

2001

Arrupe Center Mission Statement 2001

The Pedro Arrupe, S.J. Center for Community-Based Learning

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The Pedro Arrupe, S.J. Center for Community-Based Learning

2001-2002

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pedro Arrupe, S.J. Center for Community-Based Learning at Santa Clara University educates students, and the university as a whole, in the realities of the lives of the marginalized and the poor. The Arrupe Center creates partnerships for active engagement, service, and research, serving as a catalyst for a unique collaboration between scholars and community members. By providing students and faculty members opportunities for real-life, community-based learning experience both at home and abroad, The Arrupe Center seeks to advance the Jesuit tradition of the service of faith and the promotion of justice, uniting and transforming both university and community in a common effort to respond compassionately and self-critically to those most in need.

The Arrupe Center reflects the values set forth in the 2000 Strategic Plan in the following ways:

- Providing a program of community-based learning opportunities that support faculty and student efforts to achieve **academic excellence**
- Facilitating a collaborative campus-community relationship that provides the basis for **integrated learning** experiences for students and faculty, including opportunities for research and practice
- Supporting the university **commitment to students** by providing high-quality support and resources to both individual students and groups
- Facilitating community placements for both students and faculty where, in the course of their learning experience, they provide valuable **service to others**.
- Collaborating not only with our community partners but also with other campus programs such as Sobrato, SCCAP, the Bannan Institute, and the Center for Multicultural Learning to foster a respect for a **diversity** of partners, viewpoints, and endeavors while maintaining the shared values of the campus and larger **community**.
- Witnessing in all the above ways our commitment to the **Jesuit values** of the service of faith and the promotion of justice.

Arrupe Center Goals:

Goal #1: To increase and improve faculty, student, and community involvement in The Arrupe Center, so that participants practice vigilance towards social justice, compassion for those who suffer, and active involvement in efforts to alleviate injustice and suffering.

Objectives to be met by June 2002:

- 1.) In consultation with academic departments and The Bannan Institute, The Arrupe Center will continue to develop specially tailored learning opportunities for students at partner agencies to meet discipline-specific educational objectives. Such projects are being developed as of 10/18/01 with Professors Bever, Shefrin, Randall, Varona, Bauluz, Plante, and Ravizza.
- 2.) In conjunction with the Bannan Institute and the Sobrato Residential Learning Complex, The Arrupe Center will
 - provide support and resources for the community outreach efforts of 2001-2002 Sobrato Hall residents
 - provide regularly scheduled reflection sessions for Sobrato residents regarding their community work
 - provide financial support for these efforts through the Arrupe Center Jesuit Endowment
 - join with community groups to co-sponsor events in Sobrato Hall that will enable the community to use SCU facilities, and the students to plan and participate in such community events. Scheduled events include the Oct. 13 Media and Violence conference co-sponsored with the Diocese of San Jose, the Nov. 10 conference co-sponsored with Pax Christi, and the Dec. 2 Guadalupe celebration.
- 2.) In its role as a community nexus, The Arrupe Center will
 - provide a network for information and support for community-based learning at SCU which will include the production of the PRAXIS website, available for use by the end of fall quarter 2001
 - provide regular ongoing consultation and referral services for faculty and students
 - Develop its role as an entryway for community members into the life of the university by inviting and welcoming efforts to co-sponsor events and projects
- 3.) The Arrupe Center will award ten Jean Donovan Summer Fellowships to support student summer social justice projects, and in the process
 - provide oversight and guidance for student steering committee as they publicize the program and conduct the application process
 - provide consultation and referral for students as they explore and develop their project proposals and share their experience with the broader SCU community
 - provide retreats at the beginning and end of the summer which will enable students to prepare for, and reflect back on, their projects

- 4.) In order to establish adequate and useful ongoing oversight of student community-based learning placements, the Arrupe Center will pilot and refine:
 - the Early Placement Report, an internal procedure during the fifth week of each quarter, which will provide the information necessary for the Arrupe Center to support students and faculty in their learning goals and to maintain high quality community placements
 - reflection sessions for students based on client populations in placement agencies which will be run by Arrupe Center staff during the eighth week of each quarter
- 5.) The Arrupe Center will hold a workshop on community-based learning for SCU faculty members during the week of June 17-21. This workshop will
 - be open to any SCU faculty member
 - showcase model SCU community-based learning projects
 - provide practical advice on how to incorporate community-based learning into the curriculum
 - provide opportunities for faculty members to visit and participate in AC community placements
 - link professors expert in community-based learning with those new to the approach, within academic disciplines

Goal #2: To expand The Arrupe Center mission to the global community by developing, in conjunction with The Bannan Institute, a program formalizing and expanding the tradition of immersion experiences for Santa Clara University faculty, staff, and students.

Objectives to be met by June 2002:

- 1.) Each member of the SCU faculty delegation that visited El Salvador in spring of 2001 will be actively engaged in a campus- or community-based project arising from the faculty member's immersion experience. As of 10/18/01, individual delegation members are already actively engaged in work with The Innocence Project, The East San Jose Law Center, Sacred Heart Community Service and Most Holy Trinity Parish, and in fundraising and research in El Salvador.
- 2.) A delegation scheduled to visit El Salvador in September 2002 will have been chosen, with special attention to representing as many academic disciplines as possible in accordance with the recommendations of the 2001 Justice Conference Committee on Immersions.
- 3.) The Arrupe Center will work with members of current and former delegations to become actively involved in promoting community-based learning in their individual academic departments, including both research and practice.

- 4.) The Arrupe Center will actively participate in university efforts to develop an ongoing student immersion program that will be supported and administered by the university.
- 5.) The Arrupe Center will provide resources for the Center for Student Leadership during the 2001-2002 academic year in order to support current student immersion projects. Such resources may include providing opportunities for reflection for students as well as the Praxis Theology course.

Measures of Continued Success:

In addition to actualizing the objectives listed above, the following will be used to measure our progress towards our goals:

- 1.) Sustain high numbers of students in Arrupe Center placements
- 2.) Increase in number of faculty who use Arrupe Center program and resources
- 3.) Increase in number of academic departments that incorporate community-based learning into their department curriculum
- 4.) Increase in number of academic departments represented in faculty immersion program
- 5.) Improvement in our facilitation of placements suited to the learning goals of individual professors and of academic departments, based on feedback from all partners
- 6.) Improvement in Arrupe development and support of our community partners so that they continue to improve their on-site mentoring of AC students, particularly through the establishment of specially tailored community-based learning projects
- 7.) Completion of a plan for university support and implementation of a student immersion program, to be submitted to SCU leadership in spring quarter 2002
- 8.) Development of AC staff to meet increased demands arising from new programs

Learning Outcomes:

Academic Knowledge: Student learning in academic coursework will be enhanced by direct contact with poor and marginalized people, as theory-based knowledge gained in the classroom is integrated with community-based experience.

Student Development: Students will become more aware of the challenges facing people from diverse economic and cultural contexts. Personal interactions in the community-based learning context will result in psychosocial, moral, and spiritual development.

Research: Drawing from a variety of research methods, students will develop skills necessary for conducting research in diverse cultural settings. This experience will build a solid foundation for post-graduate research.

Social Analysis and Critique: As a result of direct experience and research, students will be educated in the needs of the poor and marginalized, and the unjust social contexts that give rise to their predicament. Students will be well versed in, and committed to, the personal and political responses that are called for in the preferential option for the poor.

Personal Commitment: Intellectual inquiry and reflection on community experience will foster in students a sense of compassion for those who struggle as well as a commitment to active, lifelong involvement in efforts to alleviate injustice and suffering.