New York City College of Technology, CUNY

A Living Laboratory: Revitalizing General Education for a 21st Century College of Technology

Academic Service Learning Project

Real World Problem Solving

March 15, 2013

Pre Reading

- Bain, What the Best College Professors Do, Chapter 5, Focus on pp.117-134
- Ambrose, How Learning Works, Chapter 6
- Lustig, Abandoned Sheepshead Bay: No Homes, No Power, No Relief (found on the OpenLab site) http://nymag.com/daily/intelligencer/2012/11/sheepshead-bay-no-homes-no-power-no-relief.html
- Additional resources available on the Third Year Fellows OpenLab site under "Discussion Boards"

Community Partner

Bay Improvement Group (BIG), http://www.bayimprovementgroup.org/

Purpose

To support the Bay Improvement Group's goal of gathering information that will be used to create an Emergency Response Plan for this area. Fellows will implement the survey by conducting door to door surveys of a defined area of the community and will provide feedback of the strengths and weaknesses of the survey. Once complete, the survey will be used as part of a larger project that will survey the entire community.

Meeting place

Roll-N-Roaster, 2901 Emmons Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11235. http://www.rollnroaster.com This locally-owned fast food restaurant has been serving Sheepshead Bay for 40 years.

Directions (public transportation)

- Option 1: 2 or 5 train to Flatbush Ave/Brooklyn College. Catch the B44 bus south on Nostrand Ave, get off at Shore Parkway and Nostrand. Continue 1 block south on Nostrand, turn right on Emmons, Roll-N-Roaster is 1 block down on right.
- Option 2: B train to Sheepshead Bay. Follow Sheepshead Bay Road southeast until you reach the water (at Emmonds). Turn left on Emmonds and proceed 3/4 mile (walk or catch the BM3 bus) to Roll-N-Roaster, on the left at E29th St.

Food

Fellows will be responsible for their own food purchases throughout our seminar activities today. In the morning, Roll-N-Roaster has coffee available but traditional breakfast fare is limited (menu is available at www.rollnroaster.com). One of the goals of academic service learning is to give back to the community, and our morning activity will be followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Final selection of the lunch venue is still pending, but will definitely be a local business with lunch under \$20 and vegetarian option available. If you have concerns about the lunch (dietary needs or other concerns) please contact Karen or Jonas.

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Feedback

Handout to be provided at the end of the Survey

Reflection

Reflection on an Academic Service Learning Project can occur in many different ways such as poems, videos, photos, drawings, essays, blog reactions... Using the OpenLab, create a new blog post to reflect on your experience today. Base your reflection on the prompt "Real World Problem Solving" and use one of the previously mentioned formats.

Please offer at least one response to another Fellow's blog post.

Assessment

Peer review through comments on OpenLab blog posts.