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Louise and Wally Bishop Endowment for Ethical Leadership (Academic year 2012-13)

University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Wally and Louise Bishop Center for Ethical Leadership & Civic Engagement.

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The Bishop Center offered eleven (11) sections of leadership minor courses with an enrollment of 103 students. In addition, the Center supported thirteen (13) faculty development grants which evolved into courses collectively enrolling 228 students.

A new course was added to the leadership minor sequence entitled, Advanced Public Speaking.

In the area of student development, the Center supported a civic engagement fair which brought to the campus twenty-five (25) non-profit agencies and organizations for students to interact with and see about volunteer and related service opportunities. More than 150 students expressed an interest in working with one or more of the non-profits.

A student leadership retreat was conducted in collaboration with the Student Affairs Leadership Development program focusing on "Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership" and "Building Teams". The retreat was highlighted by a presentation from Mr. Karl Nurse, Chair, St. Petersburg City Council.

Two ROTC cadets were selected to attend the "National Conference on Ethics in America" held at the U.S. Military academy at West Point. The Bishop Center supported their attendance and had them report on their experience. The conference focused on how to facilitate dialogue on college and university campuses around major issues such as gender discrimination, student conduct, and social media.

The Center co-sponsored the Community Leadership Symposium with student government around the theme, "Building Relationships Through Communication and Collaboration.

The Center was involved in a number of community outreach activities, including the following:

a) A collaboration with the College of Education in developing a partnership with the Fairmount Park Elementary School. This will be an ongoing partnership.

b) Development of a "Community Partner and Service Learning Placement Directory". This is an effort to assist students, as well as faculty, in connecting with 75 community partners.

c) In collaboration with the SPC Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions supported a panel discussion of the numerous constitutional amendments on the ballot for the 2012 election. The presentations were informational looking at both the pros and cons of the amendments. The audience was composed of students and citizens from across Pinellas County. More than 150 attended.

d) A debate was held on campus discussing the proposed constitutional amendment #8 entitled, "The Religious Freedom Act". More than 50 individuals from the community attended the debate which focused on using public funds for the support of church supported schools.
e) A series of lectures were held on the topics of sustainability, ethics in the workplace, the scholarship of civic engagement, fragmentation of Florida's natural land landscapes, and a number of other topics related to ethics and leadership.

The Center, through its Civic Engagement component, identified 44 courses with a civic engagement assignment. The courses enrolled 939 students who through their involvement contributed approximately 12,000 hours of service.