

## SECTION I RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### 1. Provide a profile of the faculty research and public service activities at your institution.

Brookdale regularly collects information on faculty research and public service activities via a Faculty Professional Development Survey. In Spring 2008, 179 full-time faculty members (75%) completed the survey and the results indicate that Brookdale full-time faculty are very involved in research and public service activities.

- **CURRENT FACULTY RESEARCH PROJECTS:** The Professional Development Survey indicated that the personal and professional research activities of Brookdale faculty are diverse and wide ranging. A few examples illustrate the varied nature of current research projects: Exploring whether deviance can be positive and valued in society; Investigating whether 12-month-old infants can predict goal objects of humans vs animals; Examining the practical feasibility of constructing a building that would use “Green” techniques and products (i.e., a Sustainable Office Building); Researching a phenomenon termed the “deviant turning point” (i.e., a potential point in time when a person chooses to move into a deviant lifestyle); Exploring socially and economically acceptable alternatives to commercial fishing in long-time fishing communities in New Jersey.

Several projects focus specifically on the teaching-learning process or on factors associated with student success. For example, faculty members in the Nursing department are exploring whether guided imagery decreases test anxiety in a “high stakes” testing environment. Members of the English and Reading division are analyzing student survey data collected over multiple semesters to uncover how Basic Skills Reading students feel about their time in the Reading Center. Two faculty members in the Social Sciences & Education division are looking at the “Juice Box Generation” and how helicopter parents and professors contribute to student dysfunction. A group of six faculty and counselors received a 2008 Brookdale Innovation Grant (BIG) to implement a learning community pilot program on a group of “pre-health sciences” students. Others used their BIG grants to create a Math Mentors Program for Women in Engineering, Science and Technology (WEST). The goal of the program (which uses a combination of workshops, in-person mentoring and e-mentoring) is to assist female students in Science and Engineering in developing social competence, academic motivation and career awareness.

Many Brookdale faculty are also currently working on information technology projects such as creating and evaluating the effectiveness of on-line and blended courses. For example, the Criminal Justice department is analyzing data from online sections of criminal justice courses in order to identify the benefits and costs of online courses for the student as well as the instructor. Others are investigating the best ways to incorporate technology into courses to enhance student learning. Specifically, a web developer in the Teaching and Learning Center is working with a member of the Electronics department to produce interactive videos for an ELEC-103 (Electronic Skills and Techniques) laboratory that will include new video components and exercises to improve student knowledge retention. And, an Art professor and an Engineering Technician are collaborating to create an interactive map of Western Architecture. This project is also funded, in part, by one of the 2008 Brookdale Innovation Grants.

The 2008 Faculty Professional Development Surveys also indicate that Brookdale faculty are very motivated when it comes to keeping up-to-date and connected with others in their fields. The 175 survey respondents reported attending a total of 768 conferences, workshops, and exhibits. Brookdale faculty presented at 180 of these 768 events, indicating that our faculty are more than willing to share their expertise with others.

- **FACULTY PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES:** Brookdale faculty are involved in a wide range of volunteer and public service activities. The listing of activities and organizations below provides an indication of the **types and range** of public service activities that Brookdale faculty are involved in:

180 Turning Lives Around	Meals on Wheels
AIDS Walk	Middletown Township Medical Emergency Response Team
American Cancer Society	Monmouth County Board of Health Medical Reserve Corps
American Red Cross Lifesaving Instructor	Monmouth County Historical Association
Area sports coaches (e.g., Little League)	Monmouth County Medical Reserve Corps
Area sports officials (judges / umpires)	Monmouth County Park System
A Time for Me (for Women Battling Cancer)	Music Club - Performer at area Nursing Homes
Care for Caregivers	Multiple Sclerosis Society Fundraisers & Volunteers
Children's Cultural Center, Red Bank	NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife (Shorebird Steward)
Church and Temple officers / volunteers	NJ Water Watch
Classroom Volunteers & Guest Speakers	Parker Health Clinic
Clean Ocean Action / Beach Clean-ups	Parkinson's Unity Walk
Crop Walk	Poricy Park Nature Conservancy
Fire Department Volunteer	Pro Bono Legal Work
Foreign Language Resource Bank	Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA/PTO)
Girl Scouts / Cub Scouts	Public Library Volunteers & Speakers
HABcore, Red Bank	Ride for Autism
Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Builder	Riverview Medical Center Emergency Room
Human Rights Campaign	The Center in Asbury Park
Keep NJ Green Campaign	United Way of Monmouth County
March for Babies	Visiting Nurse Association
Master Gardner Program	YMCA

