**SNAPSHOT**

**NOVEMBER 2013**

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<th>Community Engaged Learning</th>
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<td><em>Students travel to the Jersey Shore, New York, Philadelphia, and in Trenton for their CEL experience.</em></td>
<td><em>TCNJ Bonner Center receives $25,000 grant from Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation</em></td>
<td><em>Assistant Provost Pat Donohue and Professor Sandy Gibson invited to present at the 2013 ACES Conference in Denver, CO.</em></td>
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**Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation Grant**

The TCNJ Bonner Center received a $25,000 grant from the Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation in support of Bonner Community Scholars program. The money, which includes a $5,000 increase from last year’s award, will go to support the Wells Fargo Bonner Community Scholars Team. The team of 18 Bonner Community Scholars and at least 10 regular Bonner Volunteers will work on a weekly basis to improve the academic skills and scores of students at Trenton Central High School, Hedgepeth-Williams Middle School, the G. Grant Academic Sports Academy after school program, and the ISLES YouthBuild Institute. The team also works to **continued pg. 2**

**Community Engaged Learning**

The Bonner Center continued to implement exciting new projects for the Community Engaged Learning program at TCNJ with First Year students. In early November, 40 First Year students and 10 Bonner Community Scholars traveled to Middletown and Ortley Beach to help with recovery efforts from Superstorm Sandy. Volunteers cleared debris, put up dry wall, and painted the interiors of homes affected by the storm. In the afternoon the students (who are from Professor Lincoln Konkle’s “Springsteen as Poet” First Year Seminar Program class) traveled to Asbury Park. There they learned about Bruce Springsteen and participated in a scavenger hunt that included visiting key locations such as the Stone Pony, the SOAP Monument, and the Convention Hall.

Other projects in November included Professor Christopher Hailey’s class “Music and the Holocaust” taking a trip to the American Jewish Heritage Museum with students from Trenton Central High School. Professor Richard Kamber’s students in “Morality, God, and Free Will,” participated in regular conversations with inmates at Mercer County Correction Center as part of a Socrates Cafe. Lastly, Bonner Center staff and Scholars mobilized several TCNJ FSP classes for the Sixth Grade Writing Project, in which students facilitated writing workshops with sixth-graders from Trenton.
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Wachovia Wells Fargo Grant continue….

motivate and mentor students throughout their academic career, whether it is helping improve their literacy, or aiding students with their college applications. Like many urban school districts in New Jersey, Trenton schools face numerous challenges. The Wells Fargo Bonner Community Scholars Team works with students at Trenton Central High School in an effort to help them improve their grades, learn new life skills, pass the state HPSA test (a graduation requirement in New Jersey) and address other overall needs of Trenton Central High School. At the middle school, Bonners engage students in “read aloud and respond” programs in an effort to increase their literacy skills; they also provide homework assistance and targeted tutoring. Finally, at ISLES YouthBuild Institute, the team focuses on the development of life skills and helping students with the college selection and application process. In addition, the Wells Fargo Bonner Education team will provide all of these Trenton students with a variety of enrichment activities on TCNJ’s campus and in the greater New Jersey community.

Trenton Prevention Policy Board

The TPPB held its monthly board meeting on November 13, 2013 at Trenton Central High School. The issue-based Working Groups met individually to discuss their set of recommendations for the annual report, as well as potential projects and plans that the group will work to implement in the next year. The next meeting will take place on December 8, 2013. For more information on the Board, please visit http://tppb.pages.tcnj.edu.

TCNJ Invited to Present at the 2013 ACES Conference

Assistant Provost Pat Donohue and Professor Sandy Gibson were asked to present at the 2013 ACES Conference in Denver, CO on TCNJ’s collaboration with the Trenton Prevention Policy Board initiative.

The TPPB is a local board dedicated to addressing the issue of juvenile delinquency and promoting positive youth development in the city of Trenton. The grassroots effort, which is supported by the New Jersey Attorney General’s Office and facilitated by TCNJ, is focused on making policy, program, and practice recommendations that are vetted by academic partners and voted on by board members.

The School of Counselor Education at TCNJ has been involved with the TPPB for several years through Dr. Sandy Gibson; Pat Donohue serves as co-chair of the board. In their presentation, Dr. Gibson and Pat Donohue developed a presentation that highlighted the community-wide outcomes of the TPPB initiative, as well as the counseling program’s work with TCNJ Bonner and TPPB community partners.

Faculty members from TCNJ work closely with the TPPB by leveraging the resources of the College to support the board's mission. Known as Bonner Academic Fellows, these faculty members educate TPPB members on the value of evidence-based actions, help programs understand the value of evaluation, and provide literature reviews on topics and recommendations identified by Board members. Faculty also help facilitate the dialogue within the Board and offer training presentations on best practices. Professors Sandy Gibson (Counselor Education), Diane Bates (Sociology), Bruce Stout (Criminology), He Len Chung and Shaun Wiley (Psychology) are all involved with the TPPB as well as the Bonner Academic Fellows Team at TCNJ.

Patrick Donohue, Assistant Provost for Community Engaged Learning & Partnerships
Paula Figueroa-Vega, Director
The Bonner Center for Civic and Community Engagement
The College of New Jersey
2000 Pennington Road
Ewing, NJ 08628

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