

# History of Service Learning





# 19<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1890s-1910: University Extension Programs- students worked with farmers to improve their quality of life and standard of living by demonstrating how to produce more and better varieties of agricultural commodities, better nutrition, clothing, housing, and how to work together to bring about major improvements, such as electric cooperatives





# Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1903: John Dewey developed the intellectual foundations of service learning in "Thought and its Subject Matter"
- 1906: Cooperative Education Movement "Co-op"-alternate terms of coursework and employment in industry
- 1910: William James envisions non-military national service in "The Moral Equivalent of War"



# Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century

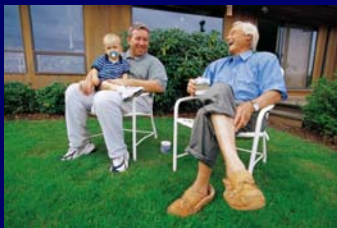
- 1933-1942: Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)-created by Pres. Roosevelt, millions of young people served terms of 6-18 months to help restore nation's parks, revitalize the economy, and support their families and themselves
- 1944: GI Bill-links service and education offering educational opportunity in return for service to country





# The 60's

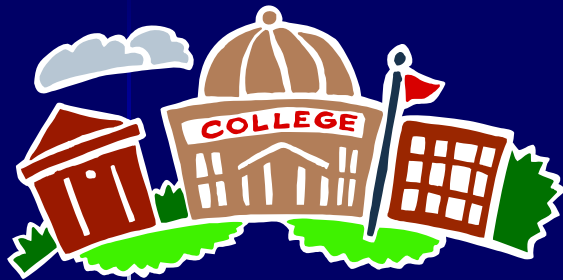
- 1960s: The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program-to engage older Americans in the work of improving the nation
- 1961: Peace Corps- established by Pres. Kennedy
- 1964: Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)-created by Pres. Johnson as part of the "War on Poverty" to allow Americans to serve full-time to help low-income communities
- 1965: College work-study programs
- 1966-1967: the phrase "service-learning" first used to describe a project in East Tennessee with Oak Ridge Associated Universities linking students and faculty with tributary area development organizations





## The 70's

- 1970: Youth Conservation Corps-38,000 14-18 year olds involved in summer environment programs
- 1971: National Student Volunteer Program (in 1979 changed name to National Center of Service-Learning); Higher Education Consortium for Urban Affairs (HECUA)-examines systems that create inequality and the ways social changes are made
- 1979: "Three Principles of Service Learning" by Robert Sigmon published in the Synergist-journal promoting linking service and learning



# The 80's

- 1984-1985: Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL) and Campus Compact-service programs in higher education
- 1989: "Wingspread Principles of Good Practice in Service Learning"-70+ organizations collaborate to produce 10 principles; Pres. George Bush creates Office of National Service

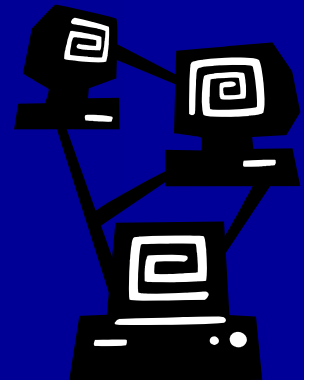


Campus Compact



## The 90's

- 1990: National and Community Service Act-grants to schools to support service learning; Learn and Serve America established
- 1993: Pres. Clinton signs the National and Community Serve Act of 1993-creating Americorps and the Corporation for National Service
- 1995: Service-Learning network on the internet, via the University of Colorado Peace Studies Center



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- 2001: First International Conference on Service-Learning Research
- 2002: USA Freedom Corps launched by Pres. George W. Bush-nationwide call to service



# Assignment

- Excerpt from "The Moral Equivalent of War" by William James (1910)
- "The Three Principles of Service-Learning" by Robert Sigmon (1979)
- "Wingspread Principles of Good Practice in Service-Learning" (1989)
- Principles and Reform for a Citizen Service Act, Pres. George W. Bush (2002)
- Reflect on Discussion Board #2

Source: [www.servicelearning.org/welcome\\_to\\_service-learning/history/index.php](http://www.servicelearning.org/welcome_to_service-learning/history/index.php)