

Engagement Scholarship Consortium Welcomes New Member Kansas State University

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For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. – Kansas State University (K-State) has joined the Engagement Scholarship Consortium, becoming the newest member in an international organization consisting of state/public and private higher education institutions with a broad scholarly agenda to advance university-community efforts.

Established in 1863 during the Civil War, Kansas State University is a land-grant institution and the oldest public university in Kansas. Current enrollment includes nearly 24,000 students in nine colleges on three campuses, and the university has earned the prestigious Carnegie Foundation classification for high research activity.

In early 2010 the university announced K-State 2025, a planning initiative and strategic vision to achieve and sustain institutional excellence. One of the hallmarks of the plan calls for national and international recognition for K-State's engagement in rural and urban communities, and recognition on a global scale of the university's commitment to engagement, extension, outreach, and service.

David E. Procter, director of the Center for Engagement and Community Development and the director of the Institute for Civic Discourse and Democracy, will serve as the ESC institutional representative.

"Kansas State University has an impressive set of goals for the next several years leading up to 2025, including their commitment to engaged scholarship and capacity-building in communities. On behalf of the board of directors, we welcome Kansas State University to the Engagement Scholarship Consortium and look forward to working with them," said Hiram E. Fitzgerald, ESC president and associate provost for university outreach and engagement at Michigan State University.

The ESC is composed of universities that work collaboratively to promote strong university-community partnerships that are anchored in the rigor of scholarship and designed to help build community capacity. The Consortium, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit educational organization, actively seeks membership to include state/public and private higher education institutions from across the U.S., Canada, and the world.

ESC member institutions collaborate in the development and delivery of programs and educational resources that support the creation and advancement of knowledge underlying successful engagement scholarship initiatives in higher education.

ESC's annual meeting was held at the University of Alabama on September 30-October 3, 2012. The next meeting is at Texas Tech University on October 8-9, 2013.

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The Engagement Scholarship Consortium is committed to excellence in the scholarship and practice of engagement locally and globally. The ESC has articulated a broad scholarly agenda that includes:

- Researching and studying throughout the world, the scholarship of engagement
- Facilitating international cooperation among individuals concerned with promoting conditions that will bring about engaged scholarship as a criterion influencing higher education faculty performance evaluations
- Encouraging the realization that the scholarship of engagement is a critical aspect of university responsibility
- Promoting education, research and study of the effects of engaged scholarship on community-campus partnerships
- Promoting research and study of the impacts of community-campus partnerships
- Conducting meetings, workshops, institutes, symposia, conferences and congresses domestically and throughout the world
- Disseminating research (original, basic and applied) from a wide variety of disciplines on the impact of campus-community partnerships
- Discussing and sharing questions, problems, issues, information and theories regarding campus-community partnerships
- Advancing the study of campus-community partnerships and educating the public on effective programs for community change
- Publishing and communicating through print and electronic media the proceedings (including abstracts and scientific papers) of the aforementioned workshops, institutes, symposia, conferences and congresses
- Publishing and disseminating research on the scholarship of engagement through newsletters, books, monographs, reports, studies and periodicals, in any language, and also to make the foregoing available through electronic media

Member institutions include:

American University of Nigeria
Auburn University
Colorado State University
East Carolina University
Kansas State University
Michigan State University
Montana State University
North Carolina State University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University

Pennsylvania State University
Purdue University
Texas Tech University
University of Alabama
University of Alberta
University of Georgia
University of Idaho
University of Kentucky
University of Missouri
University of Wisconsin Extension

Additional information is available at <http://engagementscholarship.org>.