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Paper

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Infusing Service-Learning Activities into Computer Programming Course

Service-learning activities create a relationship between the student and the community. The needs of the student and the community complement each other. The traditional classroom instruction certainly provides a quality technical education. However, integration of service-learning into the curriculum inculcates a broader perspective which lets the student acquire qualities such as understanding the needs of community, communication skills, ability to work in a team, practical use of their knowledge, and good citizenship.

This paper addresses the integration of service learning with the academic activities of students in the computer programming course of the engineering program at University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Salisbury University in Fall and Spring semesters. A number of projects have been designed for service learning activities that are based on computer and Internet applications. These projects have a positive impact in reinforcing social ties within family and community members from different ethnic backgrounds and in fact have a positive impact on the community at large.