

Fitzgerald Honored by Michigan Campus Compact

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – Hiram E. Fitzgerald was presented with the Michigan Campus Compact Lifetime Achievement Award during the annual MSU Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Awards ceremony on April 20.

Fitzgerald is University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology, and Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement (UOE). He came to Michigan State University in 1967 as an assistant professor studying attentional and learning systems in infants. Since 2001 he has led UOE, fostering MSU's land-grant mission by connecting university knowledge with community knowledge in mutually beneficial ways.

The Michigan Campus Compact (MiCC) award recognizes not only the body of work accomplished by an individual during their career, but the commitment and leadership they demonstrate while doing it.



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“We have all been influenced by Dr. Fitzgerald’s vision and knowledge, and it inspires the way we think about service learning and civic engagement with universities and communities,” said Robin Lynn Grinnell, MiCC executive director.

The Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement (CSLCE) is jointly administered by University Outreach and Engagement (UOE) and Student Affairs and Services. They have worked closely with Michigan Campus Compact to promote the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens by creating and expanding academic, co-curricular, and campus wide opportunities for community-engaged service, service-learning and engagement.

“This award is well deserved. Dr. Fitzgerald’s work during the past 50 years—through both his scholarship and his leadership—has elevated MSU as an institution, and we have been the beneficiary of his work and his vision,” said President Lou Anna K. Simon.

“I want to personally thank you for all the ways you have influenced me as a leader as we strive to be the most engaged university in the world. Thank you for helping MSU fully grasp the dimensions of our land-grant mission in the 21st century as we aspire to even greater and greater things,” said President Simon.

Fitzgerald served as executive director of the World Association for Infant Mental Health from 1992-2008, and is past president and executive director of both the Michigan

Association for Infant Mental Health and the International Association for Infant Mental Health.

He has been associated with the Michigan Longitudinal Study of Family Risk for Alcoholism over the Life Course for 30 years; the Early Head Start National Research Consortium, the Tribal Early Childhood Research Center, the Native Children's Research Exchange, and the MSU Wiba Anung partnership with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. Fitzgerald is a member of a variety of interdisciplinary research teams focusing on evaluation of community-based early preventive-intervention efforts in Michigan.

Fitzgerald is past president of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium, and a past member of the Association for Public and Land Grant Universities' Council on Engagement's Executive Committee's Board of Directors. He was inducted into the Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship (ACES) as a lifetime member in 2014. He was nominated and selected by peers in recognition of his many accomplishments in collaborating with communities to address critical issues of societal and scholarly significance.

"It is an honor to accept this award from Michigan Campus Compact. A lifetime achievement award implies that I'm winding down, but the truth is, the social, health, educational, and economic problems in our society are far from being solved. University-community partnerships need be central factors in seeking such solutions." said Fitzgerald.

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