors, reading partners, teen specialists, homework center coordinators, and dialogue facilitators with English language learners. The commitment and leadership of volunteer coordinator Wendy Neurer has brought consistency and depth to this multifaceted, long-term partnership.

Community Mediation and Restorative Services, Metropolitan State University
CMRS has provided many students’ opportunities to listen, learn, and lead restorative justice and community building as part of their academic service learning projects. With the help of CMRS, Metro was also able to organize the very first International Restorative Practice conference in July, 2018.
**Presidents’ Community Partner Awards**

**Project for Pride in Living, Minneapolis Community & Technical College**

PPL partners with Minneapolis College to provide training for several high demand workforce pathways. This NGO builds and manages safe, quality, affordable housing and provides support services to create stability and pride. Career Training Readiness programs provide participants with skills to get and keep a job with income growth.

**United Way of Cass-Clay, Minnesota State Community and Technical College**

We’re collaborating to provide training and support to low-income families to meet the skills gap and workforce development needs in our community. There is tremendous opportunity for individuals in poverty to be a part of solving our workforce shortage in our local community by providing opportunities to increase their skills.

**Tiffnie Jackson, Minnesota State University, Mankato**

Tiffnie and the Mankato YWCA, Division of Racial Justice work with employees and students to help promote racial and social justice, both on campus and in the community. From trainings and workshops to internships, Ms. Jackson has helped MSU develop advocates for racial and gender equality in Greater Mankato.

**VEAP, Normandale Community College**

VEAP has been a key partner for Normandale and has provided great services to the student body providing free food through their Mobile Food Pantry Program, fighting hunger among college students. VEAP’s Mobile Food Pantry has committed to serving students frequently on campus and has made a significant difference.

**Fairview Health Services, North Hennepin Community College**

Fairview Health Services has been a significant partner with North Hennepin Community College in opening an on-campus health clinic and bringing access to healthcare to NHCC. They collaborate with our academic programs to increase awareness about health and wellness, and decrease barriers to health access for our students.

**Central Minnesota YMCA, Saint John’s University**

Kids who play sports at the YMCA discover more than athletic abilities. Y youth sport programs emphasize fun, skills development, sportsmanship and teamwork. Staff partner with CSB/SJU students to support youth in reaching their full potential -- building character, developing self-confidence, and creating healthy relationships on and off the court.

**The Sanneh Foundation, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota**

The Sanneh Foundation serves the holistic youth development needs of the increasingly diverse Twin Cities metro area. It seeks to unite communities by advancing diversity and equity. Saint Mary’s joins those efforts by partnering with the Foundation to prepare high-quality educators who reflect the diverse communities in which they work.

**Southwest Adult Basic Education, Southwest Minnesota State University**

SW ABE is a welcoming and affirming support network that has collaborated to develop educational enrichment opportunities for the community, emerging immigrant adult learners, and SMSU students. They allow SMSU students opportunities for internships and tutoring in an effort to increase knowledge about the services provided to their clients.

**Rondo Library, St. Catherine University**

Rondo Library has been a steadfast community partner of St. Kate’s. It is an amazing environment for service-learners and student workers to learn in while working with youth and adults through a multitude of programs such as Read to Me, Sewing Room, Open Lab, English Conversation Circle, and Homework Center.
Conflic Resolution Center St. Cloud, St. Cloud State University

Conflict Resolution Center satellite office in St. Cloud provides low-cost or free mediation services to community members who are experiencing disputes that they cannot resolve on their own. CRC provides an opportunity for students from St. Cloud State to gain valuable experience applying their mediation skills.

Northfield Retirement Community, St. Olaf College

For over 15 years, NRC has partnered with the Social Work program through internships, vocational exploration, and the Story Partner program. NRC shows ongoing commitment to educating our students about issues related to aging. They provide excellent on-boarding orientation and on-going support, even collaborating to provide transportation for students.

Sue Simon, University of Minnesota Rochester

Sue has gone above and beyond supporting UMR students by creating rare educational opportunities at the unit. The students directly interact with the patients, which has positively influenced both parties. Sue’s work with UMR students and faculty has improved the service to adolescents with mental health challenges.

Blaine Hill, University of Minnesota, Morris

Blaine, Morris city manager, has led Morris’ clean energy and water initiatives for more than a decade. An advocate for the power of students to make a difference and the centrality of town-gown partnerships, Blaine has partnered with countless UMM students in important work related to sustainability and communication.

