

Conservation Leadership CSS481

Team Project

Spring 2008

We will divide our class into four or five small teams of three – four people. Each team will pick a local organization with which to work on a real-world meaningful project for that organization. The student team will contact an organization and work with members of that organization to develop a work product that helps to sustain or advance that organization. Examples of an appropriate work product may include: a grant proposal, a proposal outline, a case statement, a work plan, a strategic plan, business plan, or a web site (or other communication tool). Other ideas include helping to organize an event, etc.

Instructions:

1. Form into a group of three students.
2. Choose a conservation oriented organization. The focus can be a local organization or another organization that you know from another location.
3. Contact a representative of the organization and discuss with that person your interest in doing a project for them.
4. Research the issues and needs of the organization. (share with me what you have discovered)
5. Select a project that will serve the organization and provide all team members an opportunity to demonstrate active, practical leadership. See the list of suitable projects below. (I want to see your project idea before you get started).
6. Complete work on the project during the months of February, March and April.
7. Prepare a report of your subject for the class. (Presentations during the week of April 28 – May 2)

Suitable Projects:

Grant proposal
A proposal template or outline
A case statement (Information packet to be used as a fundraising tool for major donors)
A strategic plan, work plan or business plan
A web site (developing or redesigning)
A newsletter or brochure
Leadership assistance with a special event

Resources:

Class readings and presentations
List of local organizations: <http://www.pcei.org/links.htm?ID=0023>
Foundation Research Sites:

- Foundation Center: www.fdncenter.org
- Guidestar: www.guidestar.org
- National Network of grantmakers: www.nng.org
- Council of foundations: www.cof.org
- Environmental Grantmakers Association: www.ega.org

Organizational representatives
Teammates
Me. I am available to review outlines and drafts of your work as you progress, or speak with representatives of your group if they have questions. Please don't wait until the last minute.