

Sustaining and Advancing Engagement 2017-2018 Annual Report



Office of Engagement



Overview

As per the Community and Civic Engagement Plan: *Sustaining and Advancing Engagement 2017-2020* completed in Spring 2017, the action steps for this year focused on aligning existing engagement work, and embarking upon new initiatives to support public engagement, campus collaborations and community partnerships, as well as our work with the University District and City of Greeley.

The focus is on the 4 dimensions of engagement that identify action steps to guide our work with a particular emphasis on strengthening how we assess outputs and impact.

1. **Engaged Teaching and Learning** represents 1 of the foundational pillars of our mission and the teacher-scholar framework.

2. **Engaged Research, Scholarship and Creative Works (RSCW)** represents another pillar of our institutional commitment to RSCW in the public interest.

3. **Reciprocal Community Engaged Partnerships** represents the ecology and systems approach we aspire to through community partnerships.

4. **Office of Engagement Logistics and Operations** is foundational for all other areas

Office of
Engagement
Logistics

Engaged
Teaching &
Learning

Engaged
Research,
Scholarship, &
Creative Works
(RSCW)

Community
Engaged
Partnerships



Dimension 1: Engaged Teaching & Learning

Community Engaged Learning (CEL) Course Designation

- Begun implementation in the fall to recognize and support engaged teaching and learning across the curriculum. We hosted 2 faculty peer-led workshops in the fall and 1 session in the spring.
- As a result, 5 different courses underwent rigorous review by engaged faculty, minor revisions or clarifications were made, and courses from the following colleges received the designation: Natural and Health Sciences, Education and Behavioral Sciences, and Performing and Visual Arts.
- Faculty were acknowledged for their work with a letter that can be included in their annual evaluation process.
- Door certificates/plaques were issued to faculty completing the CEL designation.



Assessment of Engaged Teaching & Learning

Assessment Mini Grant in Spring 2018: Awarded for work on “Refining assessment of community engaged learning: Documenting student knowledge and attitudes in courses coded with the Community Engaged Learning Designation”. CCE will collaborate with 4 faculty members teaching CEL designated courses to assess community engaged pedagogies and student learning and development, gathering qualitative data via reflective journals and focus groups and quantitative data via surveys.

Student Engagement Indicators: Continued collaboration with the Office of Assessment to examine institutional output, student data and feedback gathered through HERI and the senior survey about students’ perceptions of community engaged learning. Initial findings suggest differences in experiences and outcomes as a function of some or no CEL experience.

Benchmark Criteria for CEL: Includes requesting assessment indicators, such as engaged student learning outcomes and community impact to establish benchmark criteria (including assessment instruments and impact statements).

UNC Assessment Fair: Findings from a 2017-2018 Mini Grant, “Assessing engaged student learning: A study of student engaged learning across faculty, courses and contexts” were presented in a poster session.

CEL Student Data from courses in Fall 16, Spring 17, and Summer 17 indicate development across 3 areas, identified in UNC's *Guiding Principles for Student Engaged Learning Outcomes*:

- Academic and Professional Agency
- Social and Ecological Justice
- Engaged Citizenship & Civic Responsibility



Office of Engagement

Student voices on community engaged learning:

Classes with community engagement teach me lessons I otherwise would not have learned.

Having a community engagement class gives a new sense of priority and pride to education that I have not seen in a traditional class settings.

I see community storytelling and engagement as a vital key to my education and success here at UNC.

Not only are they [community engaged courses] the only classes that I truly learn in, they are the only classes I feel are worth my money.

Dimension 2: Engaged RSCW

Faculty Engaged Scholar: Following a campus wide call for proposals in Fall 2017, the Office of Engagement identified and selected Dr. Liz Gilbert to serve as the inaugural Faculty Engaged Scholar in Spring 2018. Dr. Gilbert collaborated on internal office projects and action steps, served as reviewer for the CEL course designation, and delivered a community professional development workshop with the City of Greeley on cultural humility.

Engaged Toolkit: Developed by the Faculty Engaged Scholar in collaboration with the Office, includes practical online resources and research information available through unco.edu/cce.

Support for Engaged Faculty: Reviewed and enhanced existing and new options to provide shared funding for engaged faculty research, community engaged scholarship and creative works (RSCW).

- Supported 4 faculty to participate in the National Engaged Scholarship Consortium (ESC) meeting in Birmingham, AL. and the Conference on Community Writing: Engaging Networks and Ecologies in Boulder, CO, in Fall 2017.

Civic Health and Equity Initiative [completed in Fall 2017]: A yearlong study spearheaded by Campus Compact of the Mountain West, involving UNC and 3 other distinct universities in Colorado, collaborating with communities to strategically investigate the impact of campus engagement on civic health and equity.

- Findings from UNC Civic Health & Equity Initiative were compiled in collaboration with the UNC Social Research Lab. and shared at 2 national forums, Continuums of Service Conference and Campus Compact National Conference, as well as via a webinar.
- The Office of Engagement hosted 2 community based informational debriefing groups in Spring 2018. The summary findings of this work are compiled in an **infographic** and written report.



