ENGAGING U
The University’s Source for Public Engagement News

Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013

Engagement Spotlight

Twice a month, Engaging U profiles the work of a publicly-engaged unit or center. Email future Spotlight suggestions to Amber Cameron.

School of Music Community Engagement Leadership Team, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

The School of Music Community Engagement Leadership Team’s (CELT) primary mission is to institutionalize engagement into the research, teaching, and service missions of the School of Music. Our work has focused on three primary areas: professional development through guest speakers and conference attendance; curriculum development through support for engaged work in classes; and facilitation of engagement projects by faculty and graduate students through a mini-grant program.

Promoting Faculty and Graduate Student Engagement

In the last four years, the team has allocated funding for 46 engaged music projects lead by faculty and graduate students. To receive funding, grant proposals had to include evidence of mutual benefit and reciprocal planning. The CELT meets with each prospective applicant to develop strategies for moving beyond performance "for" to involvement with various community partners. The approved projects fall into three broad areas: engaged performance, leading and learning, and historical/cultural awareness. Projects from the last year included: Singer Laura Hynes' recital in which she collaborated with the Aurora Women's Center to present a "social justice recital" focusing on the issue of violence against women; Laura Sindberg's Band Project in which students from the music education program at the University of Minnesota worked with beginning band students at Folwell School in Minneapolis, providing instrumental lessons that incorporated composition and improvisation; and Scott Currie's collaboration with Batucada do Norte under the co-leadership of Tim O'Keefe to support a series of joint rehearsals with MUS 5460 World Music Ensemble in preparation for a combined performance in the 2013 MayDay parade. Additional project descriptions can be found at https://music.umn.edu/engagement/happening/leadershipteam

Community Partners

Projects have occurred across Minnesota, though most take place in the Twin Cities metro area. Partners vary according to project though a few have begun to transform into sustainable relationships. For
example, Folwell School has hosted several engaged learning projects and the Cantus/University Choirs residency has become an annual event.

Impact

The Band Project at Folwell School provides music lessons free of charge to an under-served population while providing valuable teaching experience to future music educators. Providing access to arts education that leads to sustained involvement in school ensembles and other musical experiences will lead to evidence of impact. Teaching Artist grants to Sam Krahn and Ben Alle provided opportunities for music performers to create learning experiences for under-served populations in a charter school and assisted living center, expanding access to lifelong learning in the arts.

Announcements

Engaged Scholar Workshops:
Building the Engaged Public University through Teaching and Research
Engaged Scholar Workshops are designed to help University of Minnesota faculty take advantage of the benefits of publicly-engaged scholarship. This series of workshops will offer strategies for conducting publicly-engaged teaching and research through discussions with experienced community-engaged scholars, presentations of best practices, and activities to help scholars apply best practices to their own work. The fall semester's workshops will feature Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Arlene Carney and Associate Vice President for Public Engagement Andy Furco on various issues related to the promotion and tenure process. The series will continue with two workshops featuring interactive exercises to help faculty document the characteristics of quality community-engaged scholarship within their own work.

Constitution Day Tuesday, Sept. 17:
Myths, Realities of Affirmative Action topic of U of M event
Recent Supreme Court cases on admissions policies have thrown the issue of affirmative action back into the spotlight. Jennifer Pierce, University of Minnesota American Studies professor and author of Racing for Innocence: Whiteness, Gender and the Backlash Against Affirmative Action, tackles the myths and realities behind cases of reverse discrimination and affirmative action at this year's Constitution Day gathering, Tuesday, Sept. 17, noon to 1 p.m. at the University of Minnesota Bookstores in Coffman Memorial Union. All are welcome to this free event sponsored by the Office for Public Engagement.

