

STUDENT PROFILE



This month, senior Rahul Maheswaran (Electrical Engineering) shares with us about his experience with EPICS, a longstanding service-learning design program in the College of Engineering.

I have been part of the EPICS BME team working on their AutoCPR

project since January 2020. AutoCPR was conceptualized in 2016 by a team of senior design students to address preventable deaths attributed to rescuer fatigue (when a person providing CPR compressions becomes exhausted) that occurred during a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in Ecuador earlier that year.

In partnership with Dr. Jorge Alfredo Uquillas at Axxis Hospital in Quito, Ecuador, the AutoCPR team has been developing a low cost, automated CPR device that can provide consistent compressions for over an hour. While there are similar devices on the market, prices start at \$15,000 making them unaffordable to many people who need them. With that in mind, the team aims to complete a functional proof of concept for about \$2,500 by the end of the semester. An affordable device like AutoCPR can potentially save several lives during emergencies and I'm glad to be part of it.

FACULTY TO WATCH: CHRISTI EDEN



Christi Eden is the faculty advisor for Boiler Communication, the Brian Lamb School of Communication's student-run public relations (PR) firm at Purdue. Starting the firm in 2014, Christi has paved the way for its exponential growth in terms of number of students, projects, and scope of work.

Boiler Communication works with multiple nonprofit organizations and local businesses to complete comprehensive communication campaigns. The firm identifies organizational problems and uses PR to strategically solve them. Within an academic year, approximately 10-15 clients and 60 students will cycle through the firm. These efforts focus on sustainability through a service-learning lens to provide excellent experiential opportunities.

Expanding on this work, Christi has recently stepped into the role of Director of Co-curricular Engagement in the Lamb School. This role extends the school's rigorous academic curriculum through opportunities that enhance students' personal and professional development and ultimately advance mutually-beneficial partnerships between the Lamb School and the communities they impact through shared exchange of ideas and action. With a focus on experiential learning, engagement initiatives, and student organizations, this role allows the Lamb School to take on even more service-learning opportunities.

COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: LTHC HOMELESS SERVICES



This semester, LTHC Homeless Services has partnered with the Purdue School of Nursing for what will likely be an on-going relationship. Nursing students and supervisors have been visiting LTHC's Homeless Services Program 1-3 times per week to provide education, screening and treatment for injuries and illnesses, health assessments, and referrals to guests who are currently experiencing homelessness. Chief Development Officer, Jennifer Shook, notes, "This is a population with

COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHT CONTINUED

a higher than average incidence of physical health issues, so this has been a tremendous addition to our programming. Having nursing students on-hand who can talk with our guests about their health has been very impactful. The students talk with them about their health conditions, help them understand what their doctors and pharmacists have recommended, and connect them to on-going care."

Shook also notes, "LTHC has greatly benefitted from the service-learning projects with Purdue University. These opportunities have created the ability for on-going relationships and have evolved into some really amazing projects. Not only do we benefit from the excellent work of the students, but I have seen countless times when the students have grown from their connection to LTHC and its mission of ending homelessness."

SPRING 2021 SERVICE-LEARNING FELLOWS

The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted courses and service opportunities to online platforms, and systemic racial injustice is gaining ever more nation-wide attention. In the Spring 2021 semester, the following instructors in partnership with service-learning staff and community partners will explore where service-learning fits into this new narrative, collaboratively developing the skills and tools needed to deliver effective, mutually beneficial service-learning courses. Fellows receive a \$3000 award.

Service-learning fellows:

- Amanda Case, Assistant Professor, Counseling Psychology, and Christy Wessel Powell, Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction
- Eugene Chan, Associate Professor, Consumer Science
- Suining Ding, Professor and Director of Interior Design, Purdue Fort Wayne
- Sarah LeBlanc, Assistant Professor, Communication, Purdue Fort Wayne
- Zoenna Mayhook, Assistant Professor and Business Information Specialist, Libraries and School of Information Studies
- Alessandro Maria Selvitella, Assistant Professor of Data Science and Applied Statistics, Mathematical Sciences, Purdue Fort Wayne

Congratulations to our spring 2021 fellows!



SERVICE-LEARNING RESOURCES

Brightspace Site for Instructors: New module, "Critical Reflection in Service-Learning", now available! Request to be added [HERE](#)

Virtual Drop-In Office Hours:
Wednesdays, 1:00-3:00 PM, via Zoom [LINK](#)

Have a feature for our newsletter?
Contact:
[Lindsey Payne](#), Director of Service-Learning

PURDUE JOURNAL OF SERVICE-LEARNING: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

PURDUE JOURNAL OF SERVICE-LEARNING
& INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

CALL FOR STUDENT-AUTHORED SUBMISSIONS

PJSL is currently accepting proposals and articles for the 2021 issue. This issue will feature two special sections:

SERVICE-LEARNING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
BLACK LIVES MATTER IN SERVICE-LEARNING

We seek to amplify marginalized and underrepresented student and faculty voices so that we might expand what service-learning is and can be.

Have questions about submissions? Please contact the Editor, Jennifer Bay at jbay@purdue.edu or find more information on the PJSL website



Abstracts are being accepted for the 8th volume of the Purdue Journal of Service-Learning and International Engagement (PJSL). Abstracts must be submitted by **January 1, 2021** for publication in the Fall 2021 issue. The 2021 issue will feature two special sections:

- **Service-Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic**
- **Black Lives Matter in Service-Learning**

The Purdue Journal of Service-Learning seeks to amplify marginalized student, faculty, and community voices.

For more information, contact Editor, Jennifer Bay, at jbay@purdue.edu, visit the [PJSL website](#), or find us on Twitter @PurdueJSL.

JOANN MILLER EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY PARTNER AWARD

The Office of Engagement seeks applications for the JoAnn Miller Exemplary Community Partner Award for 2020. This award recognizes local nonprofits, schools, or government units that contribute to the educational growth of Purdue students by providing volunteer and service-learning opportunities. It includes a \$1,000 cash prize. In 2015, the award was renamed in memory of JoAnn L. Miller, who was Associate Dean of Engagement and head of the School of Interdisciplinary Studies in the College of Liberal Arts. She worked passionately to further engagement with the community by Purdue students, faculty, and staff. Past award winners include Glen Acres Elementary School, Caregiver Companion, Drug Free Coalition of Tippecanoe County, Food Finders Food Bank, Hanna Community Center, LTHC Homeless Services, and the Wabash Center.

Applications are due **March 5, 2021** at 5:00 PM and can be submitted [HERE](#).

SAVE THE DATE: VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE-LEARNING SUMMIT

Please save the date for the annual Engagement & Service-Learning Summit to be held virtually on **Thursday, March 4, 2021 from 9:00 - 11:30 AM**, hosted by the Office of Engagement.

This event serves to bring together faculty, staff, students, and community partners to discuss best practices in engagement and service-learning, highlight accomplishments, and increase collaboration opportunities. This year's virtual event will feature two tracks: a beginning track on networking and partnership formation and an advanced track on broader research impacts. There is no cost to attend; however, registration is required and will open in January 2021.

