

THE ENGAGED
SCHOLAR *Magazine*

Volume 5 • 2010



urban perspectives

Dr. Ade B. Olomu reviews medications with a patient.

Engaging Urban Patients in Their Own Health Management • Page 2

Published by:
**University Outreach
and Engagement**

Michigan State University
Kellogg Center, Garden Level
East Lansing, MI 48824

Phone: (517) 353-8977
Fax: (517) 432-9541
E-mail: outreach@msu.edu
Web: outreach.msu.edu

Associate Provost
Hiram E. Fitzgerald

**Director, Communication
and Information
Technology**
Burton A. Bargerstock

Editor
Linda Chapel Jackson

**Contributing Writers
and Editors**
Carl Bussema III
Amy L. Byle
Joe T. Darden
Hiram E. Fitzgerald
Catherine A. Gibson
Carla J. Hills

Art Director/Designer
Brian P. Cools
Cools & Currier, Inc.

Photography
Paul Phipps and
others as noted

Reviewers
Ghada Georgis
Brad Smith

CONTENTS

Foreword.....	1
► Urban Challenges in Health Care	
Engaging Low-Income Urban Patients in Their Own Health Management	2
Assessing the Health Care Needs of Lansing Area Latinos	4
Improving Health Outcomes of Medicaid-Insured Women and Their Babies in Michigan	6
Health Care in Urban Communities	7
► Community and Economic Development	
Building a Neighborhood Not Bounded by Geography.....	8
The Global Urban Studies Program.....	11
Urban Collaborators: Making the Transition From Student to Practitioner	12
Metropolitan Areas as Economic Engines.....	14
MSU Invests in Michigan's Largest City.....	15
► The Next Generation of Urban Citizens	
Discovering Patterns of Place	16
Bringing STEM Skills up to Scratch	18
Information Technology Empowerment Center	19
Birth to Work: A Community-Driven Framework for Systems Change	20
► Outreach and Engagement at MSU	
Snapshot of Outreach and Engagement at Michigan State University	22
News & Notes.....	23

The Engaged Scholar Magazine is published annually by University Outreach and Engagement, Michigan State University. The magazine focuses on collaborative partnerships between MSU and its external constituents—partnerships forged for mutual benefit and learning, with an emphasis on research.

All issues of *The Engaged Scholar Magazine* are available online at engagedscholar.msu.edu.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, send a request to esmag@msu.edu.

 *The Engaged Scholar Magazine* is printed on recycled paper made from 30% post-consumer waste.



Foreword

Over the course of producing five volumes of *The Engaged Scholar Magazine* between 2005 and 2010 we have observed a model emerging: Faculty members who are interested in a particular subject team up with a business, agency, or organization that is looking for practical information about how the topic applies to their situation. Under close faculty supervision and mentorship, students often design and carry out the surveys, lab tests, and other tasks that make this rather labor-intensive approach possible. They may also present their conclusions and recommendations to the client.

The students learn for themselves about the principles and practices of engaged scholarship; the faculty partners gain insight for further development of theories and models; and the community partners get priority questions answered.

But best of all is the refrain we have heard over and over from those who participate in this form of scholarship. For example: The Child Welfare Learning Collaborative, which matches students with appropriate agency experiences, “has enabled our agency to improve its quality of care in spite of budget cuts” (Sherri Solomon of St. Vincent Catholic Charities, issue 2); “Students in the Chance at Childhood

program are supervising parental visits... the program enables more parents to spend time with their children in a safe environment” (Joseph Kozakiewicz, issue 2); “It’s really the students who are doing the legwork that makes discoveries possible” (Mitch Smith, “Clean Chemistry,” issue 4); and “We accomplish a lot with a little” (Zenia Kotval, “Urban Collaborators,” this issue).

See page 12 to find out more about what Kotval calls the “smooth transition,” where teaching, research, and service all cycle around each other.

Linda Chapel Jackson
Editor

urban perspectives

“Michigan State University has had a long history of involvement in urban communities since the civil disorders of the 1960s. It is now time to elevate that commitment to meet the pressing needs of metropolitan areas during this period of economic transformation.”

Joe T. Darden • Page 14

THE ENGAGED
SCHOLAR Magazine

urban challenges in

► Engaging Low-Income Urban Patients in Their Own Health Management

Ade B. Olomu

Associate Professor, Medicine
College of Human Medicine

Obtaining quality health care is a challenge for many Americans. For homeless and low-income patients who have a history of coronary artery disease or diabetes, the barriers can be almost insurmountable. For one thing, they may encounter logistical problems in following dietary and other lifestyle recommendations. For another, assuring continuity of care is especially difficult in urban areas where services may be fragmented.

But what concerns Dr. Ade Olomu is the lack of adequate means to engage these poor and under- or uninsured patients in their own health care. “Self management of chronic conditions is so important,” she said. “If all we do is get them to take their medications and stop smoking—those are the biggies. We have to do a better job of connecting with these patients.”

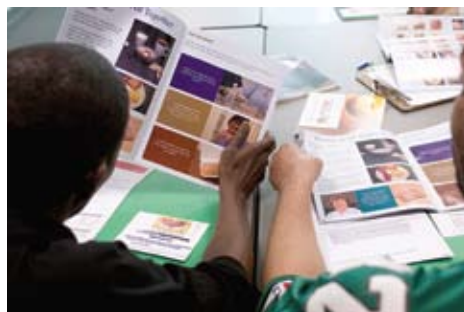
“These folks don’t ask questions. They don’t want to make waves.”

Ade B. Olomu



Ade Olomu (center) and project manager Annette Sokolnicki (right) review medications with a patient.

health care ▶ urban c



Annette Sokolnicki leads a group meeting with patients who are starting the Office-GAP program.

When she began to look for ways to address the problem, Olomu and her co-investigator Dr. Margaret Holmes-Rovner, professor of medicine in the College of Human Medicine, found willing collaborators at Ingham County Health Department (Drs. Dean Sienko and Jaeson Fournier) and Sparrow Health Center (Drs. Sugandha Lowhim, Jeffery Meier, and Dana Blander). The partners agreed that the key to closing the gap might be giving patients more opportunities and encouragement to discuss their issues. “These folks don’t ask questions,” said Olomu. “They don’t want to make waves.”

The partners’ solution pulls together a number of elements that are not entirely new in themselves, but which together target the needs of the clinic’s patients. With funding from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, Dr. Olomu and her co-investigators are testing the implementation of an outpatient program for cardiovascular and diabetic patients called the “Office Guideline Applied in Practice” (Office-GAP).

The core of the program is the use of a one-page “GAP Contract,” or agreement form, during every office visit. The GAP Contract lists all the

recommended medications and life style changes for the patient. After the doctor and the patient have reviewed this document together, both of them sign the form. “It’s very powerful,” said Dr. Olomu. “The patients take it home and put it on the refrigerator. We want them to know what they have to do to help prevent a heart attack.”



Tricia Ware of Sparrow Health Center discusses a case with Dr. Olomu.

