

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Center for Community Engagement and Global Learning

Formed in August 2015, the Center for Community Engagement and Global Learning (CCEGL) is comprised of three independent offices under the purview of the Provost's Office, each serving students, faculty, staff, and a larger external set of local and global community partners. The Office of Community Engagement, the Off-Campus Programs Office, and the Service-Learning Center are a collaborative unit working both independently and collectively under a shared mission, values, and focus areas.

CCEGL Mission

The Center for Community Engagement and Global Learning equips the Calvin College community to engage contemporary issues, locally and globally. Through reciprocal institutional partnerships and high-impact pedagogical practices, CCEGL fosters effective bridge-building, deep interdisciplinary learning, and prime kingdom citizenship.

CCEGL Annual Report Overview

Focus Areas

The work of CCEGL falls into three broad focus areas:

- 1) Student Development
- 2) Faculty and Staff Development
- 3) Local and Global Community Development

Core Values

CCEGL advocates for and supports the development of teaching, learning, and engagement opportunities in partnership with local and global community partners. We aim to provide a comprehensive set of opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and other partners centered on the following core values:

- 1) Relevance: CCEGL focuses on contemporary issues, transformational change, activism, wonder, and student, faculty, and community development.
- 2) Rootedness: CCEGL seeks to develop virtues of gratitude, stewardship, discipleship, sustainability, and dwelling well in our place.
- 3) Relationships: CCEGL seeks to model hospitality, humility, deep listening, intentionality, partnership, reciprocity, anti-racism, and inclusiveness.
- 4) Responsibility: CCEGL introduces, maintains, and supports programs, courses, research, and partnerships that develop dispositions toward justice, mercy, critical thinking, complexity, and life-long learning.

Collective Effort

The CCEGL leaders seek to continually reimagine our collective work to brainstorm diverse programs, strategies, and structures to more fully achieve our mission. To that end, we have implemented a variety of collaborative initiatives:

1) Faculty Development Workshops

a. Citizen Pedagogy: In 2016, CCEGL hosted 7 faculty members in a 2-day Citizenship Pedagogy workshop in which faculty were equipped to consider how to weave contemporary issues and citizenship into particular courses across the Calvin curriculum by exploring strategies for engaged teaching and high-impact pedagogical practices.

b. Climate Change: In 2017, CCEGL hosted 11 faculty members in a 1.5-day Climate Change workshop which provided space and time for participants to sharpen their thinking about climate change and to consider how their work at Calvin in teaching, research, or mentoring can contribute to Calvin's work to address climate change in support of the President's signing of the Second Nature Climate Commitment.

2) Broadened and Deepened International Service-Learning Experiences: The synergy between OCP and S-LC have enhanced opportunities for students to participate in service-learning while they are studying abroad for a semester or during interim.

3) Shared Office Space: Since 2015, the CCEGL offices have shared space in Calvin's Spoelhof Center, and are continuing to adapt and rearrange to enhance cohesion and collaboration.

4) CCEGL Student Staff Cohesion: Beginning in fall 2018, each of the three CCEGL offices will host a total of approximately 20 student staff members. Initiatives such as coffee hours, article discussions, and staff meals will help develop social cohesion and collective learning.

5) Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement: Beginning in fall 2018 CCEGL leaders will spearhead the reapplication process for the Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement, which recognizes colleges and universities with an institutionalized commitment to community engagement. Calvin College first received this classification in 2010.



36 Educational Presentations on Watershed Restoration:

6 CHURCHES	8 SCHOOLS
16 COMMUNITY EVENTS	6 COLLEGE EVENTS

1535

People Educated (Community Members and Students)

5 NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES

EDUCATION

We give educational presentations in college classrooms as well as in local schools, churches, and other community settings. Our goal is to educate the community about watershed ecology and to develop a growing group of people who understand the strengths, needs, and problems affecting the Plaster Creek Watershed. Our educational events are always combined with opportunities to take action and we work to equip people with the knowledge and skills needed to return health to the watershed. These regular community gatherings bring together people of all ages (18 months to 80 years old!) who work together to restore the watershed.

