



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

MARGARET ROOYAKERS | MERCER UNIVERSITY

STRIKING THE RIGHT NOTES: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES THROUGH PLANNING, TRAINING, AND REFLECTION

ABSTRACT:

This poster showcases how Mercer University students are prepared for co-curricular service opportunities that foster meaningful community engagement. A student-led service board collaborates with partners to coordinate events ranging from one-time shifts to semester-long commitments. Each event includes pre-service training and post-service reflection to ensure intentional, impactful experiences. By emphasizing collaboration and shared learning, this approach enriches students, faculty, and community partners while fostering mutually beneficial relationships and lasting community impact.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LISTENING CLOSELY | LEARNING THE CHORDS

BIO(S):

MARGARET ROOYAKERS

Margaret Rooyackers is a dedicated higher education professional with a B.S. in Public Health and an M.Ed. in Higher Education Leadership from Mercer University, where she now serves as Assistant Director of Service and Civic Engagement. She advises MerServe, Mercer's service programming board, and Mercer Votes, the voter engagement board. Through the Center for Engaged Learning, she actively collaborates on service-learning initiatives. Currently pursuing her PhD in Education at Mercer, Margaret is passionate about empowering students through service and civic engagement.

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