In addition to the types of individual volunteer and public service activities listed above, Brookdale faculty and staff contribute to the Community in many other ways including:

- **Advisory Boards.** Brookdale faculty are currently serving on the boards and advisory committees of several non-profit organizations including: Dunellen Board of Education; Eden Family of Services; Fort Monmouth Retiree Council; Hightstown Environmental Commission; Little Falls Township Domestic Violence Advisory Committee; Manasquan Board of Education; Monmouth County Historical Association Community Advisory Board; Monmouth County United Way Allocations Committee; Monmouth County Vocational School Advisory Committee; Monmouth County YMCA; Red Cross Health & Safety Committee (Tinton Falls); Rumson Country Day School; Wall Foundation for Educational Excellence.

- **Brookdale Volunteer Connection.** The “Employee Volunteer Connection at Brookdale” was established in October 1995 to make it easy for staff to participate in public service activities. The “Volunteer Connection” is a group of Brookdale employees dedicated to serving the needs of the community. They help connect and mobilize colleagues and students to participate in community service projects. Each year, the “Volunteer Connection” identifies several relevant local agencies or important causes, and emphasizes their needs through Brookdale’s newsletter (the *Brookdalian*) and campus flyers.

The generosity and good-will of the Brookdale Volunteer Connection was recognized this year when the group was honored by the Jersey Shore Chapter of the American Conference on Diversity with their 2008 Humanitarian Award. Other highlights from the 2007-2008 year include: collecting children’s books for local libraries as part of a nationwide literacy program (Project READ); collecting slightly used binders from faculty and donating them to after-school programs in the area; preparing and serving monthly dinners for residents of Habcore House in Red Bank and Asbury Park; and an “Empty Bowls Event” that raised \$900 for local food pantries in Monmouth County.

The Brookdale Volunteer Connection sponsored “Project Eat,” which consists of unscheduled campus food collections that resulted in the donation of over 1,000 pounds of food and sundries to Monmouth County food banks. The Volunteer Connection also participated in “Project Backpack” for the Reading Buddies program. Employees donated 64 backpacks (filled with school supplies) which were distributed to local schools. In December, the Volunteer Connection collected and donated over \$3,000 in cash and gift cards to families in Operation Sleigh Bells, individuals at HabCore, and the Displaced Homemakers program. Special efforts were also made to help brighten the holidays for one of Brookdale’s own staff members.

#### **ADDITIONAL BROOKDALE PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**

- **Adult Basic Education Programs.** Adult Basic Education, GED Preparation, and English as a Second Language classes are available through the Long Branch, Northern Monmouth, Eastern Monmouth, and Western Monmouth Higher Education Centers. The Office of Adult Basic Education also offers English Literacy Civics and Citizenship courses to help individuals become citizens of the United States of America.
- **Brookdale Public Radio (90.5 The NIGHT).** Brookdale Public Radio serves Monmouth and Ocean counties with it’s unique brand of music programming, National Public Radio’s award-winning news programs, along with local community announcements, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. 90.5 The NIGHT is a full service, non-commercial FM public radio station with a staff of professional radio personnel. 90.5 The NIGHT is dedicated to serving the community by working with local non-profit organizations on many programming ventures and by providing free public service announcements. Brookdale Public Radio is also a major contributor and/or sponsor to the largest outdoor festival events throughout the county including the Red Bank Jazz & Blues Festival, Comcast Jazz in the Park in Red Bank, Comcast Songwriter’s in the Park in Red Bank, Asbury Park’s Clearwater Festival, and the New Jersey Seafood Festival in Belmar.
- **Brookdale Television (BTV).** Brookdale Television provides a “visual bridge” between Brookdale Community College and the communities that it serves. BTV produces high quality educational television and public affairs programs that are broadcast via both the Comcast (80,000 households) and Cablevision systems, effectively reaching most cable-wired

