UST’s Shining Stars in Service Learning

Thanks to a grant from the University to pilot a program designed to enhance student engagement, the Service Learning Program, directed by Dr. Jean-Philippe Faletta, is awarding stipends of $500 each to five faculty members. The recipients will have the opportunity to teach courses with a service-learning component or to expand an existing course that includes service learning. The faculty members are Dr. Debra Andrist, Dr. John Burke, Dr. Elizabeth Coscio, Dr. Rick Krustchinsky and Dr. Sherra Theisen. The courses they teach will be offered in the 2005 spring and summer semester. The effort targets freshmen and aims to support underserved areas of the curriculum and academic disciplines without a service-learning course.

Dr. Andrist, professor of Spanish in the Modern and Classical Languages Department, will teach two courses for both graduates and undergraduates: Hispanic Women Writers and Medical Professions II. Dr. Coscio, an MACL assistant professor in Spanish, will teach bilingual journalism to graduates and undergraduates. Dr. Burke, a professor of political science will teach Religion and Politics. Dr. Rick Krustchinsky will teach Introduction to Curriculum and Instruction for Undergraduates, and Dr. Sherra Theisen will teach The Good Life and the Examined Life.

Service learning was instituted at University of St. Thomas in 2000 when the past president, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB, became a founding member of the new Texas Campus Compact, a state organization affiliated with the national Campus Compact.