



September 30, 2011

TO: Dr. Mani S. Hull, Executive Director, Tennessee Campus Compact
Lipscomb University Nashville, TN.

FROM: Kevin M. Cook, Director of Criminal Justice, Volunteer State
Community College, Gallatin, TN.

RE: Support of Service Learning

Dear Dr. Hull,

I am writing this letter to support service-learning and offer insight into the positive impact it had on my students and the community at large. In spring 2011, I offered a service-learning course in criminal justice at Volunteer State Community College. Students participated in several community prevention activities, such as Ollie the Otter, Operation Alcohol Advertising Placement, Alcohol Compliance Checks for law enforcement agencies and Governors Highway Safety Commission program; Click-it and Ticket-it.

I observed the students grow, mature, and become engaged in supporting their community throughout the semester. The students were able to draw a nexus between learning outcomes in their college classes and real world application of initiatives supporting the community. This was not volunteerism, however “service learning”--the opportunity for them to learn, engage, reflect and contribute meaningfully.

In conclusion, I fully support service-learning and hope to continue to offer our students, campus, and community the opportunity to benefit from service learning partnerships.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin M. Cook'.

Kevin M. Cook