



Oklahoma | Campus Compact

2016 State Award Recipients

Community Engagement Professional of the Year

This award recognizes one professional who has worked toward the institutionalization of academic service-learning and/or service, created and strived toward a vision of service for his/her campus, promoted higher education as a public good, provided exceptional support to faculty and students, and has been instrumental in forming innovative campus-community partnerships.

Ms. Joyce Montgomery, Coordinator, Service-Learning Volunteer Center, Oklahoma State University

Ms. Montgomery has served as the Coordinator for the Oklahoma State University Service-Learning and Volunteer Center since 1993, where she recruits and trains students, faculty and staff for community engagement and engaged teaching, and coordinate programs, events and initiatives with community and service-learning organizations. Ms. Montgomery promotes student community service resources, advises faculty, and supervises graduate and federal work study students, interns, practicums and shadow work programs. Ms. Montgomery designed and implemented the Orange COD program for honorary recognition of students at graduation who have shown outstanding service at Oklahoma State University. Other programs Ms. Montgomery has implemented are an individualized service-learning program and the Service-Learning Volunteer Center Ambassador program.



Ms. Montgomery was recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents at their December 1st, 2016 meeting. Pictured with her award, she is flanked from left to right by OSU President Burns Hargis, Chancellor Glen D. Johnson, and State Regents Chair John Massey.



Excellence in Community-Based Teaching & Scholarship

This award recognizes one faculty member or administrator who has successfully promoted the incorporation of service-learning into at least one course with demonstrable outcomes, and has conducted outstanding research in the field of service-learning and engaged scholarship.

Dr. Matthew Brosi, Associate Professor, Human Development and Family Science, and Director, Center for Family Services, Oklahoma State University

Dr. Brosi's work of research-infused family therapy and educational programs epitomizes the relationships and strategies of this award in community-based teaching and scholarship. His innovative work in collaboration with other faculty at Oklahoma State University has used insights from existing Marriage and Family Therapy literature to inform clinical practice related to co-parenting in unprecedented ways. The innovations and programming that have flowed from this research have been featured in a variety of outlets including national conferences, popular media, and state law – in 2014, with the guidance of a working group of which Dr. Brosi was a part, the Oklahoma State Legislature passed a law requiring parents of minor children who are divorcing for reasons of incompatibility to attend a co-parenting workshop. Since then Dr. Brosi has worked with his colleagues to lead the state by implementing a new evidence-based co-parenting program through the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service

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Outstanding Community & Campus Collaboration

This award recognizes a sustained campus-community partnership in the state that demonstrates a true partnership as evidenced by community agency involvement in the development of the course goals and learning outcomes; measurable impact (qualitative and quantitative) on students, faculty and institution; measurable impact on the lives of those served by the community agency; and, commitment of community agency to student learning.

In a first, two partnerships tied to win this award this year:

Third Floor Design at the University of Tulsa and Iron Gate Hunger Program, Tulsa, OK

- **Ms. Teresa Valero, Applied Professor of Art, Director, School of Art for the Henry Kendall College of Arts and Sciences, and Creative Director, Third Floor Design, The University of Tulsa and**
- **Ms. Connie Cronley, Executive Director, Iron Gate**

Promotional materials are the heart of nonprofit survival. The University of Tulsa's Third Floor Design student-run design house is a service learning course that works as an internship for graduating graphic arts students who, over the past twenty-five years, have supported hundreds of nonprofit organizations in Tulsa. The top quality, award-winning brochures, posters, invitations and view books produced by TU students have propelled fundraisers and subscription services. To the Iron Gate downtown Tulsa soup kitchen and food pantry, Third Floor Design has been such an integral part of its operation for so long that it is considered a critical part of the organization. Among the many annual reports, special event marketing, and other projects, Iron Gate feels its most important tool is its annual *Faces of Iron Gate* booklet which profiles some of the food insecure people who have eaten with them that year. While most social service programs can report only numbers, this publication allows Iron Gate to put a face and a life to the people they serve. Iron Gate relies on the students in this program to be its communicators and its ambassadors into the greater community. The University of Tulsa and Iron Gate are strong community collaborators who find great strength and support in this partnership.



AND

Juntos: Together for a Better Education at Oklahoma State University and Tulsa Public Schools

- **Dr. Ronald Cox, Associate Research Professor and Extension Specialist, Human Development and Family Sciences, Oklahoma State University**
- **Ms. Tenna Whitsel, Director of Family and Community Engagement, Tulsa Public Schools**
- **Ms. Rana McVay, Tulsa Tech**

Due to the barriers and hardships associated with arriving to communities without the social infrastructure to meet their needs, Latino youth are at a much higher risk than other ethnic groups for low academic achievement, school dropout, and other negative health behaviors such as substance abuse. A multi-year, multi-dimensional program, *Juntos* is designed to increase academic achievement and college enrollment, and to build resilience in Latino families. Operating continuously since 2013, *Juntos* is currently being administered in two Tulsa public middle schools and high schools: Nathan Hale and East Central, with approximately 110 youth and their families enrolled. Several primary community partners have collaborated with *Juntos*, including the Tulsa Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers, Dayspring, and others. Students who participate in *Juntos* engage in intensive 24-month support via three major components: increasing parental involvement to help families gain the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to effectively engage in their adolescent's academics and make college access a realistic family goal, targeting youth and parent self-efficacy; OSU undergraduate students as success coaches to mentor and develop a personal success plan for each student, using data provided by the school on absences, tardies, grades and behavior problems; and, positive peer affiliations promoted through weekly 4-H Clubs, designed to provide a sense of belonging and increased motivation to pursue higher education by exposing youth professionals in diverse fields of science and technology, culminating in a 3-day trip to OSU where youth are encouraged to envision themselves completing a 4-year degree and participate in hands-on science activities (Summer Academies). The results indicate that *Juntos* significantly increased child aspiration and expectation for additional education as well as their perception of how much education their parents wanted and expected them to receive. *Juntos* youth showed a 33% decrease in absences, 23% decrease in tardies, and a 29% increase in GPA. Youth also had significant decreases in drug use after participation in the program. OSU undergraduate students serve as the Success Coaches to mentor and develop the personal success plan, and have accrued significant benefits themselves in personal growth and development, noting the opportunity to give back to their community. Finally, *Juntos* has also been informative for Tulsa Public Schools administrators and OSU

researchers, creating unprecedented lines of communication between the Tulsa Latino community and higher education leaders in the state.



Dr. Cox, Ms. Whitsel, and Ms. McVay were recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents at their December 1st, 2016 meeting. Pictured with their awards from left to right are: OSU President Burns Hargis, Ms. Whitsel, Ms. McVay, Dr. Cox, State Regents Chair John Massey, and Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

