



The University Network on Community Engagement

At Oklahoma State University

Coordinated by the Division of International Studies and Outreach

Purpose of the Network

To advance a vision and understanding of community engagement at Oklahoma State University and the role it plays in

- Advancing the **instruction** mission – Additional value to the student experience via engagement
- Advancing the **scholarship** mission – Fostering discovery, innovation and creativity in using the best minds to solve the toughest problems of the state, nation and the world
- Advancing the **service** mission-- Demonstrating to people living and working in Oklahoma and beyond that the University contributes to their well-being – a contribution far beyond enrolling Oklahoma’s best and brightest students.

To think collectively about how OSU can better tell the story of its contribution to the public good

- How do we tell the story within the University community?
- How do we tell the story to decision makers and the public?

To think collectively about tacit strategies to accomplish the goals listed above

- How can we better support faculty members?
- How can we increase opportunities for students?
- How do we engage staff, the public, and other university stakeholders?

Purpose of Monthly Meetings: Inform, Inspire, and Think Together

Inform

- What each OSU unit is contributing to the public good via community engagement
- Portray the importance of university engagement in responding to community challenges – locally, in Oklahoma, nationally, and around the world
- Support and update OSU’s broadened understanding of community engagement in concert with the 2015 Carnegie Community Engagement Classification
- There is an “us” in the triangular relationship of service with scholarship and instruction at OSU. It is not an “either or”
- About opportunities to apply for awards, publish, network, present at engagement journals, Engagement Scholarship Consortium annual conferences, etc.

Inspire

- Not to be boastful or credit-taking
- Not defensive about the importance of community engagement
- Focused more on outcomes than outputs and inputs: What is the valued added for students, faculty, the university, and communities – by University-Community engagement?

Think Together about

- The critical issues of Oklahoma – the context of this region of the country and the world
- Community engagement and how OSU connects and engages with the public, industry, and other nations
- The role of community engagement in students' academic achievements and as future workforce
- How to better interweave the work of University units (schools, colleges, Cooperative Extension, Experiment Stations, centers and service units) with other programs and activities (such as seed grants, awards, committees, interest groups, and faculty development programs)
- How OSU can continue to work to address Oklahoma's critical challenges such as those related to poverty, hunger, economic opportunities, energy, water, the environment, the changing demographic profile, globalization, the educational pipeline, and the health and well-being of people living and working in Oklahoma
- The intersections of the disciplines – and how this is where important work is done to solve complex political, economic, and social issues
- The impact of connecting students to communities on academic learning, (especially general education outcomes), personal development, and sense of civic responsibility. Students are learning while communities are moving forward – a parallel process
- Innovative community participatory discovery

Scholarship of Engagement Defined*

1. Scholarship in the areas of teaching, research, and/or service
2. Intentionally engages faculty, staff and students...
3. In academically-relevant work that...
4. Simultaneously meets OSU's mission and goals and community needs.
5. This scholarly agenda contributes to the public good.

**Adapted from the definition used by the National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement*



**UNIVERSITY NETWORK ON
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

For additional information on the UNCE, please contact Dr. Jorge Atilas at jorge.atilas@okstate.edu

UNIT Representatives on the University Network on Community Engagement

University Colleges/Schools	Unit Representatives	Deans
Arts & Sciences	Jennifer Borland	Bret Danilowicz
Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources	James Trapp	Tom Coon
Education	Juliana Utley	Robert Davis
Engineering, Architecture & Technology	John Veenstra Ed Kirtley	Paul Tikalsky
Human Sciences	Jorge Atilas	Stephan Wilson
Graduate College	Jean Van Delinder	Sheryl Tucker
Center for Health Sciences	Ashley Milton Jeff Hackler Lesley Vanvolkinburg Bria Taylor	Kayse Shrum
Honors College		Keith Garbutt
Library	Karen Neurohr	Sheila Johnson
Spears School of Business	Elizabeth Payne	Ken Eastman
Center for Veterinary Health Sciences	Elisabeth Giedt	Jean Sander
University Units	Unit Heads	
International Studies and Outreach	David Henneberry	
Communications Services	Gary Shutt	
Service-Learning Volunteer Center	Joyce Montgomery	
University Reaccreditation	Brenda Masters	
Provost and Senior VP	Gary Sandefur	
Undergraduate Education	Pamela Fry	
Student Affairs	Lee E. Bird / Kathryn Gage	
Research	Kennett Sewell	
Institutional Diversity	Jason Kirksey	
OSU Foundation	Lisa Capone	

Web Resources: <http://news.okstate.edu/extension-and-service>

All meeting will take place in the Council Room, Student Union.

Meeting Dates and times for FY 2016:

Fall 2015: August 31 (4-5 pm); October 9: (4-5 pm); November 12 (11 am –Noon); December 17 (4-5 pm)

Spring 2016: January 29 (4-5 pm); February 25 (3-5 pm); March 30 (3-5 pm); April 22 (11 am – Noon)

Overview of Purpose – UNCE 2015-2016