

University of Missouri Welcomed to Engagement Scholarship Consortium

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For Immediate Release

EAST LANSING, Mich. – The University of Missouri (MU) is the newest member of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC), joining an international organization consisting of state/public and private higher education institutions with a broad scholarly agenda to advance university-community efforts.

MU, or Mizzou, as it is affectionately known, is in the midst of a strategic plan that lists goals, objectives, and actions for a 2020 Vision of Excellence.

The University of Missouri was founded in 1839, and was designated the state's land-grant institution in 1870 after the signing of the Morrill Act in 1862. Today Mizzou is the flagship in a four-campus University of Missouri System with more than 280 degree programs offered to approximately 34,000 students. It is only one of six public universities in the United States containing schools of medicine, veterinary medicine, engineering, agriculture, and law all on the same campus. The University of Missouri has been designated as doctoral/research university-extensive as well as a community-engaged institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Michael D. Quart, vice provost for Extension, and professor of animal sciences, will serve as the ESC institutional representative.

“The University of Missouri is a welcome addition to the Engagement Scholarship Consortium. One of the first goals of their 2020 Vision for Excellence addresses outreach objectives that affect the lives of people in their state, as well as the world. They are on target to promote greater integration of research and teaching across Extension and a variety of disciplines to deliver high quality engagement programs for positive societal changes. We welcome them and look forward to working together,” 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	Pennsylvania State University
Auburn University	Purdue University
Colorado State University	Texas Tech University
East Carolina University	University of Alabama
Kansas State University	University of Alberta
Michigan State University	University of Georgia
Montana State University	University of Idaho
North Carolina State University	University of Kentucky
Ohio State University	University of Missouri
Oklahoma State University	University of Wisconsin Extension
Oregon State University	

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