Dear Colleagues and Partners...

University Outreach and Engagement fosters MSU’s land grant mission by connecting university knowledge with community knowledge in mutually beneficial ways.

UOE also engages in research designed to demonstrate the disciplinary and interdisciplinary impact of engaged scholarship on faculty work and university-community partnerships.

In all of its work, UOE emphasizes university-community partnerships that are collaborative, participatory, empowering, systemic, transformative, and anchored in scholarship.

MSU has also assumed a leadership role with respect to national conversations about the scholarship of engagement—defining, measuring, and evaluating best practices.

We welcome an opportunity to talk with you about how you might become active in the outreach and engagement enterprise.

Sincerely,

Hiram E. Fitzgerald
Associate Provost
University Outreach and Engagement

Michigan’s citizens increasingly turn to the University for its knowledge resources.

- Adults are returning for higher education in record numbers to renew and expand their professional qualifications.
- Businesses and industries seek technical assistance and technology transfer.
- Agencies seek help in evaluating human services programs.
- Community organizations utilize strategic planning assistance related to local economic development and social concerns.
- Parents request pre-college programs for their children.

Michigan State University established the Office of University Outreach and Engagement to coordinate the University’s response to these and other requests from the public. It is the charge of the Office to ensure that the University’s outreach efforts are internally coordinated, externally linked, responsive to important societal issues, and consistent with its mission and policies.

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To learn more about University Outreach and Engagement publications, personnel, and activities, visit: engage.msu.edu
The Engaged University...

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

Committee on Institutional Cooperation, 2003

What University Outreach and Engagement does...

**Serves the interests of communities**
Bringing together community expertise and interests with the best of MSU research, UOE works to empower positive change through mutually beneficial partnerships.

**Supports community-engaged scholarship**
UOE facilitates networks of MSU faculty engaged with communities throughout Michigan to address complex issues that often require interdisciplinary collaboration. It also fosters community-based initiatives in cities like Detroit, Flint, and Lansing, organized to advance such priorities as regional economic development, sustainable food systems, early childhood development, education and learning, and community systems change.

**Involves MSU students locally and globally**
The Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement registers students in over 20,000 placements a year, engaging them with market research, communication planning, adult literacy tutoring, and other forms of community service.

**Advocates for community engagement**
UOE advances understanding about community-engaged scholarship in the academy and promotes policies and practices that encourage it, both at MSU and institutions across higher education.

**Conducts research and evaluation**
UOE-based research centers and collaboratives work with communities, organizations, and other universities to answer important questions, improve programs, conduct institutional research, develop successful initiatives, build capacity for evidence-based practice, and improve sustainability and funding potential.

**Provides learning opportunities**
UOE offers professional development programs focused on best practices in outreach and engagement.
For graduate students: Graduate Certification in Community Engagement gradcert.engage.msu.edu
For undergraduate students: Tools of Engagement tools.engage.msu.edu
For undergraduate and graduate students: Service-Learning servicelearning.msu.edu

**Tells MSU’s community engagement story**
UOE showcases exemplary community-engaged scholarship through its publications and websites, and works with individual faculty to develop their own communication plans.

**Promotes public access**
UOE offers and supports resources that provide greater public access to the University and its faculty through:
- **Educational programs** for K-12 students like Gifted and Talented Education, the events and educational offerings of the MSU Museum and the Wharton Center for Performing Arts, and participation in the Michigan Science Olympiad State Tournament
- **Public festivals**, including the Great Lakes Folk Festival, the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, and the MSU Science Festival
- **Community-based hubs**, such as the Center for Community and Economic Development in Lansing and the MSU Detroit Center and the MSU – Detroit Partnerships at Franklin-Wright Settlements research facility in Michigan’s largest city
- **Catalog websites** of programs and resources:
  For professionals and practitioners: msustatewide.msu.edu
  For pre-kindergarten children through 12th grade students: spartanyouth.msu.edu
  For anyone who is interested in MSU’s cultural offerings: artsandculture.msu.edu

Experience Science, Music, and Culture with MSU

**MSU Science Festival**
Annually in April
Explore the science that touches our everyday lives with hands-on activities, seminars, exhibits, and guided tours for people of all ages.
sciencefestival.msu.edu

**Summer Solstice Jazz Festival**
Annually in June
Listen to high-caliber MSU, local, and national jazz performers in the heart of downtown East Lansing.
ejazzfest.com

**Great Lakes Folk Festival**
Annually in August
Celebrate culture, tradition, and community with live music, dance, and art from across America and around the world.
greatlakesfolkfest.net

“Who would have imagined 150 years ago...that we would become the global prototype of a genuinely American brand of higher education—one that is an engine of the economy, a force for the democratization of public learning, the model for engagement with the world beyond the campus, and a catalyst for improving the quality of life in Michigan and around the world.”
Lou Anna Kimsey Simon, Ph.D.
President, Michigan State University
Founders’ Day Address
February 11, 2005