Before starting the program, every patient attends a 90-minute group meeting in the clinic’s conference room. The aim is to have about six patients in each group. Project manager Annette Sokolnicki, a research assistant in the Department of Medicine, found a wealth of existing patient education tools available for use in the group meeting. For example, “There’s an American College of Physicians publication, *Living with Diabetes*¹, that’s very visual,” she said. “It has pictures of what a serving size should be, so it’s useful for non-readers.” The team shows a self-help video, *Living with Coronary Heart Disease*², and then goes over each patient’s medications individually. According to Holmes-Rovner, “The patients love the group visits and the video. It’s about shared decision making. They often don’t know they can negotiate issues with their doctor.”

(Continued on page 4)

¹ American College of Physicians Foundation. (2006). *Living with diabetes: An everyday guide for you and your family*. Philadelphia, PA: Author.

² Foundation for Informed Medical Decision Making. (2007). *Living with coronary heart disease* [booklet and video]. Boston, MA: Health Dialog.

(Continued from page 3)

“We’ve got 80-85 people in the program... They’re staying with us.”

Margaret Holmes-Rovner

For example, said Sokolnicki, “One guy was given a medication to take at night. He was having trouble because he works a night shift and the medicine was making him too sleepy to work. But his doctor didn’t know about the night shift, and the patient didn’t realize it was OK to ask about taking his medication in the morning. We help them formulate questions for their physician. They also learn from each other in the groups.”

Olomu’s team has been seeing positive changes in patients’ behavior. “Some patients have already quit smoking and started losing weight and taking appropriate medications,” she said. Holmes-Rovner added, “We’ve got 80-85 people in the program. Over half have done their follow-up appointment and updated their GAP Contract, and about 20 patients have completed the program. They’re staying with us.”

Feedback from doctors using the program has also been positive. “The Office-GAP program shared similar goals and objectives with the Ingham County Health Department’s Sparrow Health Center in providing quality health care and improving health outcomes, especially in the area of chronic diseases such as diabetes mellitus and heart disease,” said Sugandha Lowhim, who is chief deputy medical director for Ingham County Health Department and a physician at the Sparrow clinic. “By adhering to the GAP Contract patients were constantly reminded of how to improve the management of their conditions—a crucial element in delivering comprehensive care through multiple interventions such as smoking cessation, diet, regular exercise, and taking their medications as prescribed.”

Although anecdotal evidence is encouraging, the next step for the research team is to decide whether there’s enough data to support long-term, larger scale trials. “It’s easier to track patients over time now that electronic records are being mandated,” said Holmes-Rovner. Also, said Olomu, “We do have some preliminary data suggesting that patient knowledge about heart attacks has increased tremendously. But the first question we have to answer is: Can it be done in every outpatient clinic?” ●

Article by Linda Chapel Jackson



Receptionist Angela Smith, foreground, with staff of Sparrow Health Center. Dr. Lowhim and Dr. Meier are second and third from left.

▶ Assessing the Health Care Needs of Lansing Area Latinos

Linda M. Hunt
Professor, Anthropology
College of Social Science

Latinos are the most likely of all groups in the U.S. to lack health care coverage, with an estimated 32% uninsured as of 2007. “Most Latinos are employed, but they are overrepresented in low-wage and informal employment,” said Dr. Linda Hunt, who describes herself as a medical anthropologist. “Limited English proficiency and questions of legal documentation may further complicate their health care issues.”

In the spring of 2008, Hunt and graduate students taking an anthropology research methods class undertook a small exploratory study of health needs and care-seeking strategies of Latino families in Lansing. They teamed up with Lansing Latino Health Alliance (LLHA), a coalition established in 2003 with funding from Ingham County Health Department. “For LLHA,” said Hunt, “the study was an innovative step forward in their effort to assess the health needs of area Latinos and identify gaps in service.”

With LLHA’s assistance in recruiting participants, the researchers conducted in-depth interviews (in English or Spanish) with a cross-section of Latinos living in the Greater Lansing area. The interviews focused on what they saw as their most important health problems, how they dealt with those problems, and what health care resources they used.



Monica Kwasnik, Linda Hunt, and Olga Hernández-Patino discuss issues at an LLHA board meeting.



The researchers interviewed Lansing area Latinos about their health care resources and problems.

“Most Latinos are employed, but they are overrepresented in low-wage and informal employment.”

Linda Hunt



“We heard some amazing stories,” said Hunt. “One man had an emergency appendectomy that he thought would be covered by his insurer, and he only found out afterward that it wasn’t. Another person required eye surgery that was not covered by his health insurance. He found that it was cheaper to fly home to Costa Rica for the care. His total cost—including air fare, hotel, medical charges, and aftercare—was less than what the surgery alone would have cost in Michigan.”

Hunt also noted that “many of our participants were confused about what services and medications were covered and which doctors’ offices were willing to accept their plan. In some families every single person was covered under a different plan. Add this to the ever-shrinking extent of coverage and family members moving in and out of jobs...It’s an extremely complicated moving target.”

Her recommendations for LLHA included developing collaborative relationships with other advocacy groups; taking a closer look at access to specialists and dental and eye care; advocating for bilingual clinical services and patient information packets; and developing lectures or workshops for patients.

The best part of the project, said Hunt, was that “we found out a lot on a small budget. Students in my graduate methods class helped design and conduct the study. They did the interviews, processed the data, and helped with the analysis—it was a great exercise for them—and LLHA got some research questions answered for the cost of some tape recorders and food for the focus groups. It was a win-win situation.”

Dr. Olga Hernández-Patino, chair of LLHA and also chair of Lansing Community College’s Allied Health and Human Services Department, agrees that the collaboration has been a valuable one for the Alliance. “Each partner brought great insight as to the current health concerns



and challenges facing the diverse Latino population of Lansing,” she said. “The individual interviews and focus groups provided an essential starting point for understanding the myriad of health experiences this growing population confronts. This collaboration has promoted future partnerships and new grant opportunities to increase the collection of local data and the exploration of possible community-led solutions. LLHA has since partnered with the Ingham Health Department to provide HINI clinics and with the Michigan Department of Community Health to provide educational events that promote awareness and prevention of top health concerns for Latinos, among other special projects aligned with our mission.” ●

Article by Linda Chapel Jackson



From left: LCC staff member Deidre Denton with LLHA Board Members Connie Currier, Linda Delgado Kipp, Linda Hunt, Olga Hernández-Patino, George Mansour, and Monica Kwasnik.

“This collaboration has promoted future partnerships and new grant opportunities to increase the collection of local data and the exploration of possible community-led solutions.”

Olga Hernández-Patino

▶ Improving Health Outcomes of Medicaid-Insured Women and Their Babies in Michigan

Lee Anne Roman

Associate Professor
Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology
College of Human Medicine

Cristian Meghea

Assistant Professor
Institute for Health Care Studies
College of Human Medicine



Lee Anne Roman and Cristian Meghea

Imagine you are young and pregnant and living in difficult life circumstances in one of Michigan’s inner cities. You want what’s best for you and your baby, but you don’t know where to go or how you will pay for care.

Helping the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and local providers get the right type and level of pre- and post-natal care to Medicaid-insured women in Michigan in a cost effective and efficient way is the goal of Drs. Lee Anne Roman and Cristian Meghea and their research team.