Marvin Anderson, Rondo Commemorative Plaza, University of St. Thomas

Marvin’s lifelong work in the Rondo community aims to reclaim the once vibrant social, political, and economic fabric of the St. Paul community of Rondo. The newly inaugurated Rondo Plaza serves as a center for topics such as economic power of this historic black neighborhood, gentrification, healing, and reconciliation.

People Serving People, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

People Serving People (PSP) operates a shelter and other services for families experiencing homelessness. PSP has partnered in multiple ways with the University for decades to enhance research, education, and policy. PSP created a licensed early child education program and a new course on child trauma-informed care with the University.

Great River Shakespeare Festival, Winona State University

For fifteen years, WSU has proudly been home to the Great River Shakespeare Festival, and it will be a great source of pride to host the organization for years to come. The partnership between WSU and GRSF has enriched and mutually benefited the University, the Festival, and the Winona community.

Stay Connected with MNCC

Minnesota Campus Compact is not simply an organization with a board of directors, staff, and member presidents. We are a network of people passionate about educating active citizens and engaging higher education institutions in collaborative efforts that build more just, equitable, and democratic communities.

Sign up for our email newsletter at mncampuscompact.org to receive information about events, member highlights, jobs, grants, calls for proposals, and more.
Amy Lary White, Bethel University
Amy, Professor of Social Work, has been a leader at Bethel University in developing community-engaged learning opportunities for students. Currently, she is teaching a living-learning course in the FSU neighborhoods and is leading a community-based participatory research project that is looking at equitable development.

Anita Chikkatur, Carleton College
Professor of Education Anita Chikkatur is a scholar driven by the pursuit of a more equitable world and is a tremendous collaborator of Carleton’s Center for Community and Civic Engagement. Funded by a CNCS grant, she co-directs a Participatory Action Research project about refugee and immigrant educational experiences in Faribault.

Sustainability Office, College of Saint Benedict
The CSB Sustainability Office works to emphasize and embed sustainability into CSB’s mission, institutional operations, and outreach to communities beyond the campus. The office supports existing sustainability efforts on campus, develops and implements new programs, empowers student leadership, and facilitates the exchange of information and partnerships with collaborators.

Jeanne Lojovich, Concordia University, St. Paul
Jeanne has been instrumental in advancing the DPT cornerstone of Christian Service. Through her work our DPT program has established ongoing partnerships with community organizations including St. Paul Public Housing, the YMCA, and Indian Health Services. Her service passport program has encouraged dozens of students to engage with the community.

Martin Lang, Gustavus Adolphus College
Martin, Associate Professor in Communication Studies; Film/Media Studies; and Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, has integrated civic engagement into multiple courses. This year he produced a documentary “(Mid)West of Somalia” and held multiple screenings/discussions throughout the community. This film exemplifies Martin’s commitment to civic engagement and social justice.

Valentine Cadieux, Hamline University
Valentine integrates disciplines that aren’t conventionally thought of as belonging with Environmental Studies, such as conflict management, professional writing, and art. Incorporating community service into curriculum, her students benefit greatly from collaborations with organizations such as the Ramsey County Watershed District.

Amy Zsohar, Inver Hills Community College
Amy is a communications professor who includes service learning into a majority of her courses. She is a model of how to use best practices in service learning, and designs different projects for each semester, which is a tremendous amount of work. She is a civic engagement champion!

Ted Rueff, Macalester College
Through his role as the Director of Counseling Services, Ted helps students make the connection between human resilience and social change. He brought incredible leadership to Lives of Commitment and co-founded and facilitated Embody the Change, two civic leadership and reflection programs that will forever be shaped by his commitments.
Michael O’Connor, Metropolitan State University
For the past four years, Michael has developed relationships with non-profits to provide capacity building projects through his graduate capstone course in Management and through his own time and professional expertise. He has also developed community/university relationships while serving on the Alumni Board and the Board of trustees.

Mark Deree, Minneapolis Community & Technical College
Mark has forged strong partnerships throughout the Minneapolis Community & Technical College campus community. These strong partnerships with faculty, staff, students and external partners has enhanced the overall safety mission of the school. During the past year Mark has accomplished several new initiatives providing for a safer campus environment.