We have also launched a summer Green Team, a unique program to educate urban high school students who live or go to school within the Plaster Creek watershed. The Green Team provides urban youth with research experience in watershed restoration, job skill development in green infrastructure, and mentoring by college faculty and student research assistants.

The Office of Community Engagement has existed within the Provost's Office since 2004 exploring the intersection of Christian liberal arts education and the particulars of place and strengthening the academic mission of the college through strategic priorities for engaged teaching and for engaged scholarship. The goals for the Office of Community Engagement grow out of the Calvin Strategic Plan and include the following:

- Expand/ deepen the intersection of Christian liberal arts education and the particulars of place by using the city and region as text.
- Deepen the influence, impact, and visibility of engaged scholarship at Calvin.
- Expand Calvin's reach in Grand Rapids, in West Michigan, and beyond.

Historically the Office of Community Engagement focused in four areas: urban revitalization, literacy, racial reconciliation, and environmental sustainability and this work continues with involvement from departments across the campus.

In 2009 one community concern emerged as a priority for focused academic community engagement. We discovered that the watershed where the college resides—the Plaster Creek watershed—is highly degraded and is deemed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as the most contaminated urban waterway in West Michigan. As a Christian institution, we felt compelled to respond to this concern and we launched Plaster Creek Stewards, a watershed restoration initiative. Plaster Creek Stewards is a collaboration of Calvin College faculty, staff, and students working with local schools, churches, and community partners to restore the health and beauty of the Plaster Creek watershed.

Plaster Creek Stewards has grown to be a robust example of academic community engagement and has a three-part focus: education, research, and on-the-ground restoration.

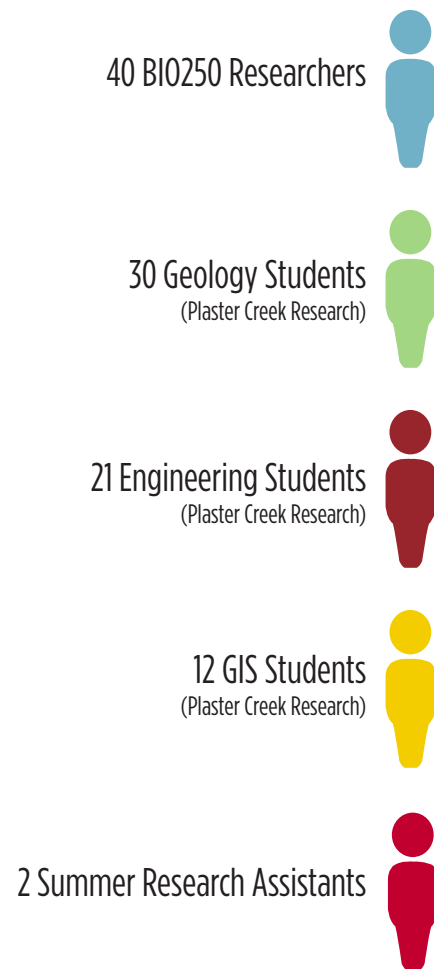


105 STUDENT RESEARCHERS



RESEARCH

At Calvin a number of faculty have been involved in research to explore and study the issues and problems within the Plaster Creek watershed. Before we can work to heal and restore this damaged urban watershed, we need to understand its problems. Students in a Biology research methods class are gathering water quality data, including flow rates, E. coli concentrations, and more. These data will be used to track changes in water quality over time. We are also gathering data on the early history of the watershed and have recorded oral histories from community members who have lived or worked in the Plaster Creek watershed during the past 80 years. One innovative research partnership we have developed is between an upstream middle school and a downstream middle school who collect data simultaneously at their respective locations and compare findings to notice the differences between upstream and downstream in Plaster Creek. Science Education students have assisted to make this a rich learning experience for the participants. Each summer Plaster Creek Stewards hires Calvin research students to collect data to answer various research questions such as which native plants survive best in urban green infrastructure installations, which native plants are the most effective at soaking up stormwater runoff, which can best withstand roadway runoff which includes grit and oils. In 2018 a long term experiment was also set up to quantify the infiltration benefits that native plantings provide in clay soils and how this may change over time as the plants mature.



