

## **Engagement Scholarship Consortium Announces Recipients of Excellence Awards**

For Immediate Release

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**COLUMBUS, OH** – The Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC) announces the recipients of its 2022 Excellence Awards Program. The awards program recognizes higher education institutions and their exemplary contributions to scholarship and the practice of community-engaged scholarship. First conferred in 2018, awards are presented in several categories. Nominations are sought annually from 2- and 4-year public and private higher education institutions and are evaluated by a distinguished panel of scholars.

2022 ESC Excellence Award recipients are:

- **Excellence in Community Partner Engagement**  
University of Tennessee for *STEMpowering Students and Teachers VFA: Preparing East Tennessee STEM Preservice Teachers in Rural Appalachia*
- **Excellence in Faculty Community Engagement**  
Ohio State University for the *Franklin County Local Food Council (FCLFC)*
- **Excellence in Staff Community Engagement**  
Ball State University for the *Office of Immersive Learning at Ball State University*
- **Excellence in Student Community Engagement**  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University for *VTDITC: Hip Hop Studies at Virginia Tech*
- **Ryan, Moser, Reilly Award for Excellence in Institutional Leadership**  
Purdue University
- **Hiram E. Fitzgerald Distinguished Engaged Scholar Award**  
Terri Shelton, University of North Carolina – Greensboro

ESC President Laurie A. Van Egeren, interim associate provost for university outreach and engagement at Michigan State University, underscored the importance of the highly competitive awards programs. “Higher education institutions do an enormous amount of work in collaboration with all sorts of

communities, often with little recognition or support,” said Van Egeren. “These projects require a great deal of effort, negotiation, and thought to ensure that they are inclusive, mutually beneficial, and responsive to community needs. Through programs such as the ESC Excellence Awards, we honor the partnerships, knowledge, and impacts that emerge from these extraordinary initiatives committed to making meaningful changes for people and environments. Our awardees show the world the possibilities of exemplary engagement scholarship.”

In 2022, the ESC will hold its Awards and Recognition Ceremony during the ESC Annual Conference (September 21-22, 2022). In addition to participation in the ceremony, category winners will be invited to share their exemplary program experiences during an Award Recipients Panel presentation.

For more information about the 2022 ESC Conference, including registration, visit the [ESC website](#).

The Engagement Scholarship Consortium is the premier resource for higher education institutions and their faculty, staff, students and community partners focused on promoting excellence in the scholarship and practice of engaged scholarship locally and globally.

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