households in Monmouth County. In addition to Telecourses for college credit, BTV produces Brookdale Views (hosted by Dr. Peter Burnham), Arts in Monmouth County (hosted by Theater faculty member John Bukovec and co-produced with the Monmouth County Arts Council), and the Visiting Writer's Series (hosted by English faculty members Laura McCullough and Suzanne Parker and co-produced by Student Life and Activities). The Brookdale Television programming schedule includes many community outreach efforts including the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office's "Youth, Family & The Law" program, the Monmouth County Public Information Office's "Monmouth in Focus" program, and the Office on Aging's "Lasting Lifestyles" series. Notable local public figures are often an active part of Brookdale Television's productions.

- **Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Center.** The Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Center at Brookdale offers educational programs to local schoolchildren, teachers, and community members, and maintains an extensive library of print and media resources. More specifically, the Center for Holocaust Studies serves the community through: (1) A Teacher Resource Center, which contains a collection of curricula, lesson plans, and study guides. (2) Individualized programs and in-service trainings. (3) A Speakers' Bureau, which has scholars, educators and Holocaust Survivors available for programs. (4) Services to students and teachers, such as the student leadership conference, theatrical performances, teacher training programs, and a writing and art contest for students in grades 5 – 12. (5) An annual Colloquium, which welcomes over 2,400 students and teachers to the Brookdale campus for a half-day program that includes a keynote speaker and 40 break-out workshops. (6) Programs for the general community, including annual scholarly lectures, film series, book discussions, an Armenian Genocide Remembrance program, collaborative programs with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in the training of Law Enforcement Officers, and a court-mandated 12-week education program for Monmouth County Juvenile Bias Crime offenders.
- **The Center for World War II Studies and Conflict Resolution.** The Center is available to all who want to learn about the political, economic, social and military aspects of World War II and enlighten new generations to heed the past in order to prepare for the future. A focus of the Center is that resolution of world problems can occur without aggression. The Center offers educational programs, a speaker's bureau, community presentations and teacher education.
- **The Displaced Homemakers Program.** This program provides assistance to those who have lost their primary source of income due to separation, divorce, disability or death of a spouse. The need to obtain or upgrade skills for transition into the paid labor market is addressed along with the fear and emotional upheaval of facing a very difficult transition. Free services include self-esteem/assertiveness training, personal and career counseling, pre-employment training, workshops, support groups and community referrals. These services are offered at Brookdale's Higher Education Centers with some activities located on the College's Lincroft campus. Introductory computer training is also provided to participants to help upgrade skills.
- **Free Tuition for Senior Citizens, National Guard Members, Unemployed Persons, Volunteer Firefighters, Volunteer First Aid Workers, and Family Dependents of 9/11.** Senior citizens (over the age of 65) are offered free tuition on a seat-available basis. The state does not mandate this program but allows schools to implement it at each institution's discretion. The National Guard Free Tuition program entitles active duty members of the National Guard to free tuition. Families of National Guard members who were killed in the line of duty are also eligible for the same benefits. The Unemployed Persons Free Tuition program requires colleges to admit people who

can demonstrate that they are unemployed. Free tuition is also granted to volunteer firefighters and first aid workers. In each of these programs, students are admitted to classes on a seat-available basis and they are responsible for all fees. In response to the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Brookdale also provides Monmouth County's surviving spouses and dependent children of victims with free tuition.

- **Small Business Development Center.** The Small Business Development Center provides one-on-one counseling and workshops to the business community of Monmouth and Ocean counties. The Center links resources of the United States Small Business Association, the NJ Commerce and Economic Growth Commission and the Rutgers Graduate School of Management to provide counseling on matters relating to small business – from start-up to expansion. There is no charge for these services.