Y-U Initiative for Urban Change:
Network Meeting, Sept. 19
Are you working on or are interested in urban issues pertaining to youth, healthy living, and social responsibility? If so, we encourage you to become part of the Y-U Initiative for Urban Change. The Y-U Initiative is the organizing/networking body for the various University-sponsored projects based at YMCA facilities. As one of the Twin Cities' anchor institutions, the YMCA provides a broad set of options for faculty, students, and staff to collaborate with urban youth, educational professionals, parents, community members and others across the Twin Cities to address critical urban issues. This year, the YMCA's across the Twin Cities are opening their facilities to U of M faculty, students, and departments interested in working on site-based community-engaged research, teaching, and service activities. The Y-U network will hold its first meeting on Thursday, Sept. 19, 9 to 11 a.m. at HHH 215 on the West Bank. All University affiliates working on urban-focused issues concerning youth, healthy living, and social responsibility are encouraged to attend. To attend, please RSVP to Diane Gihl at d-gihl@umn.edu by Friday, Sept. 13.

Public Engagement Issue Area Networks:
Planning meetings Sept. 26 to Oct. 1
The Office for Public Engagement is pleased to announce the launch of the University of Minnesota Public Engagement Issue Area Networks. The University-wide initiative is designed to strengthen the internal alignment of the various public engagement activities focused on a particular societal issue, but which are currently operating independently across various offices, units, and departments. The Issue Area Networks initiative is intended to link and encourage synergy among existing engagement projects, partnerships, and activities in ways that can leverage greater collective action and overall impact. A primary goal of this
initiative is to encourage the building of a more coordinated, systems approach to public and community engagement by networking existing community-engaged research, teaching, and public service efforts that are focused on large-scaled societal challenges and issues. Individual faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to attend one of the Issue Area Network planning meetings during Sept. 26 to Oct. 1. There will be nine planning meetings: arts, economic development, youth, health, poverty, environment and sustainability, transportation, food, and diversity and inclusion. If you are interested in learning more or joining a planning meeting, please contact Amber Cameron by Friday, Sept 20.

Community-Campus Network:
Seeking additional members
The Community-Campus Network (CCN) is a learning community for engaged faculty and staff (joined occasionally by students and community partners). We will be diving into some challenging questions this year: How can we bridge world views in partnerships? What are the (invisible) assumptions that guide us in partnerships that, when unexamined, can lead to conflicts? What does it mean for us to "represent" the University when we are in the community? What does it mean when we say someone from the community does (or doesn't) "represent" their community? The network meets the first Wednesday of the month during the academic year, in room 510 Morrill Hall. (In January, the network will meet on Jan. 8.) Join us for our first meeting on Oct. 2 from noon to 1:30 p.m.

CURA's Resilient Communities Project highlighted in The Chronicle of Higher Education
A recent article in The Chronicle of Higher Education mentioned the University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project. Over the last year, the program has worked with the City of Minnetonka on 14 projects covering topics such as affordable housing and mass transit. Funding for the program comes with a challenge as getting cities to contribute $200,000 is difficult. The program will next work with North St. Paul.

Events

- Sept. 17—Myths, Realities of Affirmative Action
- Sept. 17—Brown Bag Faculty Research Seminar Series: The Implementation of a Dental Initiative for At-Risk Children
- Sept. 20—Faculty Development Series: Issues and Opportunities along the Central Corridor Part I
- Sept. 25-27—Nibi and Manoomin: Building Lasting Relationships Conference
- Sept. 27—Faculty Development Series: Issues and Opportunities along the Central Corridor Part II
- Sept. 30—Lynton Colloquium on the Scholarship of Engagement: The Engaged Scholar and the Engaged Campus
- Oct. 3—Faculty Development Series: Issues and Opportunities along the Central Corridor Part III
- Oct. 8-9—Engagement Scholarship Consortium Conference
- Oct. 24—Engaged Scholar Workshops: Preparing for the Promotion and Tenure Process
- Nov. 4—Engaged Scholar Workshops: Documenting Engaged Scholarship: Enhancing Your Dossier for Promotion and Tenure Part I
- Nov. 6-8—International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement
- Nov. 19—Engaged Scholar Workshops: Documenting Engaged Scholarship: Enhancing Your Dossier for Promotion and Tenure Part II

Featured Resource

Anchor Institutions: An Interpretive Review Essay
The Anchor Institutions Task Force has announced their newest publication: Anchor Institutions: An Interpretive Review Essay. This publication looks at the research and writing on anchor institutions and the
role institutions of higher education and medicine can have in positively influencing and supporting communities specifically through community and economic development.

