

PSU's 'Apprentice' students raise \$1,800 for hurricane relief

Even Donald Trump and now, Martha Stewart, would be impressed by the ingenuity and work ethic of 11 Pittsburg State University students who raised \$1,800 in one week to support relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The undergraduate students from a variety of majors across the campus are enrolled in the class "Foundations of Leadership: the Apprentice and Beyond."

As part of a class project, their professor, Brenda LeTendre, challenged the students to break into two teams, appoint project managers and work "Apprentice-style" in their efforts to raise funds for Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

"The students took the assignment quite seriously. When the teams reported on their efforts, I was amazed that they had raised a total \$1,800 in a matter of a few days," LeTendre said.

The students were very resourceful as they set out to raise money. They asked fellow students, family members and businesses in their hometowns to contribute, she said. One group was able to obtain a matching grant from a charitable foundation.

The PSU professor described some of their fundraising efforts as a "New Orleans-style effort" since they went to some "social gatherings" of college students and were successful in getting their fellow students to contribute to the cause.

The funds have been deposited with the Southeast Kansas Community Foundation. The students are still discussing which specific agencies they want to receive their funds.

"We have a number of construction management majors who would like to see funds go to a group like Habitat for Humanity that will be involved building homes for some of those displaced by Hurricane Katrina," LeTendre said.