



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Advancing Knowledge.
Transforming Lives.

Advocating
& Modeling
the Engaged
University

UOE Centers and Institutes Community Action Council

**Benchmarking Standards of
Collaboration for Educated
Communities and the World**

February 16, 2004



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The Engaged University

*Engagement is the partnership of university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors:
to enrich scholarship and research,
to enhance curriculum, teaching and learning,
to prepare educated, engaged citizens,
to strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility,
to address critical societal issues, and
to contribute to the public good.*

CIC Committee on Engagement, Nov. 2003



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An MSU Promise

MSU will be an exemplary “engaged university,” transforming and strengthening outreach partnerships to address key Michigan [community] needs and developing broadly applicable models.

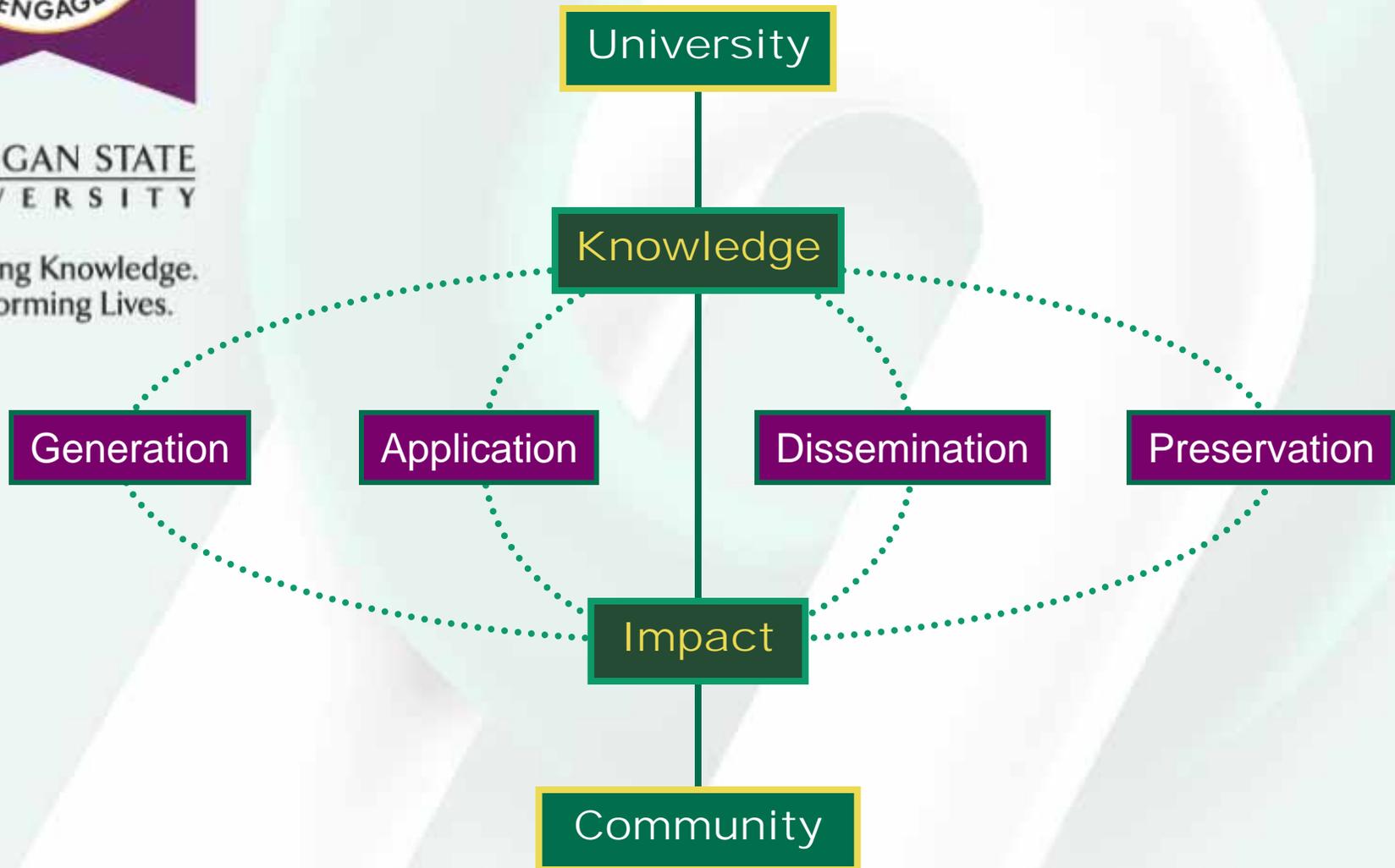
M. Peter McPherson, 1999



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Knowledge Model





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Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Colleges & Academic Units

Departments

Schools

Institutes

Centers

MSU-Extension

1. Addressing major societal issues

- **Needs of 0-5 year-old children**
- **K-12 reform: Literacy, math and science education**
- **Safe schools and communities**
- **Positive outcomes for youth and families**
- **Land use and built communities**
- **Community and economic development**
- **Sustainable agriculture and food safety**
- **Urban and regional development**
- **Environmental health**
- **Public policy**
- **Technology usability and accessibility**



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2. Fostering cross-disciplinary outreach research collaborations
 - **MSU FACT Coalition**
 - **MSU Extension**
3. Networking in major geographic areas across Michigan through **AKTL Networks**
 - **Detroit**
 - **Flint**
 - **Grand Rapids**
 - **Lansing**
 - **Upper Peninsula**
4. Creating opportunities for the scholarship of outreach & engagement
 - **Outreach Scholarship Conferences and Speakers Series**
 - **Committee on Institutional Cooperation: Committee on Engagement**
 - **National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges**
 - **Peer Research Institutions**



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The land-grant university has a special role to engage its students/faculty, instructional and research resources to ...



Educated Person

Student Focus/Campus



Community Focus



Educated Community/World



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An Educated Person

Michigan State University is committed to graduating an educated person.