RESTORATION

Excessive stormwater runoff is the primary trigger that causes contamination in urban creeks and streams. Using research findings to inform us, Plaster Creek Stewards have prioritized particular sites for restoration activities. Using green infrastructure — such as rain gardens and bio-swales—stormwater is captured where it falls, reducing the amount of stormwater that reaches urban waterways. Native Michigan plants with their long roots play an important role, filtering stormwater runoff to improve water quality and increasing bio-diversity. Plaster Creek Stewards has a native plant nursery where most of the native plants needed for watershed restoration projects are grown. A new greenhouse is being built in summer 2018 with support from the Bosch Community Fund and many individual donors. Several large scale restoration projects and a number of smaller projects are underway or have been completed with grant funding from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the EPA/ Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Five Star and Urban Watershed Restoration initiative. This work is ongoing and has been a catalyst for community engagement on campus and off campus.

On-the-Ground Restoration Statistics

New Sites	22
Maintained Sites	60
Area of Land Restored (sq. ft.)	306, 254.44
Complete Curb-Cut Rain Gardens	67
Volunteers	387
Volunteer Hours	761
Interns	3
Intern Hours	315
Green Team High School Students	16
Native Plants Grown in Our Greenhouses	75,000

GRANT PROJECTS

\$1,788,834
TOTAL FROM 6
CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS

CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS:

EPA / GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE

FIVE STAR AND URBAN WATERS RESTROATION

WEGE FOUNDATION

BOSCH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (2 GRANTS)

LOOKING FORWARD

In 2010, Calvin received national recognition for community engagement as one of 115 higher education institutions selected to receive the Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Calvin received this recognition from the Carnegie Foundation for both our curricular engagement and also for our partnerships and outreach—where teaching, learning and scholarship engage faculty, students, and community in mutually beneficial collaboration. These interactions have addressed community-identified needs, deepened students' civic and academic learning, enhanced community well-being, and enriched the scholarship of Calvin faculty. In the 2018-19 academic year, Calvin will re-apply and expects to receive the 2020 Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement since academic community engagement continues to thrive at Calvin.

OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMS

Greetings from the Off-Campus Programs (OCP) Office! It has been three years since the OCP office became a part of the Center of Community Engagement and Global Learning (CCEGL) and we are so very thankful that we can call the Center home. In many ways, CCEGL is an unusual home for our office as most study abroad offices across the country are either stand-alone offices or connected with offices that supports incoming international students.

To leverage the experiences that students have off-campus we feel that it is imperative to connect these experiences to the places where they call home. This can only happen if we are intentional about providing students the knowledge, skills and virtues to help them "dwell well" wherever God calls them. As Steven Bouma-Prediger and Brian Walsh note in their book *Beyond Homelessness*, "When we come with a humble heart, being willing to develop relationships with those we meet, seeking the justice that God demands, and being open to the possibilities of this world, we open ourselves to discover God's wonderful plan for our lives. We begin to see our calling and how we can be a part of God's work in His world. We begin to see what it means to not only live deeply but to dwell well as inhabitants, wherever we may find ourselves . . . Good inhabitation is an art requiring detailed knowledge of a place, the capacity for observation, and a sense of care and rootedness."

