

Members

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Recommendations – Increase University Commitment by:

1. Establishing a Partnerships Office

This office should:

- Serve as a clearinghouse of information and expertise about and for University partnerships.
- Establish an advisory council that will include representation/input from across the University and throughout the wider community.
- Enhance proactive relationships with the communities surrounding Ohio University campuses and other communities that we serve in order to foster cooperation without competition and to improve cultural awareness.
- Secure a visible and accessible location for the Partnerships Office.
- Identify sources of training and technical assistance for and about partnerships.

2. Developing a Center for the Study of Appalachia

Establish a new academic center that will be a source of networking and support for multidisciplinary teaching, research, and service focused on Appalachia. Also, develop curricula in the study of Appalachia by drawing and building upon the interests and activities of many Ohio University faculty.

3. Reinvesting in Scholarly Civic Engagement

Support and expand experiences such as service learning and community-based research course projects so that students have academically rigorous experiences through working in real-life environments, and communities can benefit from the expertise and general contributions of faculty and students.

Accomplishments

1. University Outreach Office Established

A University Outreach Office was established on March 1, 2006, as part of the area of University Outreach and Regional Campuses (formerly Regional Higher Education). This office now serves as a central resource about and for University partnerships and community partners.

- Resources include staff expertise, Web-based information on best practices, and the new Partnerships Database.
- The University Outreach Council was convened and continues to discuss goals pertaining to outreach.
- The first annual Outreach EXPO is planned for April 13, 2007. It will include the first-ever Celebration of Teaching, Research, and Service in Appalachian Ohio.

2. Planning a Center for the Study of Appalachia

The University Outreach Office and a group of partners obtained an 1804 Grant to host a year of dialogue, benchmarking, and events to gather input and promote enthusiasm for a Center for the Study of Appalachia. Its formal proposal will be developed over the summer 2007.

3. Proposing a Community-Based Learning and Research Program

The University Outreach Office and the Partnerships Implementation Team submitted a proposal to the Vision OHIO Strategic Investment Process recommending the creation of a program or office that supports community-based learning and research.

The Future

Given positive outcomes of recommendations and accomplishments of the Partnerships Implementation Team, we will have accomplished our goals in regard to partnerships and expect the continuing work to be enhanced by the contributions of the Outreach Council and involved faculty, staff, students, and community members.

FOUNDERS DAY

