Advancing Knowledge to Serve Society

Scholarship Focused Outreach and Engagement

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Orientation for New Faculty
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Characteristics of an Engaged University

- Make engagement a priority on every campus
- Develop plans for engagement
- Encourage interdisciplinary work
- Create new incentives to advance engagement
- Secure stable and secure funding

Renewing the Covenant
Kellogg Commission, 2000
The Engaged University: Definition

Engagement is the partnership of university knowledge and resources with those of the public and private sectors

- to enrich scholarship and creative activities,
- to enhance curriculum, teaching & 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.

– Adapted from the CIC Committee on Engagement
The land-grant university has a special role to engage its students/faculty, instructional and research resources to …

The diagram illustrates the following focuses:

**Educated Person**

- **Values**
- **Workplace Preparation**
- **Global Knowledge**
- **Civic Engagement**

**Campus Focus**

- ... Strengthen commitment to democracy/diversity
- ... Improve workplace practice and economic strength
- ... Strengthen commitment to democracy/diversity to improve outcomes for community members
- ... Globalize perspectives and contacts

**Community Focus**

**Educated Community/World**

... Improve workplace practice and economic strength.

... Strengthen commitment to democracy/diversity to improve outcomes for community members.
... Globalize perspectives and contacts.
Outreach & Engagement Scholarship Model

Knowledge

Discovery  Application  Dissemination  Preservation

University

Impact

Community
University Outreach & Engagement

- ADVANCEMENT: COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION STRATEGIES
- UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- WHARTON CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
- CENTER FOR USABILITY & ACCESSIBILITY
- SERVICE-LEARNING & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Outreach and Engagement

Advancing Knowledge to Serve Society

**Partners**
- With faculty research teams

**Consults**
- Develops community projects

**Trains**
- Using asset-based approaches to community change

**Assists**
- Builds service-learning/civic engagement models

**Funds**
- Seed grants for outreach research

**Develops**
- Outreach measures and standards of practice

**Markets**
- Outreach and engagement activities

**Advocates**
- For the engagement mission
- For cross institution benchmarks
- For measurement standards
Outreach & Engagement Focal Areas

- Children, youth & families
- Community & family security
- Community & economic development
- Technology & human development
- Scholarship of engagement
Faculty-Extension-Community Partnerships to Create Evidence Based Approaches to Community Change

Funding Seed Grants

- FACT
- O&E - Extension

Faculty Partners
Community Partners
Extension Partners
Community Partners
Interdisciplinary Collaborations

1. Addressing major societal issues
   - K-12 reform: Literacy, math and science education
   - Needs of 0-5 year-old children and their families
   - Safe schools and communities
   - Positive outcomes for children, youth and families
   - Land use and built environments
   - Community and economic development
   - Sustainable agriculture, food and water safety
   - Urban and regional development
   - Environmental health
   - Public policy
   - Technology usability and accessibility
2. Fostering cross-disciplinary outreach and engagement research collaborations
   - MSU FACT Coalition and UO&E-Extension Grants
   - Cultural Engagement Council
   - Community Based Scholarship Team

3. Networking in major geographic areas across Michigan through AKTL Networks

4. Creating opportunities for the scholarship of outreach & engagement
   - Outreach Scholarship Conferences
   - Speakers Series
   - Committee on Institutional Cooperation: Committee on Engagement
   - National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges
   - Peer Research Institutions
Nutrition Education Aimed at Toddlers (NEAT)

- **Partners**
  - Mildred Horodynski, College of Nursing
  - MSU Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
  - MSU Extension Family and Consumer Sciences
  - Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency
  - The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program
  - Early Head Start

- **Major aims**
  Teaching parents healthy choices and skills for feeding finicky tots.

- **Major findings/results**
  A three-part curriculum for parents was developed to increase their knowledge of food and kitchen safety, educate them about proper portion sizes and foods for toddlers, and help them develop strategies for planning family meals. The program has been spotlighted on local news broadcasts and was featured in Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station’s Futures magazine. Project leaders hope to expand the program to EHS sites statewide before becoming a national model of nutrition intervention for preschoolers.

- **External funding achieved**
  Three-year, $375,000 grant from U.S. Administration for Children, Youth, and Families.
Kid Curator

- **Partners**
  - Norman Lownds, MSU Department of Horticulture
  - Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden
  - Head Start

- **Major aims**
  Encouraging preschoolers to think scientifically and ecologically through participation in learning activities in the 4-H Children’s Garden. Immersion field trips bring students to the garden for three days for hands-on learning. A new partnership with Head Start teachers is training instructors on how to incorporate scientific inquiry into their daily lessons.

- **Major findings/results**
  This pioneer approach to teaching science and developing environmental stewardship has become a model for other programs in the U.S., the U.K., and Canada, and has consistently received high approval ratings in Michigan.

- **External funding achieved**
  $873,295 in recently awarded grants, including $429,000 from the Dow Foundation.
Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

• **Partners**
  – Teresa Jones, Director, MSU Kinship Care Project
  – MSU School of Social Work

• **Major aims**
  Collecting descriptive information about grandparent-led households and assessing their needs for support, services, and other resources as they raise children for a second time.

• **Major findings/results**
  This study of kinship care providers revealed several areas of concern, including the need for respite care, the need for affordable and accessible legal services, and the impact of caregiving on grandparents’ health. Unlike many national studies of families in urban centers, the MSU research looked also at families in rural and suburban areas. The initial pilot study has grown into a long-term project that includes building a knowledge base about kinship care in Michigan and establishment of a resource center in Lansing.

• **External funding achieved**
  More than $500,000 in grants from public and private sources to support further efforts.
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