Call for Papers/Proposals

Call for Applications: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars (Deadline: Sept. 20, 2013)
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars supports postdoctoral scholars for two years of research. The foundation supports scholars who are interested in research on substantive population health concerns. Recipients will receive a stipend of $80,000 annually.

Call for Proposals: CCPH Spring 2014 Conference (Deadline: Sept. 30, 2014)
Community-Campus Partnerships for Health’s spring 2014 conference will take place April 30-May 3, 2014, in Chicago. The conference theme is: From Rhetoric to Reality: Achieving Authentic, Equitable & Transformative Partnerships. The conference draws hundreds of community members, faculty, staff, students, and policy makers from around the world.

Request for Applications: Pilot Studies Using Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) to Address Cancer Health Equity (Deadline: Oct 15, 2013)
The American Cancer Society’s (ACS’s) Extramural Grants Department—in collaboration with the Midwest Division of ACS—has announced a request for applications (RFA) for community-based participatory research (CBPR) projects focused on reducing the cancer disparities found in vulnerable and medically underserved populations across the entire cancer continuum. This RFA is for pilot or exploratory projects aimed at gathering data that will be used to develop an independently funded study. Researchers located in Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin are invited to apply for this award.

Call for Proposals: Global Spotlight Initiative Grant Competition (Deadline: Oct. 19, 2013)
The Global Spotlight Initiative is seeking proposals for its 2014 grants competition to support international research by faculty and graduate students with a focus on the region of South Asia and/or the issue of global food security. Global Spotlight is the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance’s biennial focus on a region of the world and a pressing global issue.

Call for Papers: International Undergraduate Journal for Service Learning, Leadership, and Social Change (Ongoing)
The International Undergraduate Journal for Service Learning, Leadership, and Social Change is accepting articles from undergraduate students on the development of service-learning projects and their impact on the community, case studies on service-learning projects, and reflections on service-learning and leadership. Visit above link for full details and submissions information.

Opportunities

Faculty Development Series: Issues and Opportunities along the Central Corridor
Together with leaders from seven Twin Cities campuses, MNCC has organized a series of short but informative sessions about priorities and partnership opportunities in neighborhoods around the new Central Corridor light rail line. This is a great opportunity to talk with community leaders focused on arts and placemaking (Sept. 20); jobs, entrepreneurship, and economic development (Sept. 27); and food and wellness (Oct. 3). This series of afternoon panels and discussions features experienced, insightful community leaders who will address neighborhood priorities, organizations, assets, and perspectives, as well as ways local colleges and universities might contribute to related efforts. These events are free and open to faculty and staff; advance registration required.

Researcher Needed for University District Alliance:
Project to development housing goals and strategies statement
A researcher is needed to work with the University District Alliance, an alliance of the four University Districts...
neighborhoods, University of Minnesota, and City of Minneapolis, to develop a comprehensive description of what types of housing are needed and/or desired in the district's neighborhoods and what strategies should be employed to accomplish housing goals. For information about the project, contact Housing Committee chairperson, Katie Fournier. Applications are due by Sept. 27.

**Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education call for reviewers**

The Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education is currently looking for individuals to serve as reviewers of manuscripts. Reviewers should be able to demonstrate background in and contributions to the fields of community-based learning and higher education policy. Interested individuals should submit an email of interest and an abbreviated copy of their vita to Cat Paterson, JCEHE Editor, Center for Community Engagement, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809; 812-237-2334.

The Office for Public Engagement is a unit of the Office for the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of Minnesota.

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