Kristen Dufty is our new Coordinator for Off-Campus Programs, she joined our team in August 2017. She holds a Bachelors of Arts in International Relations with a focus on the Middle East from Hope College (2011) and just graduated from Gonzaga University with her Masters of Arts in Organizational Leadership this summer (2018). Due to her desire to continue her Arabic language skills, Kristen took a job at George Washington Academy in Casablanca, Morocco to begin a career in teaching English as a Second Language, as well as continuing French and Arabic language training. Her language skills and her immigration know-how lead her to positions at Western Michigan University and Aquinas College in their international recruitment and retention offices. At Calvin, Kristen processes visas for students studying abroad, as well as assists in Off-Campus Programs Orientation, advising students, liaising with our partner universities abroad, and so much more.



United Kingdom, Spring 2018



Peru
Fall 2017 Semester

2018 was the 50th anniversary of Calvin's first off-campus interim to France in 1968.

In the last 50 years...

- Calvin has offered 949 off-campus interims and 14 different semester programs.
- approximately 15,000 students have studied off-campus during interims.

In the last four years...

- Calvin has averaged over 750 students a year studying off-campus in either a semester or interim program.

In addition...

- faculty across disciplines have collaborated to offer a variety of creative interdisciplinary courses.

TOTAL STUDENTS FOR



SEMESTER



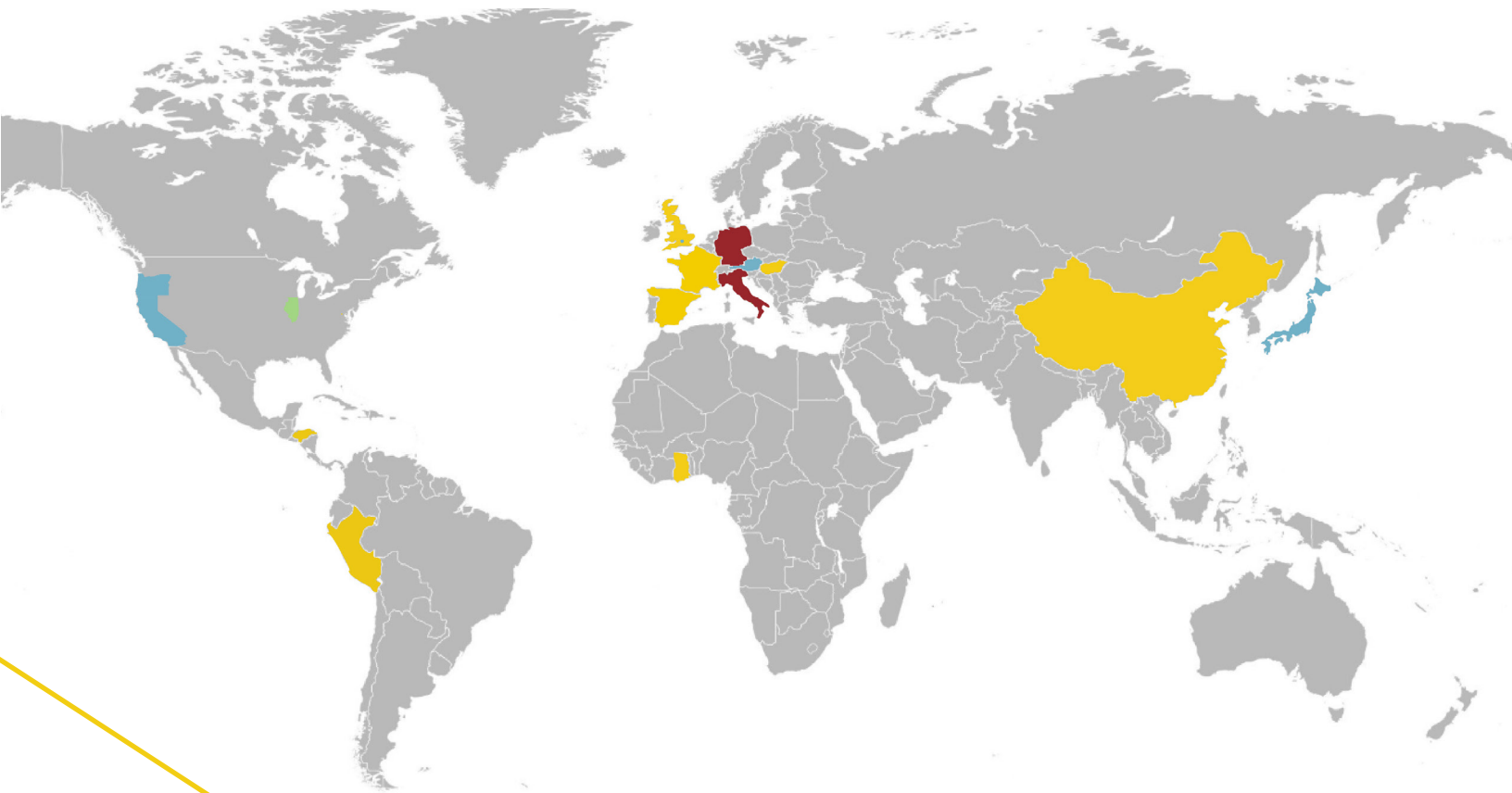
JANUARY
AND MAY
INTERIMS



SUMMER
(ITALY)



SUMMER
(GERMANY)



As we continue to look to the future, we want to thank you for your continued support of Calvin's Off-Campus Programs Office and ask for your continued prayers and support as we live to our continued mission of helping students and faculty actively engage with our world (both globally and locally).



Ghana
Spring 2018 Semester

81.4%

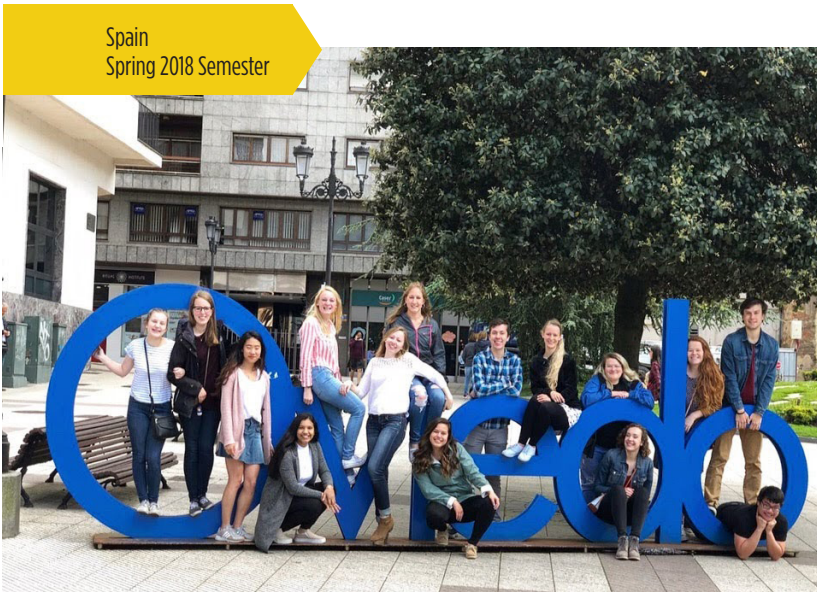
UNDERGRADUATE PARTICIPATION
IN STUDY ABROAD
(U.S. STUDENTS)

From the 2017 Open Doors Report

FALL 2017/
SPRING 2018

	3.08	2.73
How important was the availability to study off-campus in your decision to attend Calvin?		
Overall, how valuable was your off-campus study experience to our undergraduate experience?	3.82	3.84
Total Averages	Fall 2017	Spring 2018

- Calvin Semesters (17-18)
- Partner Semesters (17-18)
- Other Semesters (17-18)
- Summer Programs (17-18)



Spain
Spring 2018 Semester

CALVIN SEMESTERS		
Program Location	# of Students (Fall)	# of Students (Spring)
Britain		10
China	19	
France	23	
Ghana		18
Honduras (Justice)	19	
Honduras (Spanish)		15
Hungary	19	
Peru	21	
Spain (Advanced)		16
Washington D.C.		20
Totals	101	94

