

California's Call to Service

The California State University Responds

A Report From 2000/2001

OVERVIEW

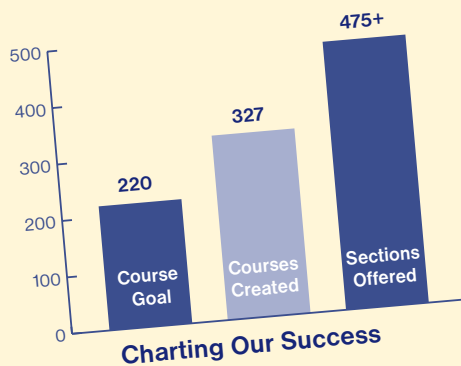
In April 1999, Governor Gray Davis called for a community service requirement for all students enrolled in California's public institutions of higher education. After months of intensive dialogue around ways to strengthen and build upon the service initiatives that have developed over decades, the California State University responded to Governor Davis's call. The CSU Board of Trustees passed a resolution in March 2000, calling on the chancellor and each CSU president to "ensure that all students have opportunities to participate in community service, service learning (deemed academically appropriate by faculty), or both."

In response to the CSU's commitment, Governor Davis authorized \$2.2 million in the fiscal year 2000/2001 state budget to support the development of new service-learning courses and to create or expand service-learning offices on all of the CSU campuses. The CSU committed to develop 220 courses with new service-learning components and to match the state funds with at least \$2 million from other sources. A report on these efforts during the 2000/2001 academic year follows.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

During the 2000/2001 academic year, 327 courses with new service-learning components were developed. This outcome exceeded the CSU's commitment to create 220 courses by 45 percent. Many of the service-learning courses that were created offer more than one section, and therefore, it is estimated that over 475 sections that include a service-learning component are now offered. As a result, there are new opportunities for up to 12,000 students to experience service learning.

The development of courses with new service-learning components occurred in disciplines as varied as: engineering, kinesiology, linguistics, history, education, health sciences, business administration, ethnic studies, philosophy, and chemistry. Opportunities were provided within general education and academic majors.



DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

The California State University has developed extensive partnerships to support our efforts to provide service-learning opportunities for all CSU students. Across the system, \$2,279,000 from external sources were secured in 2000/2001 from these partnerships. A sampling of these external support sources include:

- AmeriCorps
- California Campus Compact
- Campus Compact
- Corporation for National and Community Service, Learn and Serve
- Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism, Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning
- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Humboldt County United Way
- Jumpstart for Young Children
- J. Paul Getty Trust
- MCI WorldCom
- Radin Foundation
- San Marcos Community Foundation
- Shinnyo-En Foundation
- Starbucks Foundation
- Surdna Foundation
- Thomas Brothers Educational Foundation
- U.S. Department of Education

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

All California State University campuses developed and strengthened service-learning offices. Each campus has designated a service-learning leader, and all campuses have formed advisory councils to support service-learning initiatives. In January 2001, the Corporation for National and Community Service honored the CSU with the Higher Education Award for Leadership in National Service. The CSU was one of seven institutions in the nation and the only California institution to win the award.