An educated person is someone who has learned how to acquire, analyze, synthesize, evaluate, understand, and communicate knowledge and information. An educated person has to develop skills that respond to changing professional requirements and new challenges in society and the world at large. He or she must be able to take skills previously gained from serious study of one set of problems and apply them to another. He or she must be able to locate, understand, interpret, evaluate, and use information in an appropriate way and ultimately communicate his or her synthesis and understanding of that information in a clear and accurate manner.

Our students will by their course of study master at least one discipline where they will gain proficiency, but an educated person should be able to apply this learning and the skills that go with it to a broad spectrum of areas, including where the person is not expert and where he or she may be confronting a set of problems for the first time. These basic skills give our human curiosity additional depth and breadth, as well as the momentum to propel it across the boundaries of disciplines, communities, nations and time.





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An Educated Person

The aims of an MSU undergraduate education is to provide students with the following:

- The basic skills necessary for analysis, synthesis, understanding and communication.
- A foundation in the major areas of intellectual inquiry humanities, social and natural sciences to ensure a basic literacy in these crucial approaches to understanding the world.
- A melding of these foundations of liberal learning with a broad array of professional, technical and specialized knowledge.
- A sense of the interrelatedness of knowledge, including the importance of interdisciplinary approaches.
- A clear and compelling connection between their education and the society around them, encompassing their roles and obligations both as citizens and human beings.
- A practical experience, understanding and tolerance of the diversity of peoples, cultures and viewpoints, both domestic and global, through special courses of study, study abroad, foreign language training and area study, residence life and other means.
- Opportunities to participate with faculty in research or scholarly activity.
- Development of the aesthetic sensibilities through exposure to art, music, drama and literature.
- A continuing commitment to learning throughout life, to continue to thrive both in the work environment and as a human being in an increasingly complex global society.





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An Educated Community/World

What defines an educated community?

How does one create and educated community?

What role can Centers and Institutes play in building educated communities from a community-based research agenda?

What networks can be established to facilitate strengthening MSU's community-based research agenda from the perspective of interdisciplinary collaboration?

What benchmarks can be established to define the land-grant and research intensive university's community-based research mission?

What other questions need to be asked.....and answered?