In addition to MDCH-Medicaid and MDCH-Bureau of Family, Maternal and Child Health, they have worked with a number of partners across projects, including the District 10 and Kent, Detroit, and Genesee health departments, and Spectrum Health. In April of 2010 the MSU collaboration was extended to Ingham County Health Department and Sparrow Hospital. Susan Moran, who directs the MDCH Bureau of Medicaid Program Operations

and Quality Assurance, said that “the partnership with MSU researchers is valuable because it enables us to make data-driven program and policy decisions that will help communities best meet the needs of underserved pregnant women and improve health outcomes.”

In the Michigan Families Medicaid Project (MFMP) Roman and Meghea tested a comprehensive prenatal maternal risk screener and developed community system of care models. They found that while Medicaid provides a wide array of prenatal and postnatal services, the system can be difficult for women to navigate. In addition, “high-risk” pregnant women are not utilizing available services to the extent they could. All of the Medicaid-insured pregnant women in Michigan (approximately 55,000) have access to enhanced prenatal services (known in Michigan as the Maternal Infant Health Program—MIHP), yet only about 30% of the women in most urban settings participate in MIHP. By comparison, in many areas in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula the figure is over 50%.

Roman’s team developed a risk screening questionnaire that measures factors such as psychosocial aspects, health behaviors, basic needs (e.g., food and housing), and acute/chronic health conditions. The data go into a state data warehouse where they can be linked to service utilization, birth outcomes, vital records, and other screening information for approved evaluation and research projects. The MDCH has now mandated the use of this screening tool.

Using the risk screening data, Roman and Meghea have identified problems that could be targeted for care improvement. For example, 66% have unplanned pregnancies and 53% screen positive for depressive symptoms.

While population data help identify women at risk and service use, there is also a critical need to address engagement and retention of the highest risk women in care. In the past year, Medicaid-MDCH sponsored Roman’s and Meghea’s research in Kent County and Grand Rapids aimed at quality improvement (QI) of the system of care. Representatives from health plans, hospitals, and early childhood initiatives got together and, using various QI processes, mapped out a more streamlined system of care.



MFMP research assistant Gina Brooks (left) visits a patient.

“Women in most urban settings are more likely to have less favorable maternal and infant health outcomes when compared to other geographic areas in Michigan.”

Lee Anne Roman

perspectives on...

Health Care in Urban Communities

For our 2010 issue, The Engaged Scholar Magazine asked three prominent scholars for their "Perspectives" on academic engagement with urban communities. This interview is Dr. J. Randolph Hillard's response.

"If we screen 80% instead of 30% the costs will be higher, but the idea is you're preventing some bad outcomes in the future and an even higher cost."

Cristian Meghea

The next step in the team's research is to apply some of the recommendations that came out of this process in the community. Over the next three to five years they will track outcomes to determine whether these changes actually improve birth outcomes and mothers' health.

As Meghea explains it, "the ideal state would be for all the 50,000-plus women to get screened for risk factors early in pregnancy, and the information shared between providers, so that they get the risk-appropriate level and type of services to improve care." While this goal remains to be reached, Roman and Meghea have, through their research, made a significant contribution towards achieving it.

MFMP is supported by the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology and is part of a larger MSU commitment to the state of Michigan through the Institute for Health Care Studies. ●

Article by Catherine A. Gibson



Roman (left) and Meghea (right) with MDCH partners Aethia Carr (second) and Susan Moran (third).

A recent *Annals of Internal Medicine* study¹ ranked Michigan State University's medical colleges among the top U.S. medical schools for social mission, defined by the researchers as producing doctors who are minorities, practice primary care, or work in underserved areas. According to J. Randolph Hillard, Associate Provost for Human Health Affairs, this commitment extends across all of the University's human health programs. TESM talked with Dr. Hillard about the challenges involved in delivering health care services to urban communities.



J. Randolph Hillard
Associate Provost for Human Health Affairs
Professor of Psychiatry
Colleges of Human and Osteopathic Medicine

TESM: How do MSU's medical schools engage with urban communities?

JRH: The College of Human Medicine (CHM) has six regional campuses. The associate dean at each campus has the job of overseeing engagement. All of them give technical assistance on community boards. The College of Osteopathic Medicine has students in over 40 community hospitals across the state, including a new program in downtown Detroit at the Detroit Medical Center. Overall, more than 1,000 students and 1,000 resident physicians are providing clinical services.

The CHM's Institute for Health Care Studies has a strong history of successful collaborative partnerships. Denise Holmes, the director, has high-level input into state and community policy. The Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) facilitates team research in collaboration with community health care providers; CTSI promotes research with multiple sites across the state. Leadership in Medicine for the Underserved/Vulnerable is a clinical option for students that focuses on international issues at the Saginaw campus. The Flint campus focuses on public health.

TESM: What is your personal involvement?

JRH: I chair the Capital Area Health Alliance (CAHA). Along with other community agencies, we started a regional health information organization (RHIO). A RHIO is about sharing information. When I was in Cincinnati we had one, and I miss it. RHIOs lead to better coordination of care. For example, fewer patient tests are needed because the ones the patient has already had are available to other providers. Dr. Holmes brought in state money to get one here and President Simon was very supportive as well. Hospitals are oriented to being competitive rather than cooperative. There's no competitive gain for them, so they didn't originally see the benefit.

TESM: What are the urban issues in health care services?

JRH: The RHIOs are most important for urban areas. Even in Lansing where there are only two hospitals, it's a challenge to ensure coordination of treatment. The Obama administration is pushing it, particularly in urban areas where there are many service portals. In rural areas you've probably only got one option anyway so coordination is not an issue.

Also, health care is a possible industry for urban area growth. We're trying to become a magnet here, now that there's more cooperation between Sparrow and Lansing General. This is a focus of CAHA and also Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP).

¹ Mullan, F., Chen, C., Patterson, S., Kolsky, G., & Spagnola, M. (2010). The social mission of medical education: Ranking the schools. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 152, 804-811. Retrieved from annals.org/content/152/12/804.full?aimhp



2006

Mike Happy on
Dobel Street in
2006 (left) and
in the 1960s (below).

1960s



Building a Neighborhood Not Bounded by Geography

Jonathan S. Morgan, Doctoral Candidate
Media and Information Studies
College of Communication Arts and Sciences

Mike Happy wasn't happy.

The year was 2006. Happy had recently been hired as an online editor by the *Detroit News* and was trying to convince his friend and former colleague, Jonathan Morgan, to apply for a job there as well. The two had previously worked together at the *New York Times* online division.

"I came to Detroit for a visit and Mike took me around to the neighborhood where he grew up," said Morgan. The scene that met them on Dobel Street, on the city's northeast side, was appalling. The neighborhood had been a modest blue-

collar suburb in the 1960s and 70s. Now the homes Happy remembered as being filled with children, bicycles, and games were derelict—abandoned, boarded up, covered in graffiti. Fletcher Field, the park where Happy had played ball as a kid, was buried in weeds and trash. The streets were empty of pedestrians. "I could see he was pretty shaken up," said Morgan.