SUMMER PROGRAMS	
Program Location	# of Students
Italy	18
Germany	28
Totals	46

PARTNER SEMESTERS		
Program Location	# of Students (Fall)	# of Students (Spring)
Chicago	3	1
Central College in Vienna		4
Japan Center for Michigan Universities	2	8
Totals	5	13

OTHER SEMESTERS		
Program Location	# of Students (Fall)	# of Students (Spring)
CCCU: LAFSC		1
CCCU: Oxford		1
Oregon Extension	1	
Other	1	2
Totals	2	4

INTERIM 2018

How important was the option to study off-campus in your decision to come to Calvin?			
#	Answer	%	Student Count
4	Very Valuable	66.91%	180
3	Valuable	26.02%	70
2	Somewhat valuable	5.95%	16
1	Not very valuable	1.12%	3
	Total	100%	272

How valuable was your off-campus study experience to your undergraduate educational experience?			
#	Answer	%	Student Count
4	Very Important	29.78%	180
3	Important	29.04%	70
2	One of many factors	29.04%	16
1	Not a factor	12.13%	3
	Total	100%	272

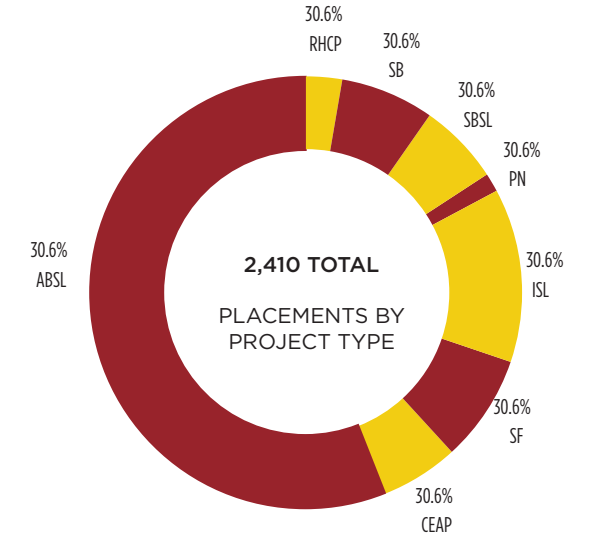
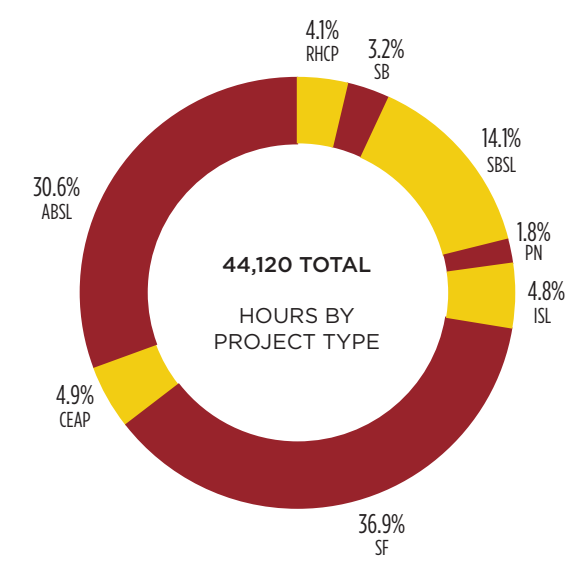
When Sharon (Draft) Slager and Jan VandenBosch started a club for tutoring local school kids in Grand Rapids in 1964, neither could have dreamed of their club as the beginning of a movement. But fifty-four years later, the Service-Learning Center stands as a testament to the vision for justice that these two students put forward. This summer I received a note from one of our local community partners, Sue Garza, the director of a small neighborhood library on Grand Rapids' southwest side. She said the following: "Never underestimate the power of service-learning. Calvin and Boer Bennink's very own Alicia Bos, your time helping a student in middle school from the Cook Library Center overcome the shame of expulsion will never be forgotten. She will be graduating from high school July 25 from Grand Rapids Public School, University Preparatory Academy." Calvin students have been coming alongside students like this for over five decades, and hopefully for five decades more.

