As a Professor of Interior Design and Director of the Interior Design Program at Purdue University Fort Wayne, Dr. Suining Ding has been utilizing service-learning in her courses for nearly 17 years. Dr. Ding applies her passion and expertise for service-learning to INTR-D40001: Interior Design Studio I and INTD 40100: Interior Design Studio II, the year-long two-sequential capstone course for 14 senior interior design majors. Every student partners with an actual client on a comprehensive commercial or residential design project in her class.

In this academic year’s capstone courses, five of Dr. Ding’s students partnered with Turnstone in Fort Wayne, IN. Turnstone empowers people with disabilities to achieve their highest potential by providing comprehensive services and programs. Through interviews with Turnstone staff, Dr. Ding’s students learned about Turnstone’s need for more efficient workspaces to foster an improved working environment for all at the center. Guided by research evidence and the seven universal design principles, the students developed five different solutions to Turnstone’s space needs. Students’ design solutions included quiet offices to solve acoustic issues and the use of sustainable building materials. Dr. Ding’s students also showcased their design work at their annual Interior Design Senior Exhibition, which is open to the public. From programming to space planning to construction documents, Dr. Ding’s students engaged in a real-life design process from start to finish with Turnstone. “Students learn a lot, have opportunities to interact with the client, and apply user-centered design. In comprehensive senior projects, students’ design solutions not only meet the functional requirement but also are informed by research evidence. The uses of combinations of the design elements and integration of research evidence create environments that meet users’ psychological and behavioral needs,” noted Dr. Ding.

This semester, a group of undergraduate students from COM 495/407: Social Media for Social Good partnered with Animal Advocates of Greater Lafayette to keep pets out of shelters, keep families together, and celebrate the human-animal bond. The course is taught by Dr. Jane Natt, Associate Professor in the Brian Lamb School of Communication. The student group engaged in a social media “takeover” by maintaining Animal Advocates’ social media accounts for 16 weeks. They worked together to strategically develop content to promote the nonprofit’s outreach events and educational initiatives. For example, in February, Animal Advocates held their “Heart To Heart” outreach event for senior citizens. The students helped the organization engage with their supporters by capturing volunteers in action through a POV video of pet supply deliveries to seniors in the community. The students also helped promote Home To Home, a site that connects pets in need to new homes, via a testimonial video from an adopter. As their takeover comes to an end, the students have been readying the community for Animal Advocates’ “Get Your Leash On” outreach event by creating Instagram stories and TikTok videos about pet walking and safe pet leashes.

The students have helped Animal Advocates communicate their mission and reach a broader audience through strategic use of social media. Natalie Fedor, a senior in the student group, said about the experience, “You get to see the real impact of the work you’re doing. You can easily lose sight of this as a college student.”

Undergraduate students in the group included: Tori Chodzinski, Maggie Conway, Natalie Fedor, Tina Li, Josh Ling, Hayley Tang, and Amanda Stastny.
COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: WESTMINSTER VILLAGE WEST LAFAYETTE

Westminster Village West Lafayette (WVWL) and the students in two sections of Technical Writing (English 421) at Purdue paired up this spring to embark on a service-learning partnership. WVWL provided both sections of the class a virtual tour of the facility and a personalized presentation about its residents.

Nine students from the two sections of the class chose to further the relationship with WVWL by selecting a service-learning continuous improvement project for class, and available students came to WVWL to hear from residents and deliver in-person surveys. Much of the semester was devoted to both partners learning about each other and developing a system of communication and information sharing for future engagement. The students from this semester learned how to apply technical writing skills to the needs of a community partner through engagement in interviews; in-person surveys; audience and needs analyses; virtual tours; collaborative writing; process mapping and analysis; project charters and management; data collection, analysis, and visualization; solution matrices; presentations; and reflection.

Cheryl Bentley, the Life Enrichment Team Leader and Volunteer Coordinator at WVWL, and Melissa DeFrench, the instructor for the service-learning Technical Writing course slated for the fall, are using lessons learned from the small-scale project of this semester to plan robust engagement for the next semester.

SERVICE-LEARNING FELLOWS PROGRAM: FALL 2022 GRANTEES

Congratulations to our fall service-learning fellows from Purdue's West Lafayette campus! Learn more about the program on our website.

- Anne Gritt, Clinical Assistant Professor, Dept. of Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences
- Krystal Hans, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Entomology
- Cara Kinnally, Associate Professor, School of Languages and Cultures
- Janelle Tipton, Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Nursing
- Christy Wessel Powell, Assistant Professor, Curriculum and Instruction
- Mark Wilson, Clinical Assistant Professor, School of Health Sciences
- Rachel Zhang, Graduate Instructor, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management
ENGAGED FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to our engaged faculty on their promotions!

- **Nicole M. Adams**, Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing
- **Jennifer L. Bay**, Professor of English
- **Bradley L. Benhart**, Professor of Practice of Construction Management Technology
- **Brandon E. Boor**, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering
- **Brady E. Brewer**, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics
- **Vetria Byrd**, Associate Professor of Computer Graphics Technology
- **Dina C. Dalder**, Clinical Associate Professor of Nutrition Science (July 1, 2022)
- **Andrea L. DeMaria**, Associate Professor of Public Health
- **Jennifer L. Dobbs-Oates**, Clinical Professor of Human Development and Family Studies
- **Karen J. Foli**, Professor of Nursing
- **Diane L. Hountz**, Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing
- **Elizabeth T. Maynard**, Clinical Engagement Professor of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (July 1, 2022)
- **Dharmendra K. Mishra**, Associate Professor of Food Science
- **Krishna Nemali**, Associate Professor of Horticulture
- **Matthew Perkins Coppola**, Associate Professor of Science Education
- **Ellen M. Schellhase**, Clinical Professor of Pharmacy Practice (July 1, 2022)
- **Kristen K. Seward**, Clinical Associate Professor of Educational Studies
- **Vicki L. Simpson**, Associate Professor of Nursing
- **Julianne Stout**, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine (July 1, 2022)
- **Aaron W. Thompson**, Associate Professor of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
- **Jason A. Ware**, Clinical Associate Professor
- **Adam E. Watkins**, Clinical Associate Professor

STUDENT GRANT PROGRAM FOR SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECTS

The Office of Engagement continues to invite applications for the Student Grant Program for Community Service/Service-Learning Projects, which seeks to expand the involvement of Purdue students in partnership with communities, nonprofit agencies, schools, and governmental bodies. Program application and guidelines can be found [HERE](#). The official spring 2022 deadline has passed, but new applications are still being reviewed on a rolling basis.

For more information, contact Lisa Duncan at [llduncan@purdue.edu](mailto:llduncan@purdue.edu) or (765) 494-0899.