Maximizing Career Success Through Strategic Volunteering

**Presenters:**
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Denise Pranke, M.Ed.

**Panelists:**
William C. Schulz III, Ph.D.
Tonya Renee Howard, Ph.D.

**Moderators:**
Lisa Cook, J.D.
Nicolle Skalski, M.M.

Walden University
Career Services Center
http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
The Career Services Center Team

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Panelist: William C. Schulz III, Ph.D.

CURRENT POSITION:
Director of Academic Initiatives
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PREVIOUS LEADERSHIP ROLES:
Associate Dean and Core Faculty at Walden, Chief Academic Officer at Albertus Magnus College, Director of the Tagliatela School of Business and Leadership, Secretary of the Institute for Behavioral and Applied Management (IBAM), and past Chair for the United States Association of Small Business & Entrepreneurship's (USASBE) Entrepreneurship Education Division.
Panelist: Tonya Renee Howard, Ph.D.

EDUCATION:
Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration
Alumna, Walden University (2016)

PROFESSIONAL ROLE:
Director of Volunteer Services
Open Hand– Atlanta

VOLUNTEER ROLES:
President of the Council of Volunteer Administrators for Metro-Atlanta (COVA); Vice-President of the Board of Directors for Vertical Church; Committee Member for the Nonprofit Trinity Awards; Guest Lecturer for Oglethorpe University and Coppin State University; Panelist for the Whitney M. Young Leadership Conference and the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Conference (former); Guest Speaker at Junior League of Atlanta; and ESL Teacher for the English Language Institute/China.
Objectives

• Discuss Walden’s engagement in social change

• Explore how strategic volunteering positively impacts your career

• Identify volunteer opportunities that are a good fit for your goals
What is your #1 reason for joining us today?
Volunteerism: A Worldwide Effect

More than 1 billion global volunteers.*

62.6 million Americans volunteered through an organization between 9/2014 and 9/2015.**


** Retrieved from [http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm)
Over 60% of the respondents to Walden University’s 2015 Student Satisfaction survey reported volunteering at least once in the past year—compared to the national average of 39% for all college graduates.*

*Footnote:
Source: 2015 Student Satisfaction Survey. The survey is distributed annually in the Fall. The information was collected from October 9, 2015 to November 30, 2015 using a web-based survey. A total of 19,673 for a 39.0% overall response rate. Number of respondents to the following claims: 4,600-19,205.

Walden’s Social Change Initiatives
William C. Schulz III, Ph.D.

- As part of Walden’s Social Change Working group, we are in the process of drafting a plan for consideration by our leadership and Board of Directors:

Here are major goals that we are considering to support the plan:

• Raise the social change consciousness, skills, and knowledge of Walden's internal communities.
• Strengthen the impact of Walden curricula to educate agents of social change.
• Leverage Walden research capacities, expertise, networks and curricula to serve external organizations and communities in the application of social change.
• Enhance Walden's quality and reputation through ongoing social change initiatives that engage current students, faculty, alumni, and our partner communities.

Providing high quality volunteer and curricular-based learning services is part of the plan!

What are the skills necessary to be an effective agent of social change as a volunteer?
Seven Individual-Level Knowledge & Skill Sets for Effective Change Agents

- Scholarship—Application of Theory & Research
- Systemic Thinking—Understanding Interdependencies & Context of Systems
- Reflection—Self-Inquiry, Questioning, Learn from Past to Improve Future
- Practice—Executing plans, integrating knowledge into action
- Collaboration—working with others, building bridges, networking
- Advocacy—Raising awareness of needs, supporting others
- Civic/Political/Stakeholder Engagement—Engaging the policy/money systems

One Attitude Essential for Effective Change Agents

- Ethical—Commitment to promoting the good of others, including the ecosystem
Walden Employee Social Change Award Recipient 2015

Chue Vang, M.A.
Walden staff member - Academic Advisor
President and Founder of the Hmong American Education Fund (HAEF)
HAEF provides academic scholarships, coaching, and mentoring.

http://www.thehaef.org/index.html
Social Change Networking Hour

- July 21 from 7-8 pm Eastern
- Students, alumni, faculty & staff will connect via live text-based chats in virtual “booths”
- 6 social change topical booths plus 1 “open”
Volunteering Strengthens Employability!