Victoria McWane-Creek, Minnesota State Community and Technical College
Victoria works tirelessly toward our institutional goal of inclusivity by involving staff, students, and community members. Her knowledge, patience, and willingness to work with, and include all people, is nothing short of amazing. Her efforts demonstrate her desire to form lasting partnerships that encourage civility and engagement.

Karen Anderson, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Karen serves as the Director of Community Engagement on campus. She helps the university and community address food insecurity by coordinating efforts between Campus Kitchen, food shelves, and churches. Karen and her students have rescued over 40,000 pounds of food and served 6,000 meals to neighbors throughout Mankato, including many students!

Rachada Weiland and Sara Weiland, Normandale Community College
Rachada, an Administrative Assistant at Normandale, and her daughter Sara, a Normandale student, are true champions of the Campus Cupboard, our student food shelf. They create and sell beautiful crafts for the Campus Cupboard and regularly donate food, hygiene items, and gift cards to our students in need.

Peggy LePage, North Hennepin Community College
After "distracted driving" caused the tragic death of a faculty colleague, Peggy championed educating our students about the consequences of unsafe driving practices and texting while operating a vehicle. She also engaged the broader campus community in significant ways in advocating for legislation for hands-free cell phone policies.

Sheila Nelson, Saint John’s University
A strong advocate for experiential learning, Sheila loves mentoring students and has been involved in Service Learning at CSB/SJU since the program’s inception. Theory comes alive as her students interact with real people and challenges. Case studies of local organizations help students apply sociology concepts and research skills.

Christine Beech, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
Christine serves as the Executive Director of the Kabara Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies at Saint Mary’s University. In that role, she has advanced the university’s distinctive civic mission by forming strong partnerships in Winona and Rochester that have allowed our students to foster their entrepreneurial spirits.

Emily Deaver, Southwest Minnesota State University
Emily works tirelessly to create a culture and practice of engagement among her students and colleagues by forming strong partnerships through the Redwood River Water Monitoring project, Redwood River Clean-up with ADM, SMSU Undergraduate Research Conference, Minnesota State Undergraduate Scholars Conference, and MinnState Poster Session at the State Capitol.
President’s Civic Engagement Steward Awards

Elizabeth Otto, St. Catherine University
Elizabeth has worked tirelessly to incorporate community engagement into multiple Communications Studies courses to the benefit of students and community. Elizabeth is also working to advance the scholarship of engagement through research on the benefits of community-engaged learning for students’ career readiness.

Chris Lehman, St. Cloud State University
Chris has consistently engaged in community-centered scholarship and activism including the authorship of several scholarly books, multiple manuscripts, representing the SCSU faculty and community at Harvard University, and most recently as the driving force behind the initiative to rename the 51 building at SCSU, Ruby Cora Webster Hall.

Kristina Medina-Vilariño, St. Olaf College
Kristina, Associate Professor of Spanish, enacts her civic duty as a citizen and educator in numerous ways: teaching community-engaged courses, empowering students to develop their own civic engagement projects, mentoring several student organizations, and organizing local Latina/o leaders and the campus around fundraising for the Puerto Rico hurricane crisis.

Thomas Genova, University of Minnesota, Morris
Thomas co-founded the TERCERO program, which trains volunteer translators and interpreters to serve our growing Latinx community. Tom has provided thorough feedback on volunteers’ work, helped to envision the program’s next steps, and offered countless hours of interpretation for free to the regional school district.

Monica McKay, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Monica, Assistant Director in the Center for Community-Engaged Learning (CCEL), has supported community engagement for over 20 years through Sustainable Agriculture, Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs and during the last 15 years, CCEL. She connects UMN stakeholders to public, nonprofit and governmental entities.

Jake Reilly, University of St. Thomas
Jake is a hall director and is committed to engaging students in the nonprofit community. He has hosted restorative justice circles to help restore a culture of respect, inclusion, and equity. He also co-advises the Queer Straight Alliance Club and students indicate he is a strong advocate.

Civic Engagement & Leadership Conference, Winona State University
The Civic Engagement and Leadership Conference is for local high school students from diverse language and cultural backgrounds to explore issues of belonging, the value of cultural identities and education. For students who may rarely see someone who looks like them in positions of power, this conference can be life-changing.

2019 Midwest Campus Compact Conference

Dispatches from the Midwest: Community, Collaboration, and Critical Perspectives
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