Morgan decided to accept an offer from the *Detroit News* and the two friends began discussing what to do about Dobel Street. The option of doing nothing did not occur to them.

Blogging Home

Not long after that first visit, Happy and Morgan rolled out the "Going Home" neighborhood blog at the *News*. Their first step was to find out who else cared. "We blogged about fixing up the park and invited former residents to a cleanup and picnic at Fletcher Field. Then we invited them back to a reunion at the local church. Almost a thousand people came. It was amazing," said Morgan.

“We partnered with the Detroit News neighborhood blog to train citizen journalists to cover their community in an impoverished Detroit neighborhood.”

Jane Briggs-Bunting

conomic development ▶

The blog quickly became the communication hub for the “Friends of Fletcher Field.” Since the first summer, said Morgan, the Friends have continued to hold reunions every year, work on and in the park, and recruit more people: “Mike and I are still active but now it’s mostly perpetuated by current and former residents. They’ve reconnected with local businesses and organizations. They’re building a network around a location that is not bounded by geography.” Current activities include a summer reading program, softball, a community garden, and holiday events.

More Questions Than Answers

The Fletcher Park project has been a success by any standard. As Happy noted, “People often want to help but they don’t know how. ‘Going Home’ told folks a not-so-happy story and then offered them a solution, a way to assist in changing the ending. The *Detroit News* is supposed to be the guardian of the city’s citizens, ensuring a strong democracy... Unfortunately, as the city shrank over the decades, the focus of the paper turned more toward the suburbs... ‘Going Home’ brought people from both sides of Eight Mile Road back together for a common good... That’s how it should be.”



2010



Friends eat, play, and read at a picnic in Fletcher Park.

But for Morgan, the success of the project led to more questions than answers—questions about how to hold onto the gains of a short-term success.

Enter Dr. Jane Briggs-Bunting, MSU professor of journalism, and the Tandem Project. “The idea was developed from a Knight Challenge grant,” said Briggs-Bunting. “We partnered with the *Detroit News* neighborhood blog to train citizen journalists to cover their community in an impoverished Detroit neighborhood. Software was created to assist in posting and collecting information. The hope was to replicate this in other areas.”

The software developer for the project was Morgan, who holds a bachelor’s degree in computer science as well as a master’s in journalism. “Jane had the Tandem Project and we had the blog,” he said. “At first we just wanted to make it easier for people to participate. Then we hatched a plan to use this way of doing journalism to teach students. We combined efforts and started looking for money.”

(Continued on page 10)

“People often want to help but they don’t know how...”

Mike Happy



Work party at Fletcher Field.



The new sign goes up.



Jonathan Morgan (in straw hat) chats with neighborhood residents at a Fletcher Field event.

1960s



2010



2006



Full circle: Fletcher Field and the neighborhood today.

(Continued from page 9)

Rebuilding Social Networks

The two developed a community journalism class and in 2008 they started teaching it at Wayne State University and University of Detroit Mercy. “We had kids out in the neighborhoods, trying to figure out what it took to get a blog started,” said Morgan. “At the same time, MSU was adding 300-level community news classes and a capstone 400-level ‘virtual newsroom’ class to its journalism curriculum. We’re still trying to figure out what the learning objectives are. For example, is it better to follow the same neighborhood or switch around? The 400-class students step back and help the 300-level ones. They’re starting to build resources for new kids from those who have done it before.”

In the fall of 2008, Morgan enrolled as a Ph.D. student at MSU. His long-term goals include “rebuilding the social networks

that used to support local papers, which made for better journalism at the bigger papers also. Jane and I are trying to figure out how to template this and scale it up using students as reporters. The challenge is how to get kids out to work there without doing any damage. They learn accountability—it’s live news! Their reports go directly online.”

The Tandem Project has been a good start. “We’re learning to be smarter about citizen contribution,” he mused. “They’re not expected to do it all. They gather the information and the students synthesize it. We create the continuity and get people excited about helping.

We’ve become a source for people looking to invest in Detroit. MSU could do a lot of good there.” ●

Article by Linda Chapel Jackson

“We’re learning to be smarter about citizen contribution. They’re not expected to do it all. They gather the information and the students synthesize it. We create the continuity and get people excited about helping.

We’ve become a source for people looking to invest in Detroit. MSU could do a lot of good there.”

Jonathan Morgan

The Global Urban Studies Program

Photos: this article courtesy of Laura Reese



Laura Reese
Professor, Political Science
Director, Global Urban Studies Program
College of Social Science



“We are able to bring together diverse ideas and experiences—both successes and failures—that can help us plan for a better future.”

Laura Reese



The Global Urban Studies Program (GUSP) at MSU, founded by Dr. Laura Reese in 2006, engages in rigorous graduate education and innovative interdisciplinary research that impacts and improves urban conditions throughout the world.

The Graduate Specialization in Global Urban Studies addresses political, spatial, cultural, and economic processes and issues in urban areas across the United States and the world, as well as the global processes that impact and unite urban areas. Course work includes foci on urban areas in the United States and abroad; urban areas in comparative context regionally, nationally, and internationally; and how the forces of globalization change urban areas.

As director of GUSP, Reese is familiar with many of the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing world and has built a multidisciplinary team to analyze many of the challenges common to urban areas, both locally and abroad, such as poverty, diversity, housing provision, transportation, economic development, public services, and citizenship.

“The wide range of academic disciplines represented in our faculty and the broad geographic scope of their research provide an ideal opportunity to gain new perspectives on these problems,” Reese said. “We are able to bring together diverse ideas and experiences—both successes and failures—that can help us plan for a better future.”

Reese’s own research currently involves work with the Detroit City Council. “The problems facing Detroit, and indeed older cities around the world, do not have any easy or quick solutions,” she said. “The present situation took a long time to develop and it will take considerable effort and political will to bring about the necessary changes. I believe high quality academic research that has a focus on improving policy is essential to this effort.”

Article by Carla J. Hills

For more information visit gusp.msu.edu



“This is induction by fire! Surviving Practicum builds great confidence.”

Participating student



Paige Seabrook and Paul Best present their “Feasibility Study for Blending Housing and Urban Agriculture.”

► **Urban Collaborators: Making the Transition From Student to Practitioner**

Zenia Z. Kotval

Professor, Urban Planning
 Director, Urban Collaborators
 School of Planning, Design, and Construction
 College of Social Science
 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

For community organizations and local governments, navigating the bewildering array of land use, zoning, safety, building, health, economic, cultural, and other issues that may impact even the smallest neighborhood revitalization project can be difficult. Urban Collaborators, a partnership funded by the Office of the Provost, MSU Extension, and the School of Planning, Design, and Construction (SPDC), brings together MSU faculty and students with community-based Extension educators to assist the process of planning, evaluating, and capacity building.

This partnership not only brings University expertise to bear on community issues; it also provides an opportunity for MSU faculty investigators to identify new

areas of research, test practical applications of theoretical knowledge, and share information with field professionals. In addition to mini-grants for capacity building and summer internships, Urban Collaborators also sponsors a Planning Practicum course that offers MSU students a way to make the connection between classroom instruction and its application to real-life challenges.

