

Integrating Learning, Discovery, and Engagement through the Scholarship of Engagement

**Report of the Scholarship of
Engagement Task Force
North Carolina State University**

Final Task Force Report and Presentation –
Office of Ext., Engagement, and Ec. Development
[http://www.ncsu.edu/extension/documents/SET
2010.pdf](http://www.ncsu.edu/extension/documents/SET2010.pdf)



Agenda

- **Charge to the Task Force**
 - Dr. Pat Sobrero, Associate Vice Chancellor, Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development
- **Definition, Facilitators, and Challenges**
 - Dr. Joan Pennell, Professor and Director, Center for Family & Community Engagement
- **Task Force Recommendations**
 - Dr. Ellis Cowling, University Distinguished Professor At-Large Emeritus



Engagement Movement Nationally

- **1995** Dillman Study
- **1995** North Carolina Progress Board
- **1999** W. K. Kellogg Commission
 - Engaged University
 - Envisioned reciprocal partnerships that were defined by mutual respect and mutual learning among collaborating partners.
 - Seven Part Test



Engagement Movement at NC State

1999 - *“Commission of the Future of NC State”*

2000 - *Six Realms of Faculty Responsibility –
Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure*

2001 – *Vice Chancellor for Extension, Engagement,
and Economic Development*

2006 – ***Carnegie Classification*** for both **“Community Engagement”** and **“Outreach and Partnerships”** by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

 The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching



Classifications

2008 Community Engagement Classification

2008 Listening Sessions at NC State

- Executive Administrative Team
- Extension Operations Council
- University Standing Committee on Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development



Task Force

- Co-Chaired by Natural Resource Scientist and Social Scientist (Cowling and Pennell)
- Multi-disciplinary team with representation from NC State's 10 colleges & EEED units

Colleges:

- Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Design
- Education
- Engineering
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Management
- Natural Resources
- Physical and Mathematical Sciences
- Textiles
- Veterinary Medicine

EEED Units:

- Cooperative Extension
- Economic Development Partnership Program
- General Henry Hugh Shelton Leadership Initiative
- Industrial Extension Service
- McKimmon Center for Extension & Continuing Education
- Small Business and Technology Development Center



Task Force Charge 1

Develop recommendations regarding ***Evidence of the Scholarship of Engagement*** that can be included in documentation developed for Faculty Annual Performance Reviews and for Decisions about Faculty Reappointments, Promotions, and Conferral of Tenure.



Task Force Charge 2

Develop recommendations regarding ***Institutional Performance Indicators*** that can be used to record and evaluate accomplishments in the scholarship of engagement across the various colleges, departments, and other units with NC State University.



Task Force Charge 3

Review and develop recommendations regarding the **language currently being used to track engagement** (*integration of learning, discovery & engagement*) and the language that should be used in the future to track engagement within NC State University's Institutional research offices and budget offices.

UNIVERSITY PLANNING & ANALYSIS



Definition of Scholarship of Engagement

The **scholarship of engagement** is the collaborative generation, refinement, conservation, and exchange of mutually beneficial and societally relevant knowledge that is communicated to and validated by peers in academe and the community.



Widening Concept of Scholarship

- Challenging narrow definitions of academic scholarship,
- Going beyond products of discipline-based research,
- Identifying how the process of engaging in scholarship creates an intellectual environment,
- Stimulating knowledge discovery, integration, application, and teaching.





Addressing Counter Arguments

- **Undermining distinction between basic and applied research**
 - Need to assert researcher's independence from government and corporate control,
 - But distinction hard to maintain when research is addressing complex problems.
- **Deskilling students and confusing democratic values with academic ones**
 - Overemphasis on experiential learning without the necessary critical reflection on these experiences shortchanges students' development of intellectual skills,
 - But learning how to put democratic values into practice and create a better world for everyone is a significant academic accomplishment.

External Impetus

- Recent NSF, NIH, DOE, DEd, and USDA funding trends seek further application of theory to real-world challenges that require collaborative work that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries within multi-disciplinary teams.



What are Attitudes in Your Department toward Engagement?



- **Supportive**
 - Very positive attitude but need to broaden understanding of engagement
 - Very positive. Need though to translate into scholarship and research
- **Variable Support**
 - Treats engagement as a potential income stream [but] for P&T and faculty evaluation we mostly ignore engagement, treat it as a distraction from the real important business of research
 - Continuum from NO knowledge or respect for the work . . . to total respect for the scholarship of engagement
- **Unsupportive**
 - Frustrated that it is so hard to make the case successfully
 - Need for shared discourse

Earlier Faculty Recommendations for Reform of RPT Processes at NC State

Increased emphasis should be given to definition and articulation of “Values NC State Holds Dear” was formally adopted as the foundation for definition of “Six Realms of Faculty Responsibility” and the appropriate criteria for decisions about RPT guidelines and processes:

“Above all, North Carolina State University values excellence and distinction in creative scholarship that facilitates the increase and diffusion of knowledge, wisdom, and the moral dimension of intelligence.”