Jeff Bouman, Director of Service-Learning Center

GENERAL STATISTICS

FOR 2017-18

ABSL - Academically-Based Service-Learning
 RHCP - Residence Hall Community Partnerships
 SB - Spring Break Trips
 SBSL - Student-Based Service-Learning
 PN - Project Neighborhood
 ISL - International Service-Learning
 SF - StreetFest
 CEAP - Calvin Environmental Assessment Program



45
 PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN SERVICE-LEARNING

186
 ACTIVE AGENCIES

25.4
 AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS / SERVICE-LEARNER

TOP 5 SERVICE-LEARNING PLACEMENT CATEGORIES

- Program Assistant: 248
- Classroom Aide: 212
- Medical: 143
- Tutoring: 137
- Food Services: 136

Since 2015, Calvin students have been exposed to the spectrum of world religions in tangible ways in Grand Rapids. The Service-Learning Center oversees the work of a student Interfaith Intern who plans a thoughtful slate of interfaith events alongside peers from other local colleges and universities. A highlight of these opportunities came in April this year, with a dinner dedicated to learning about the concept of "hospitality" within Islam. Reverend Justin Meyers from the Al Amana Center in Oman was the invited speaker, and participants enjoyed a delicious Middle Eastern meal. The event fell under the auspices of a national day called "Better Together Day," sponsored by the Interfaith Youth Core, a national organization with whom Calvin is developing closer ties.