Dr. Zenia Kotval weaves all of these considerations into what she calls “a smooth transition, where research, teaching, and outreach all cycle around each other,” in the practicum class she co-teaches with Dr. Rex LaMore, director of MSU’s Center for Community and Economic Development.

The Urban Planning Practicum is designed as both an academic course and an outreach initiative of SPDC. The capstone course pairs final-semester students (both undergraduate and post-baccalaureate) with Extension educators and working practitioners to conduct a planning and evaluation study for a community client.

“We work primarily with about six core communities,” said Kotval. “But any city in Michigan can request a project. The proposals usually come in through our MSUE partners. While these studies are highly subsidized by the program, we do ask the clients for a small fee, usually about \$2,500 when an Extension field educator is involved, so they have a financial stake in the project. The money goes toward



What clients of urban planning partnerships are saying...

Kent County Weatherization Assistance Program

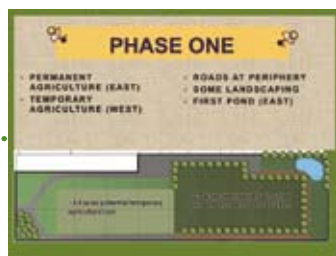
“Thanks to students, staff, and Carol Townsend, of Extension Kent County office. This is a large collaboration. We had to really come together to address utility problems. The students did a great job and made a presentation to the board that will help us in our next step as we move ahead with our community groups. Outstanding.”

**Karen Tolan, Associate Director
 Area Community Services Employment and Training Council**



“Urban Collaborators and its planning partnerships give faculty and students a constant stream of ideas for collaborative research on ‘real-world’ problems.”

Zenia Z. Kotval



“I learned more in this one semester than I did in my two years of graduate study.”

Participating student

expenses such as the students’ travel, data sets, copying and so on. We may waive or reduce the fee on occasion.”

The students design and carry out the work themselves. Each team of about half a dozen students works with a community organization, business, or local government authority to define the scope of the project, assess needs and opportunities, develop a plan, write a report, and present their findings to the client—an experience that is “essential for the progression of student to practitioner,” said Kotval. The Extension educators act as instructors and mediators in the field.

The process can be bumpy. Occasionally there is a mismatch among the needs of the client, the educational goals of the course,

and the expertise of program faculty and students. “The faculty member may have a defined research agenda that doesn’t have much room for compromise. Or the client may be better served by a discipline other than urban planning,” said Kotval. “Expectations can be unrealistic on both sides.”

For Kotval, the key to success is pinpointing the right scope of work. “Some projects are bigger than students can or should undertake,” she said. “But for the right size project, we do very well. We accomplish a lot with a little.” She pointed with pride to a study of neighborhood typologies and resident opinions about various revitalization options that her students completed for

the City of Lansing in 2007: “We did it on a shoestring. A comparable city paid a consultant about \$200,000 for theirs. And I think our study was better.”

The “smooth transition” comes full circle with the many scholarly publications, presentations, and training materials that have resulted as Kotval reports back to the academic community about the partnership model and its evolution. “Urban Collaborators and its planning partnerships give faculty and students a constant stream of ideas for collaborative research on ‘real-world’ problems,” she said. “Most of my work is applied. I’ve been doing this for 15 years and I am still passionate about it.” ●

Article by Linda Chapel Jackson

Greening Mid-Michigan Toolkit

“It’s been a pleasure working with the team. They’re a hardworking and talented group. Their presentation to Ingham County Parks Commission resulted in a resolution of support for their recommendations. This was my first time as a client. I look forward to doing it again.”

**Harmony Gmazel, Land Use Planner
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission**

Blissfest Music Organization Tourism and Renewable Energy Feasibility

“We knew this would be valuable but we had no idea how valuable. We have used some of your preliminary ideas already. So thank you very much for the thoroughness of your project.”

**Dale Hull, Consultant
Blissfest Music Organization**

perspectives on...

Metropolitan Areas as Economic Engines

For our 2010 issue, The Engaged Scholar Magazine asked three prominent scholars for their “Perspectives” on academic engagement with urban communities. This essay is Dr. Joe T. Darden’s response.



Photo by Catherine A. Gibson

Joe T. Darden
Professor, Geography
College of Social Science
Dean, Urban Affairs Programs (1984-1997)

The world is experiencing two major population changes: There is an increasing movement of populations to large metropolitan areas, and urban populations are becoming more diverse. Today, two-thirds of Americans live in the 100 largest metropolitan areas. Moreover, the United States population (due largely to immigration) is now one-third non-White and 68% of the nation’s non-Whites reside in the 100 largest metropolitan areas.¹

If metropolitan areas are to reach their full potential as engines of economic growth, university involvement is essential—via faculty research, knowledge-based community assistance, and student research internships. Michigan State University has had a long history of involvement in urban communities since the civil disorders of the 1960s. It is now time to elevate that commitment to meet the pressing needs of metropolitan areas during this period of economic transformation.

“If metropolitan areas are to reach their full potential as engines of economic growth, university involvement is essential—via faculty research, knowledge-based community assistance, and student research internships.”

Joe T. Darden

¹ Brookings Institution. (2010). *State of metropolitan America*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program.

² Darden, J., Hill, R., Thomas, J., & Thomas, R. (1987). *Detroit: Race and uneven development*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

³ Atkinson, R., & Gottlieb, P. (2001). *The metropolitan new economy index*. Washington, DC: The Progressive Policy Institute.

⁴ U.S. Department of Labor. (2010). *Bureau of Labor statistics 2010: Employment statistics for selected cities and their metropolitan areas*. Washington, DC: Author.

How the Transformation Occurred

During the 1980s U.S. metropolitan areas started to experience the negative effects of economic restructuring. The process of restructuring involved a substantial decline in manufacturing employment (which pays higher wages) and an increase in service employment (which pays lower wages). It also involved the spatial relocation of most jobs to the suburbs, creating a *spatial mismatch* for those left behind in the central cities.²

Spatial Mismatch

Spatial mismatch, i.e., the separation of place of residence from place of work, is the result of discrimination and segregation in housing and employment.² It systematically perpetuates socioeconomic inequalities between residents in the cities and those in the suburbs. These disparities manifest themselves most dramatically in higher rates of poverty and unemployment. This has been especially true for many central cities of the Midwest as manufacturing continues to decline. Today many cities and their metropolitan areas are experiencing high rates of unemployment. However, some are addressing the economic downturn better than others through innovation and adaptation.

Adaptive Efficiency and Adaptive Equity

Adaptive efficiency, i.e., the ability of companies and metropolitan economies to innovate and improve their efficiency so as to compete effectively,³ has made some metropolitan areas engines of economic growth. However, it’s important that this efficiency be combined with *adaptive equity*, i.e., the balance of growth between city center and suburbs. To achieve this, successful metropolitan areas must maintain the proper private and public investment in the *central city core*, in order to ensure a high percentage of middle class residents who both work and live downtown.



