

# ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16



## Campus Compact Iowa

### Mission

Iowa Campus Compact strengthens the capacity of colleges and universities to prepare all students to become engaged citizens.

### Vision

Through the strength of our coalition, Iowa Campus Compact provides leadership for the civic mission of higher education.

# Members

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## Buena Vista University

President Fredrick V. Moore

## Central College

President Mark Putnam

## Clarke University

President Joanne Burrows

## Coe College

President David McNally

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President Dan Kinney

## Loras College

President Jim Collins

## Mercy College of Health Sciences

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## Deepening membership capacity committee

### COMMITTEE CHAIR

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## Giving voice committee

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### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Maggie Baker, Loras College

Jim Tagye, Mercy College of Health Sciences

Dr. Stacy Van Gorp, Independent Consultant

## Thank you

Iowa Western Community College and President Kinney for serving as our fiscal host.

The University of Iowa and President Harreld for providing office space.

# Strategy

## ONE

### Understand and deepen each member campus' civic engagement capacity

This year marked the start of a new way of understanding and supporting member capacity. Five institutions are currently pilot-testing a committee-designed rubric and process for self-assessment of institutional community engagement capacity. The result will allow members to set clear goals and direction, achieve higher levels of recognition and make a greater impact. It will also allow Iowa Campus Compact to serve member capacity needs in a more effective and targeted way.

Our Iowa College AmeriCorps Program (ICAP) and VISTA Community Corps also have served to build capacity for campus and community partnerships. This year, 170 ICAP members recruited student volunteers and improved the

capacity of over 100 Iowa nonprofits. We also had 15 full-time VISTA members, who impacted over 12,000 individuals through mentoring housing, and financial literacy programs.

In addition, we hosted several professional development events designed to support staff, faculty, and student leaders. **In the fall, more than 90 individuals representing 80% of our member institutions** attended workshops at Coe College and Drake University with Dr. Patti Clayton on community-engaged teaching, partnerships, critical reflection, and scholarship in local and global contexts.

In April, we gathered faculty, staff, students, and administrators from 11

institutions to talk about interfaith, service, and diversity efforts across the state. We were joined by Christie Vilsack from the U.S. Agency for International Development and Ken Bedell from the U.S. Department of Education. **The event was a great opportunity to learn more about how campuses approach bringing goals related to diversity, community engagement, and interfaith cooperation together and to consider new ideas for the future.**

In June, we gathered nearly 200 individuals from institutions in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois for a two-day conference hosted by the University of Iowa. This is the fifth annual Upper Midwest Civic Engagement Summit and the second hosted in Iowa.

## TWO

### Connect campuses to one another to build member and network strength

This year we embarked on a process of better understanding the connections in our network. The Network Evaluation Survey we conducted demonstrated many strong connections across member institutions. Respondents most highly valued the increased knowledge sharing and improved student learning outcomes that came out of those connections. Respondents were also ready to contribute more of their civic engagement expertise, community connections, and leadership. We will use

these results to continue to adapt our programs. This will include continuing the virtual network coffees each month, which have allowed for discussion on specific issues and the network retreats, which we will now hold bi-annually.

**The Civic Ambassadors Network continued to grow with 20 students selected this year from 12 member institutions.** As a peer network, the students were able to help and encourage each other to address needs in their community and on campus

through civic engagement projects. One individual created a program to bring student musicians into health facilities in Sioux City. Another team of students worked to host a STEM Activities fair for central Iowa Girl Scout chapters.

We also selected another four faculty members for the Engaged Scholar Faculty Fellows Program this year. The fellows worked on projects related to global health, high school biology, public sociology and nonprofit grant-seeking.

## THREE

### Work together to give voice to the civic mission of higher education

With this new collective strategy, the committee spent much of the year considering audiences and messages and plans for next year will be forth-coming. We also launched the #WeServalowa hashtag as a social media home for images of the impact our work is having on students and communities.

**Additionally, 100% of our member presidents signed on to the Campus Compact Action Statement.** This statement commits us to taking action on our collective vision for the civic mission of higher education. We are following up on the statement by sharing examples of this commitment. Opinion pieces about the commitment by four member presidents have already run in newspapers across the state.

**We have continued our focus on achieving recognition for the great work of our member institutions.** We based our self-assessment rubric on the Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement to help more member achieve this prestigious level of recognition. We also had a record number of nominations for our Engaged Campus Awards with nearly 40 nominations from 14 member institutions.