NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:
Tessa Kurman Ali
Montagne Communications
603-644-3200 ext. 16
M: 603-475-5526
tessa@montagnecom.com

Plymouth State University Student Tam “Tallie” Phan Honored as Newman Civic Fellow

Fellowship recognizes student leaders who demonstrate commitment to challenges facing communities

Plymouth, N.H. (April 2, 2020) – Plymouth State University junior Tam “Tallie” Phan has been named a 2020-2021 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact, a national non-profit coalition of more than 1,000 colleges and universities working to advance the public purposes of higher education. The Newman Civic Fellowship is a year-long program that recognizes students who are leaders on their campuses and demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally and internationally. Campus Compact named 290 students to this year’s Fellowship, which is the largest cohort to date.

“Tallie embodies our motto, Ut Prosim, as she is continuously inspiring her peers to look at the root causes of social issues and to widen their perspectives of the world,” said Donald L. Birx, Ph.D., President, Plymouth State University. “She works hard to ensure her peers have intentionally designed and highly ethical service experiences, amplifying her impact on the local and global communities.”

Phan, an international student majoring in graphic design, has made her presence known on campus. As a Student Impact Ambassador with the Office of Community Impact, she recruits and organizes student volunteers and designs the office’s marketing materials. Phan is currently serving as President of the PSU Volunteer Club, a student-run organization on campus. In this role, she coordinates volunteer activities both on and off campus, including helping with blood drives and raising funds for the United Way of Greater Nashua, an organization to which she was introduced by a friend.

“The person I am today is shaped by my involvement in the community and by helping others when they’re in need,” said Phan. “I am thousands of miles away from my family, and volunteering and connecting with others helps me make the campus and Plymouth community feel like home. I’m committed to making a positive impact, no matter where life takes me.”
Although students are completing spring semester coursework remotely due to the coronavirus pandemic, Phan is still working with PSU’s Office of Community Impact remotely. She is communicating with her peers about ways they can help in their own communities. Phan is also researching ways that students and community members can donate blood if they are able, to help alleviate the nationwide shortage of blood.

“I’m continuing to volunteer through this difficult time to generate positivity in the community and to maintain connections with my fellow students, especially those in need,” said Phan.

Through the Newman Civic Fellowship, Campus Compact provides students with a variety of learning and networking opportunities that emphasize personal, professional and civic growth. Each year, Fellows are invited to a national, in-person conference of Newman Civic Fellows and participate in numerous virtual training and networking opportunities. The fellowship also provides Fellows with pathways to apply for exclusive scholarship and post-graduate opportunities.

“We are proud to recognize each of these extraordinary student leaders and thrilled to have the opportunity to engage with them,” said Campus Compact President Andrew Seligsohn. “The stories of this year’s Newman Civic Fellows make clear that they are committed to finding solutions to pressing problems in their communities and beyond. That is what Campus Compact is about, and it's what our country and our world desperately need.”

The Fellowship is named for the late Frank Newman, one of Campus Compact’s founders, who was a tireless advocate for civic engagement in higher education. In the spirit of Dr. Newman’s leadership, Campus Compact member presidents and chancellors may nominate one student from their institution for the fellowship.

For more information about Plymouth State University, visit www.plymouth.edu; for more information about the Newman Civic Fellowship, visit compact.org/newman-civic-fellowship.

Caption: Plymouth State University junior Tam “Tallie” Phan, pictured above volunteering with Pemi-Valley Habitat for Humanity as part of PSU’s Homecoming Day of Service in fall 2019,
has been named a 2020-2021 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. The Fellowship is a year-long program that recognizes students who are leaders on their campuses and demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally and internationally.

Caption: Plymouth State University junior Tam “Tallie” Phan, pictured above trimming invasive plants in Mississippi as part of PSU’s Social Action Trips in spring 2018, has been named a 2020-2021 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. The Fellowship is a year-long program that recognizes students who are leaders on their campuses and demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally and internationally. PC: Drew Shonka, Community Collaborations International

Caption: Plymouth State University junior Tam “Tallie” Phan has been named a 2020-2021 Newman Civic Fellow by Campus Compact. The Fellowship is a year-long program that recognizes students who are leaders on their campuses and demonstrate a commitment to finding solutions for challenges facing communities locally, nationally and internationally. Phan (left), pictured above with fellow PSU student Molly Cassidy (right), worked with the Office of Community Impact to prepare gifts for its annual Angel Tree Project in 2019.

About Plymouth State University: Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates, and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. The Plymouth State Learning Model is organized around seven dynamic, theme-based hubs called “Integrated Clusters,” which emphasize open, integrative and project-based experiences. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic
development, technological advances, healthier living and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire. To learn more about Plymouth State University, visit www.plymouth.edu.

**About Campus Compact:** is a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. Campus Compact supports institutions in fulfilling their public purposes by deepening their ability to improve community life and to educate students for civic and social responsibility. As the largest national higher education association dedicated solely to campus-based civic engagement, we provide professional development to administrators and faculty to enable them to engage effectively, facilitate national partnerships connecting campuses with key issues in their local communities, build pilot programs to test and refine promising models in engaged teaching and scholarship, celebrate and cultivate student civic leadership, and convene higher education institutions and partners beyond higher education to share knowledge and develop collective capacity. Visit [www.compact.org](http://www.compact.org).

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