Community Engaged Scholars Symposium

UNC hosted its 11th annual symposium and awards ceremony. Awards workshop & luncheon hosted over 80 campus and community attendees, followed by the poster session.

UNC Engaged Scholar Awards 2017

- Faculty: Michael Kimball, PhD (Anthropology, HSS)
- Graduate Student: Savannah Cormier & David Matheson (Campus Connections, CEBS)
- Undergraduate Student: Megan Bissell (HSS) [shown in photo]
- UNC Staff: Victoria Niccum (University Relations)
- UNC Partner: Elena Rosenfeld (High Plains Library District)
- Award for Excellence in Social Science Engaged Research: Whitney Duncan, PhD (Anthropology, HSS)



Phelps Family CAP Awards

Granted to 3 undergraduate students for their Contributions, Achievements, and ability to Pay-it-Forward.

- Hailey Gerton (CEBS)
- Marisol Jackson (CHSS)
- Nikea Minott (CNHS)



Office of Engagement

Dimension 3: Reciprocal Community Engaged Partnerships

Community & Civic Engagement Campus-Community Committee.

Revised and expanded participation to include community partners, adjusted to biannual meetings. Met once a semester during Fall 2017 and Spring 2018, followed by a final debrief in April.



Campus and Community Events

Office of Engagement collaborated and participated with existing campus and community programs that strengthen a range of diverse partnerships and mutual benefits:

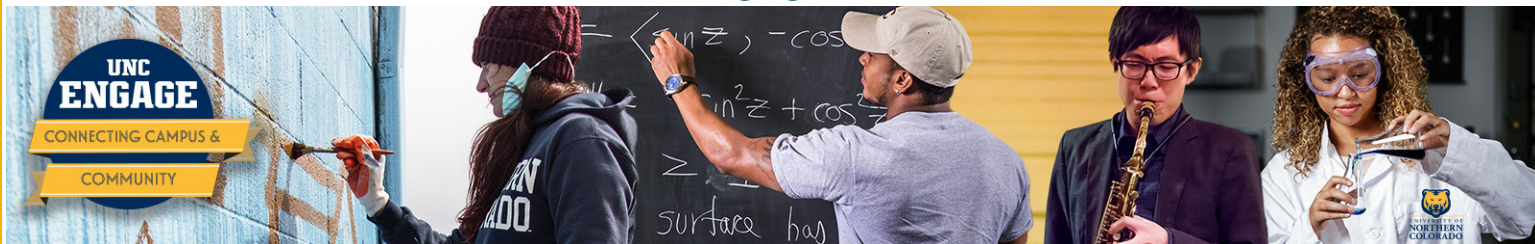
- UNC Community Fest, Sept. 23, 2017
- Greeley Multicultural Festival: To strengthen and support the arts and culture as key aspects, representative of fertile cross-disciplinary sites for campus-community engagement learning, Oct. 2017.
- CommUniversity, in collaboration with the City of Greeley, convened focus group meeting to discuss ongoing partnership work.
- Poudre River Forum, Feb. 2018: Including securing scholarships UNC students to participate.
- Civic Health & Equity Initiative report & forums: Plan to revise and administer the instrument in approximately 2 years.
- Launched call for proposal for **Bear in Mind CommUniversity** faculty forums/series to elevate UNC's role and position as a vehicle for lifelong learning and engagement.



Office of Engagement

Dimension 4: Office of Engagement Logistics

UNC Engage Portal



- Launched a web-based **Community Partner Portal** in Fall 2017, to provide an interface for community partnership building, student engagement opportunities, and data management and reporting, including enabling students to generate a co-curricular resume.
- Consulted with IM&T and registrar's office, and collaborated with academic units, athletics, HRE, and Student Engagement to onboard students, agencies and user groups.
- Outreach and engagement with 12 community partners and organizations to support building their institutional profiles, site management, and posting of community engaged opportunities.
- Roll out to first year students in Fall 2018.

Campus Commons

Collaboration and planning for reallocation of the Office of Engagement in Winter 2018, together with New Student Orientation, Career Services, Center for International Education, and GPS+.

Staffing

Transitioned out 1 graduate employee. Hired and trained 2 new graduate employees.

Work Study Position

Opening for replacement work study, following current student's graduation. This student has been with the Office for 4 years.

Campus Compact

Participation in regional collective impact work at the local and national level

Alignment with Campus Priorities

Discussion and planning in Spring 2018 with University College, CETL, and Student Engagement to identify opportunities for coordinating curricular and co-curricular engagement pathways to support student engagement, success, and campus climate.

CAP Phelps Family Scholarships

Worked with Office of Financial Aid, trained 2 staff members on Academic Works. Reviewed application in coordination with Development, to add a UNC Faculty/Staff Endorsement requirement. Increased promotion and applications.

External Consultation

With other campuses and universities, nationally and internationally considering applying for Carnegie Classification as an Engaged Campus or working to further institutionalize community engagement on campus.

By continuing to strengthen key aspects of academic and community engagement, presented here, we are enhancing our institutional mission to educate and prepare students for life and careers in a rapidly changing world.