Building Better Communities Fellows projects offer teams of students the opportunity to work with communities, businesses, and government agencies to develop real-world solutions to real-world problems. We call this immersive learning, the hallmark of a Ball State education.

Learn more and get involved today!
765-285-2773 • [www.bsu.edu/bbc/fellows](http://www.bsu.edu/bbc/fellows)
BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES FELLOWS

Spring Showcase • April 25, 2012
Building Better Communities Fellows

Funded in part by the Lilly Endowment Inc., the Building Better Communities Fellows program provides a framework for Ball State faculty and students to connect with Indiana businesses and nonprofit organizations.

**Students benefit** by gaining experience and expertise beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

**Faculty benefit** from project support services and resources that assist in offering a greater diversity of students and an expanded list of community partners.

**Community partners benefit** when students examine their challenges from a fresh perspective.

As part of their fellows experience, students receive professional development training in collaboration with the Ball State Career Center and the Excellence in Leadership program.

Technical training and support for Emerging Media Fellows projects are provided by the Digital Corps, Emerging Technologies, University Teleplex, and the Center for Media Design.
CASA—Volunteer Training and Recruitment Strategies for Court Appointed Special Advocates

The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program in Delaware County needed strategies for increasing its volunteer base. In the second semester of work for this community partner, a new project team worked to implement the volunteer recruitment, training, and retention ideas put into motion by a previous fellows project team. This included the development of new training materials and a new volunteer support program. Students organized and implemented a new nonadvocate volunteer program as well. They also produced marketing tools to strengthen the CASA program with a mix of digital technology and event planning ideas. The team was also responsible for organizing and facilitating the inaugural fundraiser, a 5K run/walk, for the CASA Executive Committee.
Charter Schools: Patterns of Innovation—A New Architecture for a New Education

Students from a variety of disciplines worked with selected charter schools in Indiana to research best practices and high performance school design. Their goal was to develop ways to incorporate environmentally sustainable strategies into the planning and design of charter school buildings. This project consisted of developing solutions for both new construction and the adaptive reuse of existing buildings. Students were also involved in traveling to the schools, interviewing charter school students and faculty, discussing and presenting ideas to school administration and board members, contributing to school profiles, and examining curriculum, funding, and facility planning.

STUDENTS
Farah Alam  
Justin Bruce  
Jonathan Dicken  
Rochelle Jansing  
Kimberly Kreuzman  
Jennifer Richardson  
Alex Sanders  
Fabiola Shifflett  
Olivia White  
Denise Wilder
Banking on a Better Economy

Part of a Miller College of Business Honors Program marketing class, this marketing research project team developed an annual survey for chief executive officers, presidents, and owners of small businesses in Indiana. Survey response data provided opinions concerning the conditions of the local, state, and national economies and the impact on their operations. Those results were used to better understand the current state of small business and their owners’ perceptions of the future. Students administered it to small businesses in various industries throughout Indiana as well as compiled and analyzed the results to develop a formal report.

COMMUNITY PARTNER
First Merchants Corporation

FACULTY MENTOR
Rod Davis
Department of Marketing and Management

STUDENTS
Ashley Chambers
Zachary Fivecoat
Jason Fry
Kaylee Johnson
Jazmyn Jones
Ashton Letsinger
Morgan Lewis
Andrew Litchfield
Nicole McCormick
Catherine Needler
Veronica Prevost
Alexander Sventeckis
Dylan Waggoner
Whitney Weir
Erica Wurst
Henry County Heritage Cooperative: Making History and Culture Significant in Our Local Communities

By developing a website and a video series highlighting historic Henry County, students helped the Henry County Historical Society in its mission to educate the public and to promote the society’s efforts. Student teams also helped raise awareness by promoting and initiating collaboration with museums in the county and other historical societies.

STUDENTS
Anna Appel
Corey Bell
Stephanie Bristow
Lacy Bursick
Kayla Eiler
Jeff Hidy
Brian Hollars
Aaron Mikel
Brian Moore
Kelsea Neal
Laura Oldiges
Joe Sailer
Kristen Siedner
Lisa Walker
Christen Whitney

EMERGING MEDIA FELLOWS
COMMUNITY PARTNER
Henry County Historical Society
FACULTY MENTOR
Chris Flook
Department of Telecommunications
For the past several years, a group of Henry County leaders has participated in the HomeTown Competitiveness Program (HTC) under the guidance of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA). The program is designed to stimulate economic and community betterment. HTC explored the strengths and weaknesses of the educational experience as perceived by the students of the region with the help of local school administrators and a Ball State student team. The project was carried out as part of a research methods course.

COMMUNITY PARTNER
Henry County Community Foundation

FACULTY MENTOR
Melinda Messineo
Department of Sociology

STUDENTS
Chivas Marie Baty
Nicole Bauerle
Eric Boothby
Kelsey Rae Brandl
Samantha Champion
Molly Coleman
Kristine Couch
Chelsea Dause
Kyle Hoke
Kyle Ingram
Stas Kharkats
Kelli Larrabee
Emily Love

Michelle Mass
Kathleen Oltman
James Douglas
Purdie II
Olivia Ralston
Nicole Rawlings
Natalie Rodriguez
Graciela Roman
Taylor Rumple
Kaley Schoeph
Shawnda Swain
Cynthia Thom
Zachary Willard
Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library Interpretation and Technology Enhancement

Students were directly involved in expanding the interactive vision of one of Indianapolis’ newest attractions, the nationally recognized Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library. The team designed various dimensional aspects for the museum that will bring the Hoosier author’s work and life into sharp focus through video, audio, and mobile interpretation. The group was able to contact and interview the author’s family and friends for personal insight into one of America’s beloved literary figures, which will be used to tell the story of Vonnegut through various media at the museum.

EMERGING MEDIA FELLOWS

COMMUNITY PARTNER
Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library

FACULTY MENTOR
Ron Morris
Department of History

STUDENTS
Michael-Lee Brockhouse
Evan Dossey
Christine Haraburda
Ethan Johnson
Tricia Johnson
Molly Mayer
Ryan Nice
Mandy Ross
Derek Tulowitzky

BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES FELLOWS SPRING 2012
Old Stories Made New—The Life of George Rogers Clark

Students used their imagination and technical skills to bridge 18th century America to 21st century elementary students. Using up-to-date historiography, this team replaced fading film, missing perspectives, and outdated documentaries with a new social studies video curriculum about the life of Revolutionary War figure George Rogers Clark. The American Revolution west of the Appalachian Mountains is an important test standard for which there is no effective curriculum for fourth- and fifth-grade students. Ball State students incorporated digital animation, education, history, marketing, and public relations to create a dynamic tool for learning.
Sustainability Reporting for Minnetrista

Students learned about the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Reporting Guidelines and applied their knowledge in preparing a sustainability report for Minnetrista in Muncie. Minnetrista’s sustainability report communicates the organization’s environmental, economic, and social impacts. The report not only communicates these impacts to stakeholders but allows the organization to monitor its progress in becoming more sustainable. Undergraduate and graduate students from a variety of majors acquired experience that puts their work on par with what has become mainstream reporting among the largest 250 companies in the world.

COMMUNITY PARTNER
Minnetrista

FACULTY MENTOR
Gwendolen White
Department of Accounting

STUDENTS
Jennifer Curry  Erica Kudyba
Samantha Grover  Qing Lu
Edward Honea  Christopher Myers

CREATE + COLLABORATE