Community Development and Community Well-Being

Dr. Rhonda Phillips, Dean of the John Martinson Honors College at Purdue University, recently presented her research project entitled, “Community Development and Community Well-Being: Exploring Relational Frameworks and Constructs,” via a webinar sponsored by the Community Development Society. This talk focused on the happiness of communities and understanding the collective “wellness” of a city, town, or neighborhood. Click here to view the recording of Dr. Phillips’ virtual talk.

As part of Dr. Phillips’ research project, she is currently teaching a place-based research course that involved a mid-sized town in Mississippi. In the course, students in the John Martinson Honors College explored how this town uses historic preservation and culture as the basis for reinvigorating its economy and society. Dr. Phillips and her honors students conducted field research in Mississippi from March 30-April 2, 2022.

Spotlight

Dr. Jason Ware

In this issue the collaborative features Dr. Jason Ware, one of our project co-directors. Dr. Ware is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the John Martinson Honors College at Purdue University and the Managing Editor of the International Journal of Community Well-Being.

Dr. Ware is a qualitative research methodologist with a focus on narrative inquiry, participatory action vis-a-vis community-indicator and well-being projects, and undergraduate student development. Dr. Ware’s research also explores the extent to which quality-of-life indicators at the neighborhood level can transform material realities and serve as an educational tool in urban populations.

Dr. Ware earned a Ph.D. in Curriculum Studies from Purdue University. Prior to his faculty appointment within the John Martinson Honors College, Dr. Ware was a lecturer in the University’s College of Education and a faculty developer within the Center for Instructional Excellence.

The Happiness & Well-Being Learning Collaborative is a partnership between The Happiness Alliance and John Martinson Honors College

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