TOTAL ABSL HOURS

24,843

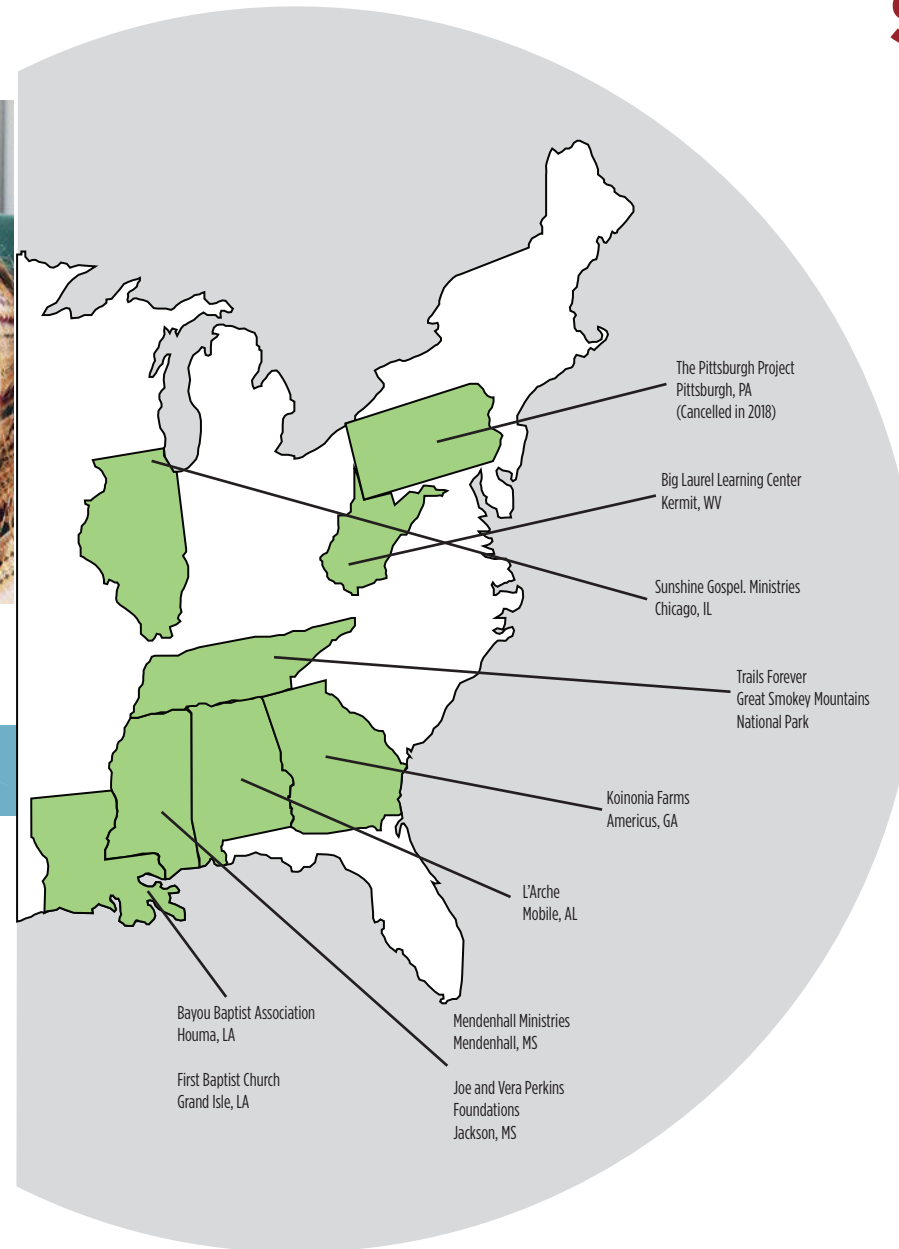
Service-Learning Spring Break Trips

Sites: 9
Total Participants: 77
Total Hours: 3080

Academically-Based Service-Learning (ABSL) is a cornerstone of the work of the Service-Learning Center. In 2017-18, the S-LC once again assisted in the development, the logistical implementation, and the evaluation of several creative manifestations of ABSL. Participating faculty were in (at least) the following departments: Accounting, Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, Engineering, Geology, History, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Nursing, Psychology, Science Education, Spanish, Speech Pathology, Economics, Social Work, as well as in study abroad programs in Ghana, Honduras, Hungary, and Peru. One creative project was conceived by Art professor Jennifer Steensma Hoag, whose students partnered with Samaritas, a senior living home in Grand Rapids, to create original artwork that also serves as wayfinding prompts to assist people in varying stages of dementia who navigate the hallways in the memory-care unit at Samaritas. Students logged over 24,000 hours of Academically-Based Service-Learning in 2017-18.



Calvin Student at Roosevelt Park Neighborhood.



Number of Hours / Students by Department

- ARTS: 240 / 24
- BIOL: 540 / 19
- BUS: 289 / 17
- CHEM: 755 / 51
- CMS: 120 / 1
- EDUC: 1519 / 104
- ENGR: 9921 / 116
- GEOL: 6 / 1
- IDIS: 1285 / 36
- KIN: 13 / 2
- NURS: 8236 / 124
- PSYC: 2093 / 103
- RECR: 20 / 1
- SCES: 391 / 36
- SOC: 255 / 12
- SOWK: 1145 / 55
- SPAN: 835 / 68
- SPHO: 1052 / 15
- STAT: 240 / 12
- STGH: 94 / 1
- STHO: 80 / 1



177 ABSL OPPORTUNITIES

960 ACTIVE PLACEMENTS

43 COURSES / 80 SECTIONS

NUMBER OF COURSES / SECTIONS OF RECORDED SERVICE-LEARNING

18.3 HOURS

AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER PROGRAM

Photos from 2017-18
Spring Break Trips
(from left to right)
Koinonia Farms - Americus, GA
The Mendenhall Ministries - Mendenhall, MS
Trails Forever - Great Smokey Mountains National Park



Visit:
www.calvin.edu/slc
www.calvin.edu/offices-services/off-campus-programs
www.calvin.edu/offices-services/community-engagement

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