Effective Political Leadership and Collaborative Relationships

Effective political leadership of the central city is also critical. The elected political leader of the largest municipality in a metropolitan area must establish cooperative and collaborative relationships and agreements with the many surrounding suburbs. This may involve the creation of a powerful growth coalition representative of the city and the suburbs, together with business, industry, and the educational and community sectors.³ This coalition must operate on behalf of the entire metropolitan area. It must engage collaboratively to: (1) recruit new firms and a highly skilled workforce (including immigrants); (2) work cooperatively with educational institutions; (3) prioritize investments in the infrastructure (aimed at balanced city and suburban job growth); and (4) improve the quality of life for all classes in the city and suburbs.

Key Strategies for Success

In conclusion, those metropolitan areas that are best able to combine adaptive efficiency and adaptive equity will continue to have higher rates of employment in both their central city and their suburbs, and will have a low unemployment rate *gap* between the city and its suburbs, e.g., Boston, Minneapolis, and Houston.⁴ Moreover, combined with effective political leadership, they will continue to be the best examples of metropolitan areas as engines of economic growth. Such metropolitan areas will likely be a top priority for federal funding under President Obama's federal funding to cities agenda. Michigan State University needs to be ready to engage with metropolitan areas when this funding is received.

MSU Invests in Michigan's Largest City

Michigan State University maintains a strong portfolio of youth programs in Detroit. Two locations offer a wide array of educational and developmental activities for young people.

MSU-Detroit Partnerships Office at YouthVille

The MSU-Detroit Partnerships office serves as a hub for University partnerships in Detroit and Wayne County, especially projects that focus on youth, community, and economic development. The MSU-DP office is located at Detroit YouthVille, a short distance from the MSU Outreach Admissions office. Current research and outreach projects at the YouthVille facility include:

- A study examining children's use of information technology (Linda Jackson, Psychology).
- The Good Schools Resource Center for K-12 schools (Barbara Markle, Education).
- A collaboration with the Michigan Coalition Against Domestic Violence to build capacity of programs for survivors (Cris Sullivan, Psychology, and Sheryl Kubiak, Social Work).
- A partnership with the Metropolitan Street Art Academy to bring suburban and urban youth together to share learning, art, and cultural events (Carl Taylor, Sociology).

Community Music School Detroit

The Community Music School, originally located in East Lansing, is the outreach division of the College of Music. In fall 2009 a second CMS site was opened in Detroit to serve the Southeast Michigan community.

- Current CMS Detroit program offerings include jazz, composition, early childhood music education, music therapy, and the New Horizons Band for adults.
- Research projects include an investigation of the role of early childhood music instruction in the cognitive development of low-income toddlers and preschool children (Cynthia Taggart and Rhonda Buckley; in partnership with Focus: Hope).

The building also houses College of Education teaching interns.



the next generation of



Alice Brinkman and Anita Skeen



Student work is displayed at Reach Studio exhibition, April 2010.

Photos by Brian Cools, Catherine A. Gibson and Linda Chapel Jackson

► Discovering Patterns of Place

Anita Skeen

Professor and Arts Coordinator
Director, Center for Poetry
Residential College in Arts and Humanities (RCAH)

Anita Skeen first became involved in “urban things” right after high school, when she was a playground supervisor for four summers at a school in a housing project in Charleston, West Virginia. The concrete playground where Skeen worked was across the river from a chemical plant that blackened her white blouse each day. As Skeen and her colleagues became aware of how few opportunities the kids had access to, they began to provide arts, sports and other experiences for the children. She remembers thinking that in urban areas, kids’ lives seemed to be “lived on concrete and they needed something besides that.”

Fast forward a few decades and Professor Skeen is still involved in many urban projects. The idea for Patterns of Place came from Alice Brinkman of Reach Studio Art Center, in Lansing, and Laura Delind, an anthropology professor with RCAH. According to Skeen, the project’s aim is to provide Lansing School District youth aged 7 to 18 with the opportunity to explore their own neighborhoods in REO Town and see them with “new eyes,” making full use of their senses and producing creative works in the form of poetry, photography, printmaking, and painting. As Skeen put it: “I wanted these kids to be proud of where they’re from and to notice the things in their neighborhood that nobody notices. Pay attention to what’s beautiful that people skim over a lot.”

Brinkman, says Skeen, has been “the driving force behind that for a long time and works hard at providing [after-school] programming for these kids.” She has brought in numerous people to work with them, including MSU graduate students who mentor the kids. Starting in 2009, Skeen and her MSU colleagues, including Mark Sullivan and Laura Delind, led two-week sessions on poetry, photography, printmaking and painting for youth ages 7 to 18.

The result of the poetry workshops Skeen conducted with the 7 to 12 year olds was a group of about 11 budding haiku poets. According to Skeen, who was assisted by graduate students Fredy Rodriguez-

“That’s mine. I did that.”

of urban citizens ► the



I see the sunset.
Many colors fill the sky:
Orange, purple, red.
~Aubree Muethel
Sky on fire, oh no!
need to take cover now,
action.



“I wanted these kids to be proud of where they’re from and to notice the things in their neighborhood that nobody notices. Pay attention to what’s beautiful that people skim over a lot.”

Anita Skeen

Mejia (anthropology) and Igor Howatt (music), “We took the kids all around the neighborhood on a ‘haiku hike’ and spent a lot of time talking about how you perceive the world through your senses... then we took them out with note books for about an hour and a half and walked around the neighborhood.” Every so often Skeen would say “Stop and write.” After they returned to the Reach center, the kids read out what they had written. The following week Skeen taught them about haiku poetry and had them write their own haiku poems.

Of the experience, Rodriguez-Mejia said, “Working with Professor Skeen has been an invaluable learning experience. Serving as a mentor, a poet, and a teacher, Anita made every poetry workshop we taught a very special experience.”

The 13 to 17 year olds attended the program for both semesters. Since they had already taken some photographs, Skeen had them write poems about their pictures. First they wrote something about their own photo; then they wrote a response to another person’s photo. When their creations were exhibited at the Lookout Gallery at RCAH, along with the younger children’s works, each photo was displayed along with the artist’s comments and the observer’s response to the photo. Skeen commented that the kids “brought their parents and their grandparents. It was just wonderful to see how this could turn a corner in their lives. They might have written a haiku poem and heard people say, ‘Ah, look at that.

Isn’t that wonderful?” The kids replied, “That’s mine. I did that.”

In April, 2010, Brinkman and Jessica Johnson, an undergraduate student in the RCAH, turned a storefront on Washington Avenue in Lansing into an art gallery displaying the works of the kids and teens from the spring semester. Speaking of MSU’s and Skeen’s involvement in this project, Brinkman said, “This has been truly a wonderful collaborative project. Anita’s experience as a poet, her gentleness, and her passion as a writer have provided a unique opportunity and inspiration for our youth to express themselves through poetry and writing.” ●

Article by Catherine A. Gibson

Bringing STEM Skills up to Scratch

George Stockman

Professor, Computer Science and Engineering
College of Engineering

From the way George Stockman bustled about the computer lab, you would have thought he had nothing on his mind but tutoring the dozen or so middle-schoolers whose programming projects were displayed at workstations around the room. In fact Dr. Stockman, a professor of computer science and engineering, was also pursuing a long-term interest in how kids learn science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills. “We’re jointly creating a curriculum here, integrating math and computer concepts,” he said. “Between the experienced teachers and the receptive kids, we’re working on methods before we scale it up.”

