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,

Laurie Van Egeren
Interim 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 and engagement efforts are internally coordinated, externally linked, responsive to important societal issues, and consistent with its mission and policies.

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

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02-2021
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 Engagement, Big Ten Academic Alliance, 2005

What University Outreach and Engagement does...

UOE brings together community expertise and interests with the best of MSU research to create positive change through mutually beneficial partnerships.

Supports the University

UOE supports faculty, staff, and students in their engagement activities

• Assists MSU faculty and staff in developing partnerships with communities
• Supports community-engaged research efforts of faculty
• Consults on National Science Foundation broader impacts
• Helps faculty integrate community-engaged learning into their coursework
• Provides professional development opportunities to enhance capacity for community-engaged scholarship
• Conducts institutional studies and shares data

Fosters Public Access

UOE provides the public with access to university expertise and resources

• Partners with community-based initiatives that advance community priorities
• Offers educational programs for K-12 students
• Sponsors festivals, including the MSU Science Festival and the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival
• Operates community-based hubs, such as the Center for Community and Economic Development with offices in Lansing and Flint, and the MSU Detroit Center in Michigan’s largest city
• Publishes catalog websites of MSU programs and resources of interest to the general public

Advocates for Engaged Scholarship

UOE advocates for engaged scholarship on campus, nationally, and internationally

• Promotes policies and practices that encourage community-engaged scholarship
• Consults with MSU departments and other universities about MSU’s model of scholarly community engagement
• Encourages a culture supportive of engagement by exploring the work of MSU engaged scholars in campus publications
• Recognizes exemplary community-engaged scholarship through awards programs

Experience Science and Music 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.
eljazzfest.com