

Lewis University

Office of Community Engaged Learning

# Annual Report

2020-2021

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# Mission

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## REFLECTIONS ON THE LAST YEAR

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“This class gave me the room to grow and succeed because it gave me the opportunity to learn not just with lectures and notes but also hands on learning.”

“This course changed my views on life and situations which will definitely help me in my future relationships, work, and school.”

2021 De La Salle Medallions  
Photo by: Lewis University

Imagining Restorative Justice in Will County Virtual Event  
Photo by: Office of Community Engaged Learning

Conversations from Stritch Episode 28  
Photo by: Office of Community Engaged Learning

Nursing students at the Greater Joliet Area YMCA  
Photo by: Greater Joliet Area YMCA

“After working together to try to make a change, I was able to connect and grow close with everyone. Now I feel very confident that I can work with any group and productively work for a change.”

“I know more about the cultural richness of this area. I have also developed a new sense of commitment to my community and its needs.”

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# Data

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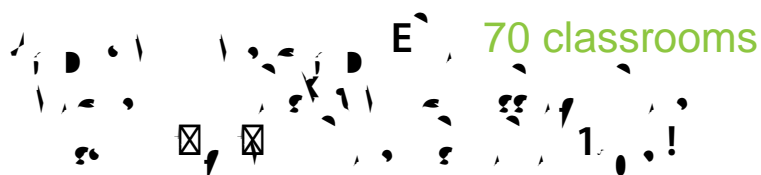
## 2020-2021 Community Engaged Learning Collaboration

During the 2020-2021 academic year, OCEL...

- Worked with 40 Lewis faculty and staff to integrate community engagement into their classroom.
- Supported 20 Lewis instructors teaching designated CEL courses.
- Connected with 109 community organizations to provide CEL opportunities to Lewis students.

### Educational Development

- OCEL held 8 Coffee & Conversations events across the academic year bringing together 66 participants from Lewis and surrounding communities to share best practices in community engagement and continue building relationships.
- Twenty-seven Lewis faculty/staff and 25 community partners registered to participate in the Spring 2021 Faculty-Partner Roundtable event.
- The annual Faculty Forum gathered 11 faculty participants virtually to reflect on the CEL successes and challenges of the year.
- Forty-five participants from Lewis and surrounding communities gathered for a virtual workshop on CEL innovation.



### Community Engaged Learning Facilitator Program

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# CEL Impact for Lewis Students

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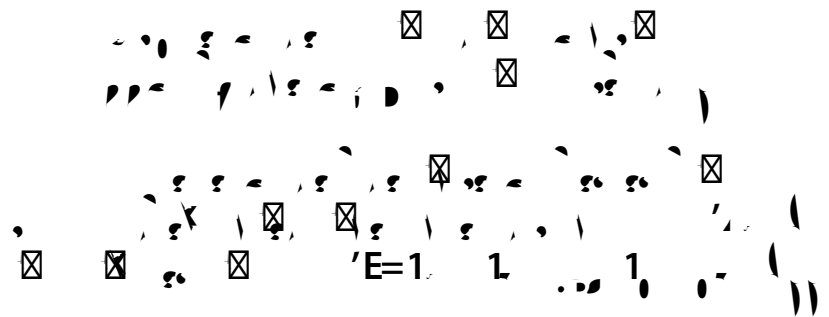
Regular interaction with community partners, critical reflection alongside peers, and support from CEL faculty instructors and CELFs all contribute to the transformational growth that students experience as a result of their participation in CEL. These data provide a glimpse into the impact of CEL for students during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students reported that their CEL experience\*\* :

- ... deepened their understanding of the course material (93%)
- ... increased their confidence in their ability to support community organizations (95%)
- ... helped them learn about the community's strengths (95%)
- ... increased their awareness about how social problems impact the community (96%)
- ... encouraged them to reconsider assumptions they make about people (90%)
- ... helped to consider other perspectives that differ from their own (95%)

