



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

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WHAT, SO WHAT, & NOW WHAT: BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH POLICE PARTNERSHIPS

ABSTRACT:

While criminal justice classrooms frequently engage students in experiential learning opportunities with police, student-police partnerships are rarely explored as service-learning endeavors. Following a decade long sustained service-learning partnership with five state and local police departments, the current case study examines the unique benefits and challenges of such atypical partnerships, the benefits to the partnering agency, the growth of engaged students, and, most importantly, the healing these partnerships have been able to bring the larger community.

THEMATIC FOCUS: RESONANCE | LEARNING THE CHORDS

BIO(S):

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Sherry Skaggs is an Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of Central Arkansas, where she served as the UCA Service-Learning Faculty Liaison for the past three years. She has engaged criminal justice classes in creative and atypical service-learning partnerships with law enforcement and correctional agencies for the past ten years. One of her fundamental research areas is service and experiential learning in criminal justice education, and her most recent related works have appeared in the "Journal of Criminal Justice Education" and "Applications of Service-Learning in Higher Education".