

The Impact of Nonprofit Academic Programs on the Practice of Nonprofit Leadership Management

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This presentation

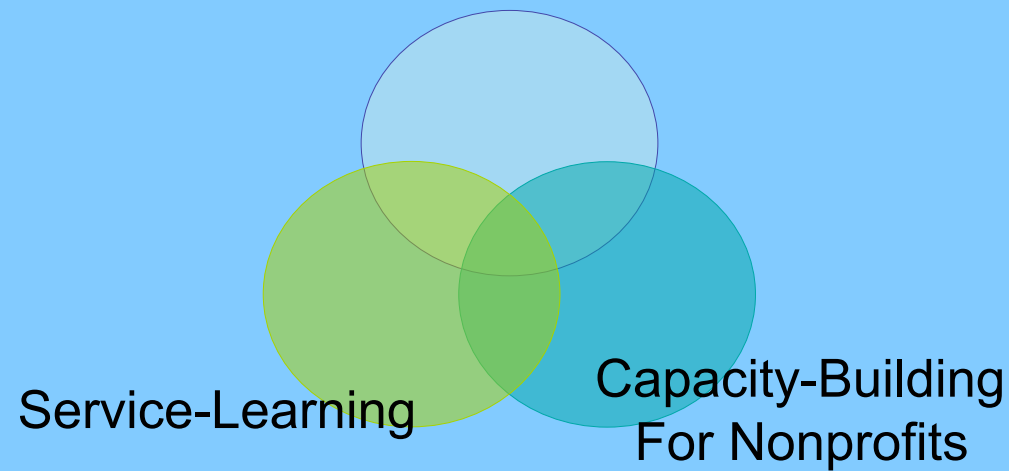
COMMUNITY IMPACT

- What does the literature say – how is impact defined?
- Traditional Research - Nonprofit Graduate Alumni Study
- Community Research -Applied Project Assessment

What does the literature say – how is impact defined?



