



WALTER H. CAPPS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF  
ETHICS, RELIGION, AND PUBLIC LIFE

## **The Capps Center - NSC Community Internship Program**

### **OVERVIEW**

Beginning in 2008-2009, the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Public Life at UCSB and the Nonprofit Support Center introduced an internship and public service program in Santa Barbara involving “service-learning,” or an opportunity to integrate study with involvement in one of the 900 or so non-profit organizations within the area. Ten UCSB undergraduates are selected for this highly competitive, year-long program based on applications they submit and interviews they undergo in the Spring Quarter.

Students serve as paid interns who receive stipends of \$2,000 and 8 units of course credit during their junior or senior year. They spend the fall quarter in a preparatory Seminar entitled “Internship in Social Ethics” (RS 190CC) taught by Professor Wade Clark Roof (Director, Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life and J.F. Rowny Professor of Religion and Society, Department of Religious Studies, UCSB) that involves assigned readings and class presentations by leaders of local non-profit or non-governmental organizations. It meets Wednesdays from 12:00-2:50 p.m. and students receive 4 units of academic credit. During the winter and spring quarters, they serve as a paid intern 10 hours per week in a non-profit organization in the Santa Barbara area and attend two meetings with Professor Roof. In the spring quarter, they continue to work 10 hours per week in a local non-profit. In addition, they sign up for Independent Studies (RS 199) and prepare a paper supervised by Professor Roof integrating what they have learned through studies and experience for which they receive an additional 4 units of academic credit. Participating students are paid half of their stipends (\$1,000) after fulfilling the fall and winter quarter requirements and the other half of their stipend (\$1,000) upon finishing the requirements for the spring quarter. At the end of the academic year, each “class” of students participates in a year-end “graduation” at which they will share their experiences with each other students who are interested in applying to the program for the following year, and community members who have underwritten internships.

The Nonprofit Support Center of Santa Barbara County (NSC) is a regional training, consulting, and resource center for board members, staff, and volunteers of non-profit organizations. The NSC will act in partnership with the Capps Center to place our students with the appropriate non-profits, to coordinate their work as interns, and to provide them with training to pursue a career in the non-profit sector. Support for this program is being provided by private donors.

Undergraduate students seeking admission to the Capps Center - NSC Community Internship Program for 2010-2011 will be able to submit applications in the Spring Quarter, 2010.