

From: [Cortney Holles](#)
To: [Faculty Senate](#)
Subject: Signature Student Experience Proposal
Date: Monday, November 2, 2020 6:47:43 PM
Attachments: [SL Student Signature Experience Proposal.docx](#)

Hello,

Please find our proposal attached. Thank you! ~C

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Mines Student Signature Experience Faculty Senate Funding

Title: Service Learning and Community Engagement

Faculty: Professor Cortney Holles (Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences), Professor Rachel Osgood (Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences) and Dr. Paula Farca (Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences)

We propose to create a Service Learning Program that will:

- Build a community of service and community engagement at Mines;
- Expand offerings for service learning experiences, both curricular and co-curricular;
- Connect the many existing campus programs and clubs for service activities and service learning;
- Promote a better understanding of social justice issues on campus and in the community;
- Mentor interested faculty to incorporate service learning into their courses as an opportunity to “learn by doing”;

Gen Z students express strong interest in “giving back” and making a positive difference in the world. A signature experience in service learning would both meet that need and enhance our recruiting and retention. Although we have a successful service learning course (HASS 376, offered since X) and many clubs devoted to service (e.g. Hike for Help, Blue Key, Alpha Phi Omega, etc), there are enormous opportunities for growth. Unlike many of our peers, Mines does not have a center for service learning or centralized resources to promote service. We can and should do more. Students in service programs are challenged to be innovative and entrepreneurial, to adapt to new challenges, to develop interpersonal and communication skills – all of which speak to Mines@150 goals. In addition, students who participate in service activities strengthen their affinity to Mines, as they recognize its contribution to the greater good. Service learning stokes students’ passions for service, civic responsibility, and social justice within the community context.