Task Force on Public Outreach and Civic Engagement

Open Forums:
November 4, 3:00-4:00pm, 2520D UCC
November 10, 1:00-2:00pm, 2117 MERF
Charge

- Articulate a strategic vision and priorities for the University to form partnerships with communities and organizations in the state, in order to apply all the resources of the University and help create better futures for Iowans.

- Issues to address may include:
  - Expansion of cooperative programs throughout the state, offering UI degrees to place-bound students via instruction at community colleges.
  - Expansion of arts outreach throughout the state.

http://provost.uiowa.edu/work/strategic-initiatives/tf-outreach.htm
Task Force Membership

- **Task Force Co-Chairs:**
  - Steve McGuire, professor, Teaching and Learning
  - Ann Ricketts, director, Office of Research Development

- **Subcommittee Chairs:**
  - Steve Duck, professor, Communication Studies
  - Teresa Mangum, associate professor, English
  - Chet Rzonca, associate provost, Division of Continuing Education

- **Task Force Members:**
  - Sandy Boyd, President Emeritus and professor, College of Law
  - Carolyn Colvin, associate professor, Teaching and Learning
  - Liz Christiansen, director, Office of Sustainability
  - Leslie Finer, director, Arts Share
  - Diane Finnerty, coordinator of faculty development programs, Office of the Provost
  - Jean Florman, director, Center for Teaching
  - David Hensley, director, John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center
Task Force Membership, cont.

- Michael Kelly, associate dean, College of Pharmacy
- Linda McGuire, associate dean, College of Law
- Michelle McQuistan, assistant professor, Preventive & Community Dentistry
- Buffy Quintero, outreach coordinator, International Programs
- Jane Schildroth, director of corporate & community relations, Pomerantz Career Center
- Alec Scranton, associate dean, College of Engineering
- Madeline Shea, professor, Biochemistry
- Anita Stineman, director, RN-BSN program, College of Nursing
- Chuck Swanson, executive director, Hancher Auditorium
- Roger Tracy, director, CCOM Office of Statewide Clinical Education Programs
- Laurie Walkner, grants coordinator, Upper Midwest Center for Public Health Preparedness
- Alumnus: Dr. Robert Rasmus
- Provost Fellow: Marcus Haack, clinical associate professor, Educational Administration
Task Force Timeline: Convened in May 2009

Fall Semester Meetings

- **September 16**: O/E Task Force Meeting
- **October 7**: Meeting of TF co-chairs
- **October 13**: CLAS Executive Committee
- **November 3**: Webinar: Democracy Mission of Higher Education
- **November 4**: Public Forum I (2520D UCC)
- **November 10**: Public Forum II (2117 MERF)
- **November 22**: O/E Task Force Meeting
- **December 1**: Staff Council Executive Committee
- **December 1**: Report to Provost
Five Preliminary Goals

- Build a culture of engagement on campus
- Promote publicly engaged teaching, learning, research and service
- Align reward system with the Iowa Promise engagement objectives
- Ensure best practices
- Build Infrastructure, increase visibility and plan for sustainability
Build a Culture of Engagement on Campus

Strategies:

- Enlist the President and Provost to convey the message to the campus and the state that public engagement is a university priority for students, staff, and faculty.

- Involve deans, DEOS, and other administrators in discussions of the forms of public engagement they would value in their units and ways they can encourage and reward faculty and staff who incorporate engagement into their work.

- Create a small, functional, blue ribbon steering committee to guide campus planning for public engagement and coordinate efforts.
Build a Culture of Engagement on Campus

Strategies, cont:

- Create a campus/community advisory committee to explore community needs and assets across the state of Iowa, as a starting point for developing relationships.
- Organize a speakers series drawing on national and local experts.
- Organize a campus-wide discussion of ways to encourage publicly engaged partnerships through a revised reward system, changes in the operation manuals, and appropriate adaptations within disciplines and units that support innovative, substantive publicly engaged projects.
Promote Publicly Engaged Teaching, Learning, Research and Service

Strategies

- Address the needs of place-bound students through partnerships with community colleges.
**Promote Publicly Engaged Teaching, Learning, Research and Service**

**Strategies, cont:**

- Encourage new forms of instruction utilizing new technologies in partnership with the Student Instructional Technology Assistant (SITA) program.

- Support the Center for Teaching faculty seminars on service-learning and other forms of community-based learning.

- Create a state-wide internship program by encouraging proposals from communities in the state’s economic development regions for groups of students to live in the area and work at summer internships/cooperative education positions. Proposals would include identifying positions at local businesses, with stipends and ideally with living arrangements provided.
Align Reward System with the Iowa Promise Engagement Objectives

Strategies:

- Recognize that publicly engaged work often takes new, imaginative, and hybrid forms. Categories such as scholarship, teaching, and service may cease to be meaningful and the “project”—a fusion of all three categories—will need to be assessed with the support of new metrics and appropriate experts.

- Demonstrate to instructors that the extra time and effort required for community-based teaching will be valued and rewarded and create mechanisms to include community partners’ evaluation in reviews.
Ensure Best Practices

Strategies:

- To ensure that public partnerships are based in best practices for collaboration and sensitivity to cultural and institutional differences, support workshops such as the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies Graduate Institute for Engagement and the Academy and the Center for Teaching seminar on engaged teaching and research practices.

- To encourage the most talented faculty and staff to pursue publicly engaged projects, create a program for “Public Scholars” comparable to the Global Scholars and Faculty Scholars Program.
Build Infrastructure, Increase Visibility and Plan for Sustainability

Strategies:

- Establish an *Iowa Local to Global Outreach and Engagement* (ILGOE) office, an organizational focal point within the UI to provide faculty, staff, and students the information required to generate, apply, transmit and create knowledge through engaged partnerships across Iowa.
Build Infrastructure, Increase Visibility and Plan for Sustainability

Strategies, cont:

- Construct a database and related website to: capture the diverse outreach and engagement activities that occur at the University; facilitate internal collaboration among UI faculty, staff, and students involved in specific outreach/engagement projects; facilitate the on-campus sharing of UI resources throughout the state; and more easily inform public officials, in particular the Board of Regents, State Legislators, Governor’s office, of the excellent work currently being undertaken by UI faculty and staff throughout the state.

- Partner with International Programs to communicate local to global arts and humanities engagement
Build Infrastructure, Increase Visibility and Plan for Sustainability

- Set an institutional aspiration to obtain the Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement classification, an elective classification that affirms a university or college has institutionalized community engagement in its identity, culture, and commitments.
Contact the Task Force

Please feel free to send suggestions via e-mail to:

strategic-initiatives@uiowa.edu?subject=Engagement