Six Realms of Faculty Responsibility

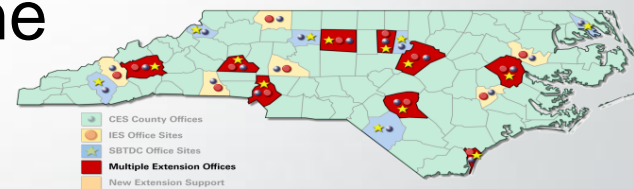
1. Teaching and Mentoring of Undergraduate and Graduate Students
2. Discovery of Knowledge Through Discipline-Guided Inquiring
3. Creative Artistry and Literature
4. Technological and Managerial Innovation
5. Extension and Engagement with Constituencies Outside the University
6. Service in Professional Societies and Service and Engagement Within the University Itself



NCARS Weather & Climate Network



Multiple Extension Offices



Earlier Faculty Recommendations for Reform of RPT Processes at NC State

Beginning in 2000-2003, individual faculty members worked with department heads to develop

“**Statements of Mutual Expectations**” (SMEs) that:

- Outline mutually agreed upon aspirations of the faculty member and expected contributions to goals of the department,
- Include approximate **distribution-of-effort** among one or more of “Realms of Faculty Responsibility,”
- Are used as part of criteria for decisions about salary increments, promotion, and conferral of tenure.

Recommendations from our Faculty Task Force on the Scholarship of Engagement

- **Recommendation 1.a. -- *Develop Statements of Mutual Expectations in the six realms of faculty responsibility that are relevant to:***
 - *the Goals of the UNC Tomorrow Initiative,*
 - *N.C. State University's response to this Initiative, and*
 - *N.C. State University's current priorities.*





Seven Goals of the UNC Tomorrow Initiative

1. Increase global readiness and competitiveness
2. Improve access to higher education, especially for underserved populations and regions
3. Help solve North Carolina's continuing public educational challenges
4. Enhance economic and community development everywhere in North Carolina
5. Improve public health, wellness, and well being
6. Provide leadership in energy and environment
7. Become more directly engaged and connected with the people of North Carolina

Enabling Legislation for the University of North Carolina System, G.S.116-1(b), 1971

- UNC is **dedicated to service of NC and its people**
- **17 Diverse Constituent Institutions** -- each shares in the overall mission of the university
- **Mission is to discover, create, transmit, and apply knowledge to address needs of individuals and society** -- including skills needed for productive and personally satisfying lives
- Accomplished through **instruction, research, scholarship, and public service** that contributes to **the solution of societal problems and enriches the quality of life in the state**

Recommendations from our Faculty Task Force on the Scholarship of Engagement

Recommendation 1.b. *Connect the faculty's Statements of Mutual Expectations to the departmental rules for reappointment, promotion, and tenure.*

Recommendation 1.c. *Use the published (2002) criteria developed by the National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement in evaluating scholarly achievements in any discipline.*

Recommendations from our Faculty Task Force on the Scholarship of Engagement

- **Recommendation 1.e. *Create guidance for documenting extension and engagement program accomplishments in the RPT dossiers.***
- **Recommendation 1.f. *Promote faculty, staff, and students professional development in the scholarship of engagement.***
- **Recommendation 1 g. *Support faculty, staff, and student mentoring programs in the scholarship of engagement.***



Recommendations from our Faculty Task Force on the Scholarship of Engagement

- Recommendation 3. a. *Recognize the importance of both economic and noneconomic social engagement impacts of university outreach, extension, and engagement programs.*
- Recommendation 3.g. *Increase transparency regarding budget allocations and accounting procedures to support achievements in the scholarship of engagement.*

**See Final Task Force Report and Presentation
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Economic Development Website:**

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Additional Slides for Information

UNC Tomorrow Recommendations

- Global readiness
- Access to higher education
- Improving public education
- Economic & community development
- Improving health and wellness

University of North Carolina Tomorrow





Enabling Legislation for UNC System, G.S. 116-1(b), 1971

- **UNC dedicated to the service of NC & its people**
- **Mission— discover, create, transmit, and apply knowledge** to address needs of individuals and society
- Accomplished through **instruction, research, scholarship, creative activities, and public service**