SERVICE-LEARNING AT MATEJ BEL UNIVERSITY, BANSKÁ BYSTRICA, SLOVAKIA
Third mission of universities in Slovakia

• neither of strategic documents uses the term of „third mission“ or „third role“ of universities; „new roles“ or social engagement of universities is not mentioned either

• prevailing opinion that the solution of other’s problems is in the competence of the state and not of individuals or groups active in volunteering
Service-learning at MBU

- Volunteering activities at the university since 1998
- Service-learning since 2005
Service-learning at MBU development

• Project „Development of innovative forms of education at MBU“ 2013 - 2014
  • Training of teachers
  • Interdisciplinary team of teachers
  • Research on needs of students
  • Elective course Service learning 1 a 2
  • www.servicelearning.umb.sk
  • Students book
Service-learning na UMB present

• Support program directed by Clayss supporting the development of service-learning at universities since 2016
  • open conference and workshop for teachers in 2016
  • 4 open workshops for teachers and consultations
  • workshops for teachers in 2017
Third mission
MBU is engaged in development of communities and region, in solving local and national problems and it actively contributes to development of civic society.

Profile of graduate
Excellent professional

MBU graduate

Human

Active citizen
Models of service-learning at MBU

- Course in which is service-learning option
- Service-learning as alternative to the „classic course“
- Research for community needs
- Service-learning as a practice
- Service-learning course
Research and projects connected with service-learning

• Research since 2013 focused on effects of service-learning on students

• Project VEGA č. 1/0671/17 „Impact of innovative service-learning strategy on key competences and civic engagement of university students“

• Erasmus + project SLIHE „Service learning in higher education – fostering the third mission of universities and civic engagement of students“
Challenges

• Two directions:
  • implementation to specific courses
  • interdisciplinary cooperation on long-term projects

• Coordination – Center for service-learning:
• Cooperation between faculties
• Institutional support for development of service-learning
• Financial support
Thank you for your attention.