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## OACS News

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The Office of Active Citizenship and Service invites interested undergraduate students to apply to be part of Local OACS DIVE cohorts launching Fall 2017. DIVE (Design as an Immersive Vanderbilt Experience) is a new, innovative

university program with both curricular and co-curricular components that expands access to design thinking methodologies to students, faculty and staff. DIVE participants will learn human-centered design skills in order to solve complex, real-world problems, working in multidisciplinary teams on immersive, mentored projects. Local OACS DIVE cohorts will combine direct service with local community partners and the opportunity to apply the human-centered design process to support community-identified challenges, all through the lens of critical service-learning

The Local OACS Dive Experience will Include:

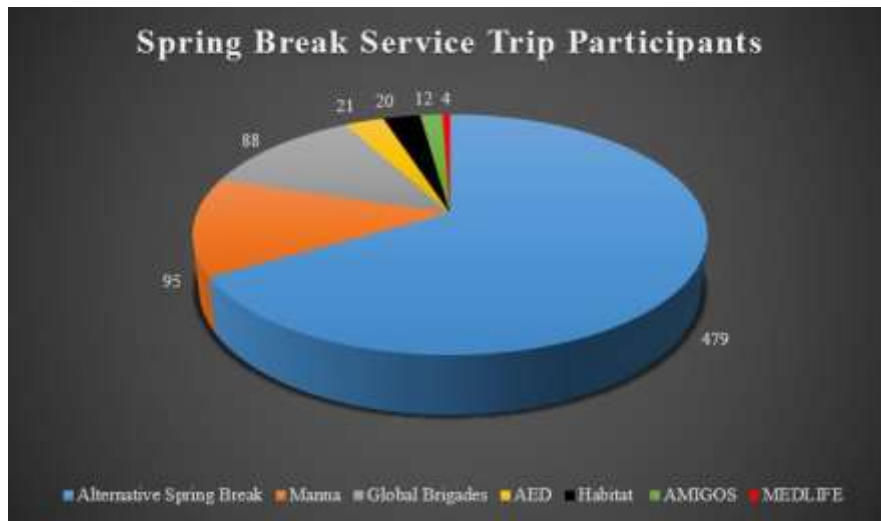
- DIVE [Boot Camp](#) ideally before, but possibly during, their co-curricular project
- Opportunity to partner with a variety of campus offices, including [OACS](#), the [Wond'ry](#), the [Curb Center](#), and the [Jean and Alexander Heard Library](#) (depending on the available projects)
- Multidisciplinary project teams working with local community organizations and members to solve real-world challenges over the course of a semester around themes similar to the ones below:
  - The experience of displaced persons living in Nashville
  - Progression of juveniles through the justice system
  - Food waste
  - Affordable housing
  - Access to equitable education
  - Glass recycling
- Participation in an end-of-the-year showcase to share findings

Applications for the Local OACS DIVE cohorts will be available soon, and cohort members will be selected by early May. Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new Local OACS initiative!

To learn more about the DIVE program, visit the [website](#).

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## Spring Break Service Trips



Spring break saw more than 700 Vanderbilt students travel domestically and internationally for week-long service trips planned, implemented and led by student leaders in coordination with local partner organizations. These projects, ranging in scope from healthcare to education to environmental advocacy, were organized and executed by student leaders. In each case, project planning and implementation extended back to the beginning of the academic year, if not further. OACS commends the spirit of service that guided these projects and congratulates students on the successful completion of their spring break service trips!

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## VIEW



The Vanderbilt Internship Experience in Washington, D.C. (VIEW) program is in full swing with a cohort of 15 students interested in exploring careers in public service. Students have participated in interactive workshops on personal values, interview skills, networking skills, using LinkedIn, and more. Upcoming guest speakers include Congressman Jim Cooper, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations Christina West, and Representative Ray Clemmons. During the months of June and July, students in the VIEW program will be participating in internships in Washington, D.C., meeting regularly with their alumni mentor, and participating in tours, networking events, and professional development sessions.

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## Nichols Humanitarian Fund Pre-Service Meet and Greet



On March 17th, OACS hosted the first pre-service meet and greet for recipients of the [Nichols Humanitarian Fund](#). The pre-service meet and greet allowed the students who were selected to receive an award from the Fund to meet in person with the Fund donors, and to speak with them about their upcoming service projects. Approximately 25 students and five faculty and staff attended the event.