“The kids are working with Scratch,” explained Stockman. “It’s a fun program they can use to create and mix music, animations, and video. At the same time they’re learning about basic computer concepts and object-oriented programming. The program is free. Anyone can download it from MIT.”

The class is offered through Lansing’s Information Technology Empowerment Center (ITEC). ITEC grew out of a collaborative effort among local business, government, nonprofit, and education partners. Stockman chairs its board of directors. ITEC offers free and low-cost afterschool programs—like the one Stockman was tutoring at St. Stephens Community Church on Lansing’s eastside—designed to get kids excited about science and math.



Learning about computer programming the fun way.

According to ITEC executive director Kirk Riley, “It shouldn’t be just more regular school and it should be fun.” And these kids were definitely having fun. One was making a small cartoon character dance and change color; another was figuring out how to add music to a video. Stockman was having fun right along with them, admiring the cartoon character’s antics and intoning vocals into a microphone as the young multimedia artist fiddled with various controls. Other ITEC volunteers—MSU students Meryl Mabin, Ed Corcoran, and James Salehi—also moved around the room, assisting as needed.



“We’re jointly creating a curriculum here, integrating math and computer concepts. Between the experienced teachers and the receptive kids, we’re working on methods before we scale it up.”

George Stockman



Pat Barnes-McConnell and George Stockman with Scratch class.

“MSU undergrad interns are creating some great materials. They look at things in a whole new way.”

George Stockman

Stockman believes that one major factor in the program’s success is parental engagement. “The home-schooled students actually do very well,” he said. “Their parents are all very engaged. They value what we’re doing.” Another is staffing: “We have a staff of four for 14 to 18 kids. It makes a huge difference. It’s easier to see if somebody’s getting lost.” Support from the community partners who host classes is important too: “Kids need snacks, exercises. They need to get up and move around.” He is also pleased with the involvement of MSU undergraduate interns. “They’re creating some great materials. They look at things in a whole new way,” he said.

He points out, with pride, the creativity and resourcefulness of both the individual and the organizational partners who keep the project afloat: “Pat Barnes-McConnell is a retired MSU professor of Resource Development. Her church got a grant and bought some computers, and they’re hosting this class at St. Stephens. Eugene Cain, the Chief School Administrator of Shabazz Academy, is a member of her church, so now the Shabazz kids go to the St. Stephens sessions. TechSmith is working with Impression 5 to put on a week-long

camp at the science center. We’d really like it if I-5 could become a locus for Lego robotics competitions and Scratch workshops.”

Dr. Cain echoed the enthusiasm and energy surrounding the project. “George is wonderful. Our children really look forward to the program. I wish I could have given them more time with him,” he said. “Technology is a more serious activity to them now. They are seeing a new aspect of computers. You can use them to create—games, animations—from your own mind.”

The partners in this venture are committed to the long term. “We want to become a permanent expectation, so kids can look forward to an ITEC activity,” said Stockman. “But people have to value the effort it takes to get that. It makes no sense that high schools in MSU’s shadows are failing.” Other educators may blame the urban environment for this failure, but Stockman doesn’t think so. “An isolated rural area can be just as bad,” he said. “The gap is between individual schools in the communities. It’s about your community.” ●

Article by Linda Chapel Jackson



Photo courtesy of Impression 5

Information Technology Empowerment Center

The Information Technology Empowerment Center (ITEC) is a nonprofit collaboration among MSU, local schools, the technology sector, and community and government organizations. ITEC develops and offers free or low-cost programs designed to encourage kids’ interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Located in the former Holmes Street School in Lansing, ITEC connects underserved populations with local access to computers and high-speed Internet, while providing valuable technology skills to prepare kids to succeed in a high-tech economy. ITEC offers programs on Saturdays, after school, and during the summer.

Current ITEC programs include:

- **Alice 3-D Graphical Programming**
- **Digital Media Arts**
- **MATLAB**
- **Lego Robotics**
- **Scratch**
- **CS Unplugged**
- **Science of Game Design**
- **Technological Independence**

For more information visit iteclansing.org

perspectives on...

Birth to Work:

A Community-Driven Framework for Systems Change

For our 2010 issue, The Engaged Scholar Magazine asked three prominent scholars for their “Perspectives” on academic engagement with urban communities. This essay is Dr. Hiram E. Fitzgerald’s response.

