

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University receives national honors for Distinguished Community Service

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – The Corporation for National and Community Service has named Michigan State University to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth. It is the second year in a row that MSU has been recognized.

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Selection factors include scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the university offers academic service-learning courses. The Honor Roll responds to President Bush’s call to service by building on and supporting the civic engagement mission of our nation’s colleges and universities.



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“MSU has been a pioneer in volunteer programs, service-learning and civic engagement for more than 40 years. Our students, staff, and community partners work tirelessly to positively impact citizens and enrich their communities, locally as well as across the nation and the globe. Last year, through the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement, 13,825 MSU student applications for service were received and accommodated and 417 not-for-profit community partners utilized service-learning support. This Honor Roll award increases public awareness of those contributions,” said Karen McKnight Casey, director of Service-Learning and Civic Engagement at Michigan State University.

The Honor Roll is jointly sponsored by the Corporation, through its Learn and Serve America program, and the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, and the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation.

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In congratulating the winners, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings said, “Americans rely on our higher education system to prepare students for citizenship and the workforce. We look to institutions like Michigan State University to provide leadership in partnering with local schools to shape the civic, democratic and economic future of our country.”

“There is no question that the universities and colleges who have made an effort to participate and win the Honor Roll award are themselves being rewarded,” said American Council on Education President David Ward. “Earning this distinction is not easy. But now each of these schools will be able to wear this award like a badge of honor.”

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. The Corporation administers Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America, a program that supports service-learning in schools, institutions of higher education and community-based organizations. For more information, go to <http://www.nationalservice.gov>. A full list of award winners is at www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll.

More information about the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement at Michigan State University is available from <http://www.servicelearning.msu.edu/>.

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The mission of the Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement at Michigan State University is to provide active, service-focused, community-based, mutually beneficial, integrated, learning opportunities for students, building and enhancing their commitment to academics, personal and professional development, and civic responsibility.

Michigan State University has been advancing knowledge and transforming lives through innovative teaching, research and outreach for more than 150 years. MSU is known internationally as a major public university with global reach and extraordinary impact. Its 17 degree-granting colleges attract scholars worldwide who are interested in combining education with practical problem solving.