Nonprofit Management Education



Three fields of literature – measuring community impact

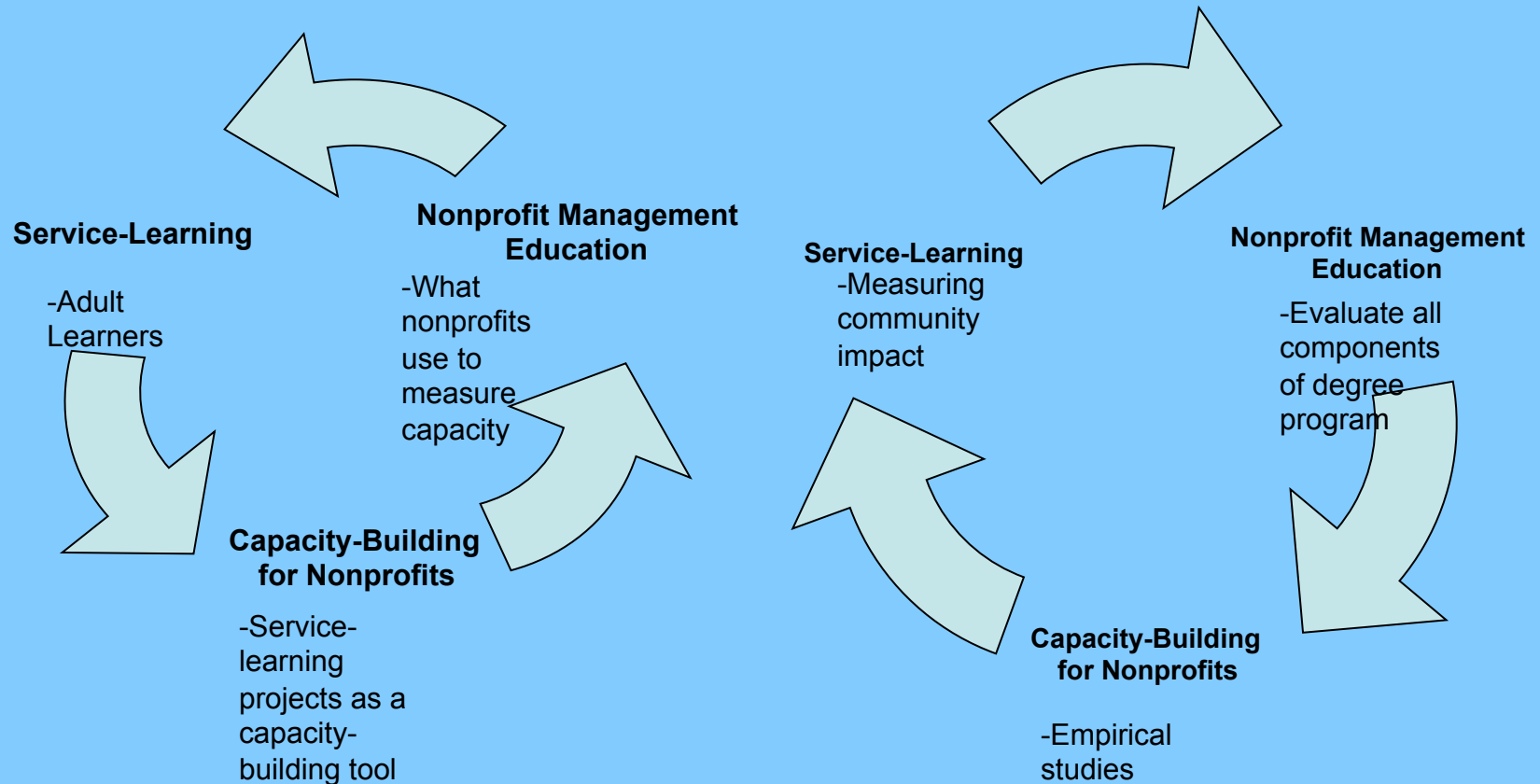
Disconnect between the three fields of literature



Little research

- Nonprofit management education's impact in the community.
- Measuring the impact of service-learning in the community.
- Service-learning as a capacity-building tool for nonprofit organizations.
- Adult learners engaging in service-learning projects.

Recommendations: Learning from one another



Traditional Research – Evaluation of Nonprofit Leadership and Management Graduate Degree Program



Alumni perspectives:

- How well the program learning outcomes prepared them for their profession roles
- How their professional roles may have changed as a result of this preparation
- Their level of satisfaction with the various components of the program and with the program as a whole
- Their current level of involvement with the program

Results – Career Change & Satisfaction



- Career Change
 - 66.7% (30) made a career change
 - 58.7% (27) increased in income
 - 75% (33) apply knowledge daily
- Overall Satisfaction: 95.2%



Results – Applied Projects

- 93.0% (40) reported that applied projects enhanced leadership abilities.
- 84.1% (37) reported that applied projects impacted career.

“They allowed me the opportunity to take on a new challenge that went beyond academics while addressing the real needs of actual nonprofits.”



Alumni Comment



“I am often called up to be the expert in nonprofit issues for my organization during everyday issues, board meetings, and outreach opportunities. The knowledge I bring to the table has helped grow my importance with my organization.”

Community Research – Impact of Student Applied Projects in local Nonprofit Organizations



Evaluating the impact student applied projects have on nonprofit organizations.

Type of Impact

Duration of Impact

Students complete applied projects in each course during Nonprofit Leadership and Management Masters program.

Each cohort completes approximately 75 projects.

The Projects

- 300 projects completed 2002-2007.
- Projects have been created for 130 nonprofit organizations.
- 30% of projects are included in student's final portfolios.

Research Questions

- Are projects being used by organizations?
- How long are projects being used?
- Do these factors influence impact or use of project?
 - Relationship between the student and the organization;
 - Need for project, and;
 - Internal support for the project.