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Lindenwood University - Campus News

Campus Launches Community Service Recognition Program

02/08/2010

In an effort to recognize and reinforce the value of community service among its student population, President James D. Evans has spearheaded an effort to institute special recognition for students who engage in meaningful service projects during their time at Lindenwood.

The program, called the Community Service Designation Program, will recognize students who achieve a minimum of 500 hours of community service during their tenure at LU. Students who reach this goal will have a special notation of the achievement included on their academic transcript, receive special service cords to wear at graduation, and be included in the annual Honor's Convocation program. In the future, a special award will be created each year to recognize a graduating senior for outstanding community service. Dr. Julie Turner, assistant professor of nonprofit administration, has been asked to coordinate the undertaking.

"This is a very unique and exciting opportunity for our students," Turner says. "Lindenwood University is working to genuinely embrace community service as an extension of service-learning, which is a philosophy of experiential learning in which students participate in community service, not only to meet the needs of the community but also to develop their critical thinking skills, commitment to values, and skills for effective citizenship."

Although many colleges across the country incorporate some degree of service learning into their academic programs or campus life in general, Turner said she knows of no other college or university that includes special recognition of such an accomplishment on a student's transcript. "This speaks well to Dr. Evans' commitment in this regard, to truly deepen a student's ability to improve community life and to educate students for civic and social responsibility."

Interested students should register on OrgSync to set up an account and to begin logging hours through the system's timesheet option. Details regarding allowable activities are available through this site as well. Graduating seniors must have their 500 hours of community service accounted for on OrgSync by March 1, 2010, to ensure that they will be recognized as participants in the program. Additional questions can be forwarded to Turner, jturner@lindenwood.edu.

Lindenwood University, founded in 1827, is an independent liberal arts university offering 84 undergraduate degree programs and 37 graduate programs in diverse areas of study –in traditional and accelerated formats. Lindenwood operates a residential campus in historic St. Charles, as well as 10 extension sites throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan area.