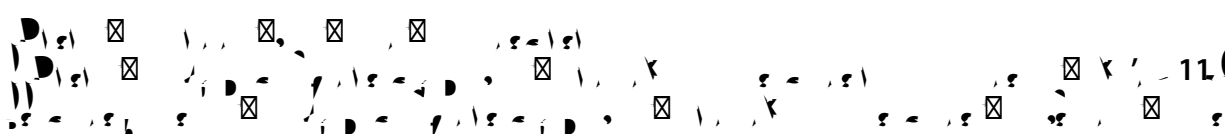
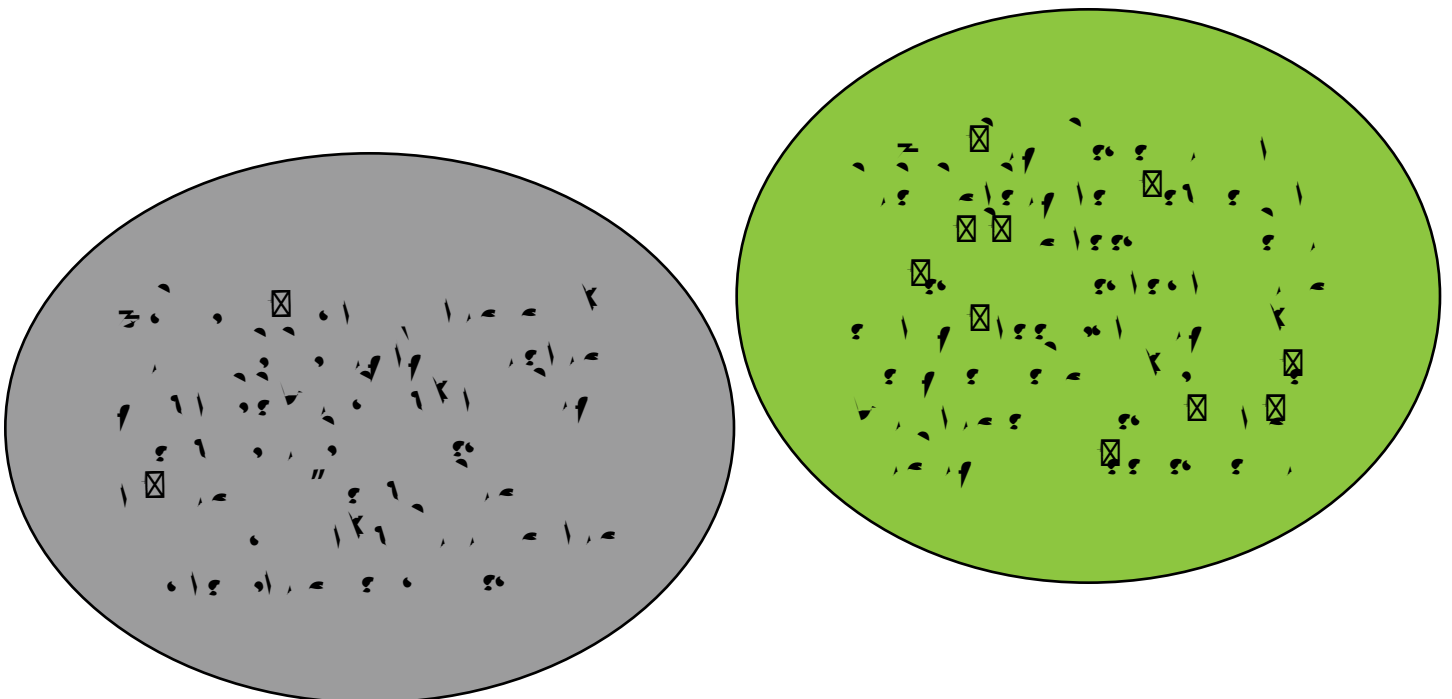
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## By the Numbers



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## In Their Own Words





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The 2020-2021 academic year was like no other. While they stretched us in many ways,

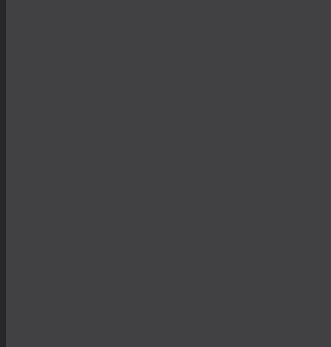




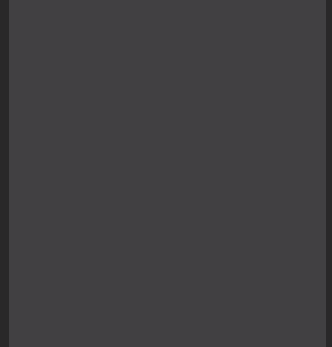
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