Listen Up! We Made a Podcast!

It finally happened! The Research That Reaches Out Podcast is live! We are so excited to have a platform to share the incredible work that Mercer faculty and staff are doing with Research That Reaches Out. For five years, we have soaked up your wisdom and expertise as you shared stories with us about service-research in your work with students. It’s about time to share your stories with the world!

Subscribe to our podcast on Soundcloud to get the latest episodes as soon as they drop.

Prefer to read? Access the transcripts on the QEP website.

Episode 1: Reframing Ethics with Dr. Charlotte Thomas

After 26 years of teaching a philosophy intro course, Dr. Charlotte Thomas at Mercer University threw out the thought experiments and partnered with The Daybreak Center, a Project of St. Vincent DePaul, to ground her students’ theoretical work in community-engaged projects. She talks about adapting her classroom-based service-learning project for an online format for a summer class and in response to the Covid-19 mid-semester shift to online learning.

Episode 2: Engaging Student Voters with Lauren Shinholster

Lauren Shinholster is leading the charge in college student voter engagement at Mercer. After earning multiple awards for the university in regional and national college voting competitions, she shares her strategies for successfully engaging student voters and adjusting for elections in the midst of Covid-19.

Episode 3: Usability Research with Dr. Pam Estes Brewer

In her usability class at Mercer University, Dr. Pam Estes Brewer’s students’ research findings have informed the designs of dozens of websites and apps for partners like the Department of Homeland Security and the Georgia PINES Library System. Hear how Dr. Brewer manages the demands of project-based learning in her classroom and how she turned the Covid-19 crisis into an opportunity for students to develop new professional skills - adjusting to environmental changes without sacrificing project outcomes.

Future episodes will feature interviews with Dr. Laura Moody (EGR) on mentoring undergraduate researchers, Professor Frani Rollins (CLAS) on free public theatre, and more!

If you have stories to share about your service-research work, we want to hear about it! Email Hannah Nabi at nabi_hf@mercer.edu.

High Five Faculty!

A big AIR FIVE (be safe, kids) to faculty for your creativity, compassion, commitment, and stick-to-it-ive-ness in finishing out this semester in the midst of Covid-19 changes. We are so proud to know you and work with you.

Sorry, Charlie!

We just couldn’t help but pile on to the publicity about the great work that Dr. Charlie Thomas (CLAS) is doing. You may have seen the news about her recent Hendricks Award announcement, and maybe you even heard her talk about doing service-research in her PHI 195 course in Episode 1 of the new Research That Reaches Out Podcast. But did you know you can check out the work her Intro to Ethics students are doing in their partnership to address housing insecurity and homelessness with the Daybreak Center in Macon? Dr. Thomas originally planned for her students to present their work in a public showcase in April, but Covid-19 had other plans. Instead, they created a virtual showcase of their work hosted on the QEP webpage.

Click Here to SEE SHOWCASE

It Ain’t Braggin’ If It’s True!

Have you or your students disseminated your Research That Reaches Out work in a presentation, poster, or other format? Let us know! We are collecting good news to help us shape our 2021 QEP Impact Report. Examples could include, but are not limited to:

- peer-reviewed journal articles
- presentations
- workshops
- exhibits
- reports

Email Hannah Nabi at nabi_hf@mercer.edu with details.