

Proposition 12-09/10 Amended

Sponsors: Azadeh Osanloo, Education; Pamela Schultz, CHSS; Richard Oliver, Business.

Committee Assignment: Scholastic Affairs 3/16/10

A Memorial Concerning the Establishment of an Office of Service Learning

WHEREAS, New Mexico State University is a land grant institution with a long tradition of outreach to the community; and

WHEREAS, the National Community Service Act of 1990 defines Service Learning as a teaching method “under which students learn and develop through active participation in...thoughtfully organized service experiences that meet actual community needs”; and

WHEREAS, Service Learning fosters in students an ethic of service and civic participation; and

WHEREAS, Service Learning can be used to help students meet the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, Service Learning creates the potential for partnerships and collaborations between the University’s academic programs and the general community; and

WHEREAS, Service Learning is a teaching methodology already used in a wide variety of settings by faculty though out the NMSU system; and

WHEREAS, a university-wide committee could help to promote Service Learning by being a resource for faculty and community agencies seeking to engage in Service Learning; and

WHEREAS, a university-wide committee can serve as a catalyst for seeking external funding in support of instructional activities related to Service Learning from federal, state and private sources.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that New Mexico State University should consider creation of a university-wide Committee for Service Learning to promote and coordinate service learning within the NMSU system, to facilitate the formation of partnership with regional school districts and communities, and to promote engagement in the community by NMSU students.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, it is suggested the committee should include the Cooperative Extension Service, Arrowhead Center, NMSU Foundation, all colleges, ASNMSU, public schools, other government agencies, non-government organizations, and the local business community.