The Nichols Humanitarian Fund was established in 2006 by the E.C. and Lucile Hamby Nichols Trust, and by Edward C. Nichols, Jr. (JD '70) and his wife, Janice Nichols. The Fund enables students to volunteer for domestic or international humanitarian service opportunities by making support available for educational, travel, and living expenses during their time of service. The Fund distributes awards based on merit and need to Vanderbilt students to pay the expenses of their humanitarian activities.

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## Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Societies

OACS Director Dr. Clive Mentzel (brief bio [here](#)) is teaching a class on Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Societies this Fall. The class will enable students to develop an understanding of the field of transitional justice, and how it is embedded in and linked to the field of conflict resolution. It will closely examine mechanisms for achieving justice in post-war or post-conflict societies both in theory as well as through case-study. Broadly speaking, it focuses on 3 questions relating to policy-making and implementation regarding justice

associated with periods of radical change. The first of these is the question of understanding, describing and considering the efficacy of which transitional justice mechanisms work and under what circumstances? The second relates to the factors that impede or facilitate the adoption of mechanisms designed to facilitate a transition to a minimally decent condition? And the third is the concern in the class with whether or not, and to what extent these transitional justice mechanisms achieve the desired goals of avoiding the repetition, re-enactment or repetition of past horrors and atrocities.

Interested: PSCI 3897

**Who:** Dr. Clive Mentzel (brief bio [here](#))

**When:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 09.10 am to 10am

**Where:** TBD

**E-mail:** [clive.mentzel@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:clive.mentzel@vanderbilt.edu)

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## Global Service Programs



The OACS Global Service Programs to Ecuador, South Africa, Morocco, and London are midway through our seminar series. Seminar topics have included Critical Analysis of the Connections between Core Values, Identity and Empathy; Ethical Community Engagement & Critical Service-Learning Theory; International Development & Social Change; and service with the Nashville Food Project & Feed the Children. This summer will see 55 students participating in the 6-week

service immersion experiences between May and August. For more information about Global OACS, please visit the [webpage](#). Email [OACS](#) if you would like to learn more about how to apply for the 2017/18 programs.

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## NASPA Presentation

On March 14th, OACS Graduate Assistant Melissa Looby presented an educational session at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas. The presentation, *Undocumented and Under-Supported: Understanding Undocumented Student Experiences and Unpacking the Sanctuary Campus Movement*, was built from literature and informed by student testimonial from qualitative interviews conducted with current and formerly undocumented students in higher education. The presentation brought graduate students, mid-level professionals, and higher-level administrators together to better understand the undocumented student experience, the legislation affecting their access to higher education, the main tenants of the sanctuary campus movement, and how we can best support this population throughout their college experience. The presentation is available for distribution to the Dean of Students community. If interested in receiving this presentation, or should you have any further questions, please email [Melissa Looby](#).

