

# Engagement Scholarship Consortium Welcomes University of Idaho as Newest Member

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – The University of Idaho 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.

“Our leadership extends beyond the borders of our campus,” said University of Idaho President M. Duane Nellis. “Joining the Engagement Scholarship Consortium aligns with our mission and 2011-2015 Strategic Plan to meet society’s critical needs by engaging in partnerships with stakeholders in Idaho, the United States, and the world.”

Following passage of the Morrill Act of 1862, the Idaho Territorial Legislature created the University of Idaho (UI) as a land-grant institution in 1889, one year before Idaho became the 43<sup>rd</sup> state in the union. The original mission of the university to teach, conduct critical research, share research results and contribute to Idaho’s prosperity continues today. The University of Idaho has earned the prestigious Carnegie Foundation classification for high research activity, as well as for community engagement. The Corporation for National and Community Service has named the University of Idaho to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for more than five consecutive years, honoring their commitment to community service programs, practices, and community partnerships. UI has 42 Extension offices across the state and 12 regional research and Extension centers. It has estimated contributions of nearly \$1 billion to Idaho’s economy, attracts more than \$100 million each year in grants and contracts for innovative research, and serves as one of the premier higher education institutions in the Pacific Northwest.

A partnership between the University of Idaho and the Coeur d’Alene tribe and its reservation communities earned the 2010 Outreach Scholarship/W.K. Kellogg Foundation Engagement Award in the western region, and was one of five finalists for the national C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award. This year, UI’s Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival will be recognized as an Exemplary Project at the National Outreach Scholarship Conference in September at The University of Alabama.

Priscilla Salant, director of UI’s Office of Community Partnerships, will serve as the ESC institutional representative.

“UI’s commitment to advancing university-community partnerships and sharing university resources to promote physical and economic health for a variety of constituencies makes it a welcome addition to the Engagement Scholarship Consortium. On behalf of the board of directors, we welcome the University of Idaho as our newest member and we look forward to its participation,” 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 anchored in the rigor of scholarship, and designed to help build community capacity. The Consortium, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit 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 next annual meeting will be held at the University of Alabama on September 30-October 3, 2012.

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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 or 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  
Michigan State University  
Montana State University  
North Carolina State University  
Ohio 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 Wisconsin Extension

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