People who volunteer have a 27% higher chance of finding employment*

From the Employer’s Perspective

Deloitte IMPACT Survey (2013):
Skills-based Volunteering

Human Resources Executives reported:

- **81%** would take skills-based volunteering into account when evaluating a job candidate
- **76%** said skills-based volunteering makes the candidate more desirable
- **65%** believe volunteering benefits their employees

What Is Strategic Volunteering?
Strategic Volunteering for Career Success

Career Success

Tell Your Story

Build Connections

Gain Skills & Experience
Gain Skills and Experience

Adapted from http://www.handsonnetwork.org/files/resources/Professional_Skills_Matrix.pdf
Build Connections

• Meet people in your field
• Find a mentor
• Learn about job openings
• Gain references and referrals
• Use LinkedIn to stay connected
Tell Your Volunteer Story On Your Resume

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer, Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA), Minneapolis, MN 2014 - Present
- Gather information from multiple sources and agencies related to assigned child’s court case
- Advocate for the child’s best interests through verbal and written reports presented to social service agencies and the court system
- Guide and support child throughout court proceedings to ease stress and ensure that the child’s welfare is a priority

Volunteer, Domestic Violence Shelter, Safe Haven, Minneapolis, MN 2010 - 2013
- Supported 24/7 crisis hotline team by maintaining an extensive up-to-date community referral database in Excel
- Performed administrative tasks such as data entry and volunteer schedule in a highly confidential environment
Tell Your Volunteer Story On Your LinkedIn Profile

Volunteer Experience & Causes

Commissioner
New Brighton Parks, Recreation and Environmental Commission
March 2014 – March 2015 (1 year 1 month) | Social Services
I was selected to serve a one-year term on our city’s Parks, Recreation and Environmental Commission. I launched a “Neighborly New Brighton” Facebook community to help residents get better connected. We have grown to about 200 member and it’s a great forum for sharing what’s happening in our community.

Volunteer
Eastside Meals on Wheels
October 2014 – January 2016 (1 year 4 months) | Social Services
Helped with community relations and writing newsletter stories for this wonderful organization serving hot meals, warm smiles and safety checks to home-bound seniors in NE Minneapolis and St. Anthony Village.

Board Member
Windsor Green Homeowners Association
April 2012 – August 2014 (2 years 5 months)
Served on board of oldest homeowners’ association in Minnesota. Collaborated to make it a stronger, safer and more vibrant place to live. Established and grew NextDoor.com online community to facilitate easier faster communications between residents. Coordinated Minnesota’s first Resilience Circle and monthly “Gals Night Out” group to facilitate offline neighborly connections.
Tell Your Volunteer Story in an Interview

- **Challenge** – What challenges did you face?
- **Action** – What did you do? Did you initiate it?
- **Result** – Who or what was impacted and how?
- **Tie-In** – How does this apply to your future role?
Strategic Volunteering Outcomes:
• Discovered career passion
• Pursued career advancement opportunities
• Continues to impact social change
“Volunteering Stories in Action”

http://www.projectopenhand.org/

It's About More Than a Meal.
It's about doing the right thing. Because many of our friends and neighbors cannot afford proper nutrition, some are too sick to prepare their own meals, and thousands of others are at risk for chronic disease simply because of their diets.

Director of Volunteer Services at Open Hand in Atlanta, GA
Find a Good Fit

Goals and Purpose

Passions, Interests, & Values

Time Commitment

Opportunities Available
Career Services Center Website

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Social Change Series

Social Change Webinars:

• Building Blocks of Starting a Nonprofit Organization
• Developing Social Entrepreneurs
• Influencing Others Without Formal Authority

http://careercenter.waldenu.edu
Tools to Search for the Right Opportunity

Field Experience and Volunteerism

Gain experience through volunteering, internships, and service learning projects:

- General Volunteer Opportunities
- Field Experience Resources
- Internships and Service Learning for Undergraduates
Tools to Search for the Right Opportunity

Resources By Sectors

Discover career opportunities by sector:

- Corporate
- Government
- Nonprofit
Search for the Right Opportunity

http://www.volunteermatch.org/

http://www.idealist.org/
Search for the Right Opportunity

Hands On Network Skills Matrix:
http://www.handsonnetwork.org/files/resources/Professional_Skills_Matrix.pdf

http://www.pointsoflight.org/
Search for the Right Opportunity

Ready

Citizen Corps

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

https://www.ready.gov/citizen-corps
Search for the Right Opportunity
United Nations on the Ground Volunteering

How to volunteer

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development, and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers.

Be a volunteer

UNV is inspired by the conviction that volunteerism is a powerful means of engaging people in tackling development challenges worldwide. Everyone can contribute their time, skills and knowledge through volunteer action, and their combined efforts can be a significant force for achieving peace and development.

http://www.unv.org/how-to-volunteer.html

Career Services Center blog story about UN volunteer: http://bit.ly/1Xs0X3n
Search for the Right Opportunity
United Nations- Virtual Volunteering

https://www.onlinevolunteering.org
Search for Nonprofits

https://www.councilofnonprofits.org/

http://www.guidestar.org/
International Volunteering Fee-based Sites

https://globalvolunteers.org/

http://www.goabroad.com/volunteer-abroad
Questions?
References


Connect with Career Services

Access Everything from Our Website: http://careercenter.waldenu.edu

E-mail: careerservices@waldenu.edu