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## Student Service

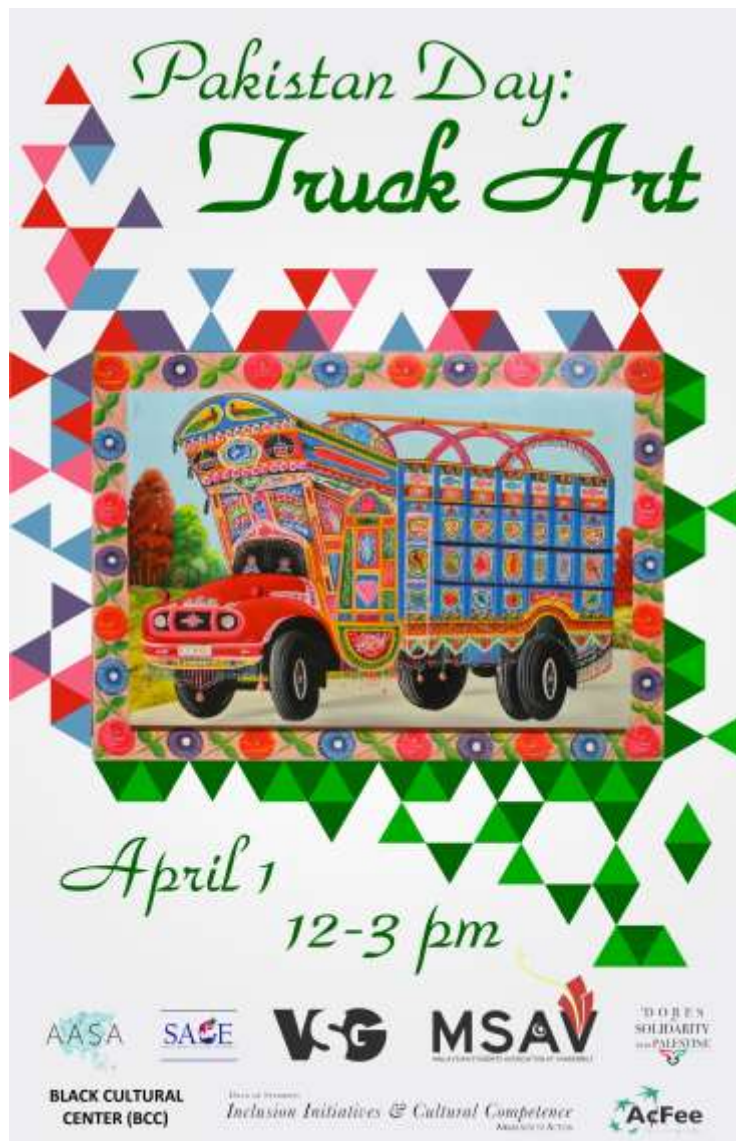
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Join us for Refugee Awareness Week to learn about, discuss, and engage with key issues surrounding the global refugee crisis. Events include a Solidarity Mixer with food and performances, Dr. Maytha Alhassen's keynote speech, a dinner with Nashville refugees, and more! Visit our [Facebook page](https://facebook.com/VUrefugeeawarenessweek) for more information.

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The Pakistani Students Association invites you to their inaugural celebration of "Pakistan Day: Truck Art". Come paint a "life-size" Pakistani truck, make traditional goodies, eat free Pakistani food, listen & dance to Pakistani music, snap fun photos, get henna tattoos and take away many prizes! What better way to take a study break than by spending your afternoon celebrating Pakistani culture?

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## Community News

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## Aspire Public Schools

We are looking for bright educators who want to close the achievement gap by providing students a clear pathway to college and beyond, regardless of circumstances. We offer competitive salaries and benefits, as well as top-notch professional development. Here's a [link to our job board](#).

### About Aspire Public Schools

Aspire Public Schools is a national nonprofit organization that currently operates 40 high-performing, open-enrollment public charter schools serving 16,000 students in under-served communities across California and Memphis. Founded in 1998, Aspire is one of the highest-performing public school systems in the nation, delivering a rigorous *College for Certain* education to students in grades K-12. An unrelenting focus on college preparedness led to nearly 100% of graduating Aspire seniors being accepted to four year colleges or universities over the last four years. Aspire is one of the nation's first charter school systems. Visit Aspire Public Schools [website](#).

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## Upcoming VU Courses

**Maymester: 5/8 – 6/2**

### **MENT 1135: Arts Administration and Careers in the Arts Organization**

**Marketplace** is a one-credit class, Monday and Wednesday 9:10-11:00AM, at Blair School of Music. This course gives you direct experience with numerous arts administration leaders/guests and their career paths. Students create their own career map and study leadership skills and the numerous job opportunities available in the arts. Non-Blair students interested in an arts administration career of any kind are welcome and can be approved for enrollment by Professor Korn. Professor Korn is always available to his students to help them pursue careers, scholarships, job opportunities, and more.

**First Summer Semester: 6/6 – 7/6**

### **MENT 1140: Creating Funding and Non-Profit Vehicles for 21st Century**

**Community Service (2 credits)** will be held M, T, W AND R, 9:10-11:00AM at Blair School of Music. This class is open to all students. This class allows you to create an actual non-profit, social enterprise organization based on ANY mission you believe in – from the arts to social injustice, economic, educational, and community improvement. We discuss and learn about building: a mission, branding, non-profit status, fundraising, board, staffing, volunteers, programming,

leadership, and ethics. At semester's end you will have built an entire organization of your vision with Professor Korn's assistance.

Dean of Students | (p) 615.32(2.6400) | (f) 615.34(3.3702) | [Email](#)

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