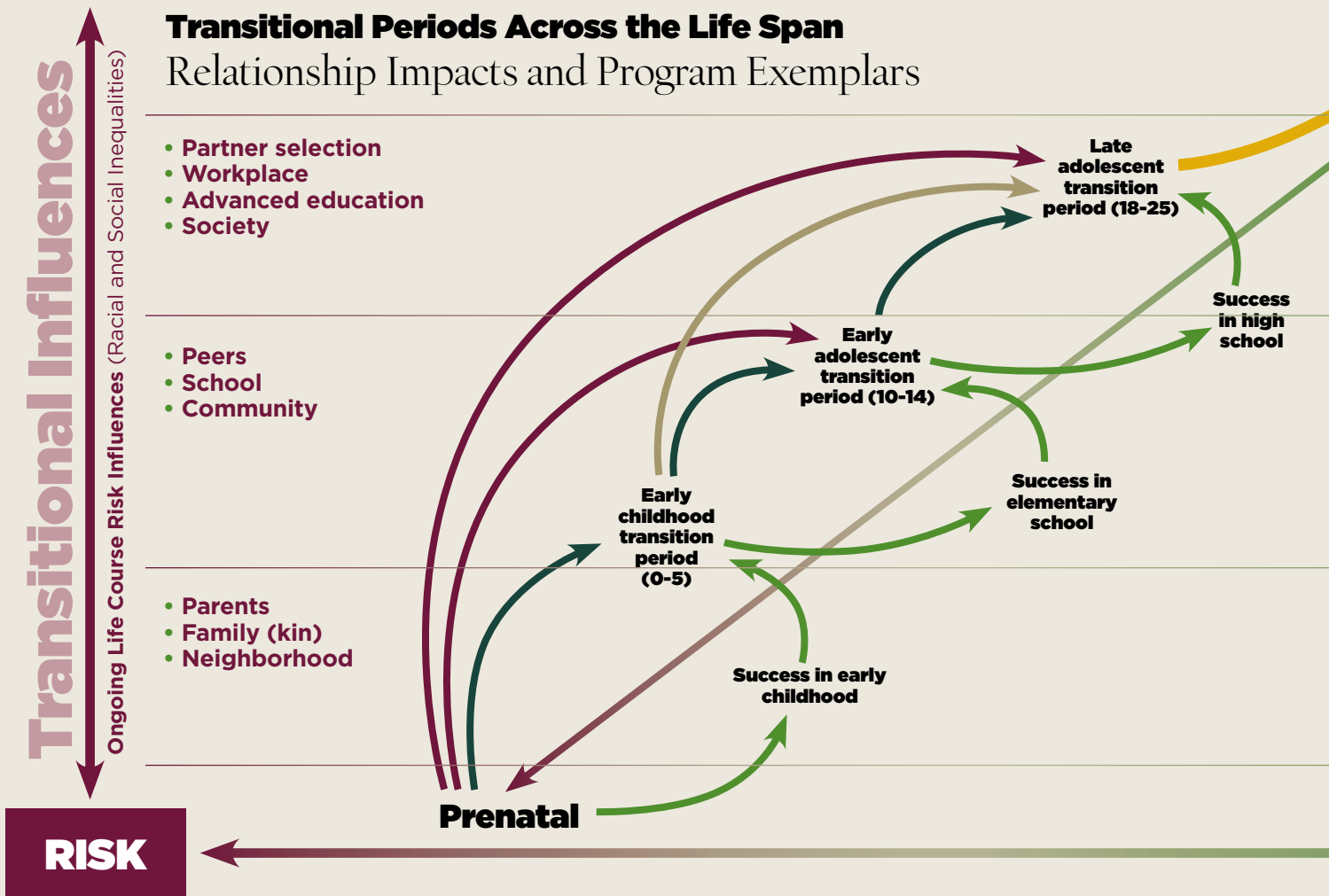


Hiram E. Fitzgerald
Associate Provost
for University Outreach
and Engagement
University Distinguished
Professor, Psychology
College of Social Science

Using the “Power of We” to Transform Communities

Birth to Work (BTW) is a framework for systems network building and community transformation. It was developed by combining the resources of the Michigan Capital Area community, represented by the Power of We Consortium (PWC) and its various coalitions and agency partners—Ingham County Health Department, Capital Region Community Foundation, Lansing Community Economic Development Corporation, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, Lansing Community College, and Michigan State University—to promote positive transitions from birth to adulthood for all children in the metropolitan region, with special emphasis on those living in areas of concentrated poverty.

Nearly four years ago, the BTW framework was imagined and developed through a co-creative process that began with a hallway conversation where folks were trying to build a thematic connection among the Power of We, Community Foundation, and Michigan State University. We were searching for a way to organize PWC’s extraordinarily diverse coalitions and partners around a common thematic in order to facilitate stronger connections to the diverse evaluation and research capacity of Michigan State University. Brainstorming somehow led to “birth to work” as a way of characterizing the breadth of PWC coalitions and agencies, and we have been co-creating this systems change concept ever since.



“Birth to Work is about building and maximizing the resilient pathways that enable each individual to become a productive and engaging member of a civic democratic society.”

Hiram E. Fitzgerald

Targeting Systems Change

The BTW framework targets systems change by integrating and improving existing systems to form a seamless web of supports at key points in human development: birth to kindergarten, the middle school years, and emergent adulthood. Because it is a systems-based framework, it posits that systems change must take place at multiple levels—individual, family, neighborhood, and community—in order for children to successfully negotiate the first 25 years of the life cycle.

Mapping the Risk-Resilience Continuum

The BTW framework is based on what appears to be a simple concept, that, in fact, is extraordinarily complicated. The concept is the risk-resilience continuum. This continuum posits that over the life course every child’s life space can either be described as risk-oriented or resilience-oriented, and that this description will change within and across segments of the

life cycle. So, children can be at risk because of individual characteristics, family characteristics, or social environment characteristics. When at risk, events can maintain or exacerbate risk, or risk can be reduced through appropriate family, community or social system interventions.

As indicated in the graphic at left, the BTW framework is both vertical (life course) and horizontal (dealing with present issues), utilizing both feed-back (what happened in the past should be linked to current performance) and feed-forward principles (what is happening now should influence future performance), in ways that encourage preventive interventions, schools, parents, and others to view the life course as interconnected and continuous. Thus, programs targeting youth can pool their resources, integrate across missions, and bring more cohesion, resource sharing, and economy to current interventions, while simultaneously focusing on longer-term impacts. Cross-cutting risk factors such as racial and social inequities are addressed openly so that public policies and public behaviors can be shifted from the risk to the resilience side of the continuum.

Enhancing Resilience, Reducing Risk

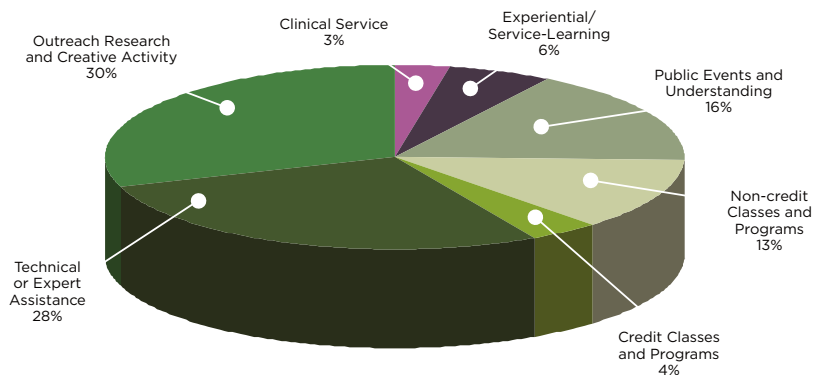
The BTW framework is designed to enhance children’s resilience experiences and reduce their risk experiences, especially during the three core transitional ages previously noted. As it has evolved, the BTW framework goal is to help build successful individuals, families, and communities and maximize the resilient pathways that enable each individual to become a productive and engaging member of a civic democratic society. To reach this lofty but essential goal requires the integrated input of family, community, education, faith based institutions, law enforcement, business, and all other facets of civic society.

What began as a Lansing regional approach to systems change is now evolving with partnerships in Flint, Detroit, Dearborn, Battle Creek, and Kalamazoo. Because it is community based, the BTW framework will vary from one community to another, but its underlying structure will hold true: Provide the necessary optimal environments that will build opportunities for every child in Michigan to move successfully from birth to adulthood with the skills necessary to be a productive, successful, and civically minded participant in the knowledge economy of the 21st century.



Sponsored by MSU's National Collaborative for the Study of University Engagement (NCSUE), the Outreach and Engagement Measurement Instrument (OEMI) gathers data about the outreach activities of MSU faculty and academic staff. The information is self-reported and participation in the annual survey is voluntary. Data for 2009 were collected between January and March 2010 and represent the sixth year of data collection; 827 faculty and academic staff responded to the survey. Since 2004, 2,725 distinct (non-duplicative) respondents have reported their outreach and engagement through the OEMI. For this snapshot, OEMI data are augmented with data from the service-learning and civic engagement student registration system.

Forms of Engagement Reported by MSU Faculty and Academic Staff in 2009



PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES

OEMI results for 2009 include the following:

\$15,944,218

Value of salary investment by MSU faculty and academic staff in addressing issues of public concern (data from those reporting outreach activities on the OEMI)

97.3%

Respondents whose outreach contributed to achieving **Boldness by Design (BBD)** imperatives:

76.5% Enhanced the student experience

79.8% Enriched community, economic, and family life

46.9% Expanded international reach

66.4% Increased research opportunities

60.4% Strengthened stewardship

700

Number of specific projects/activities reported

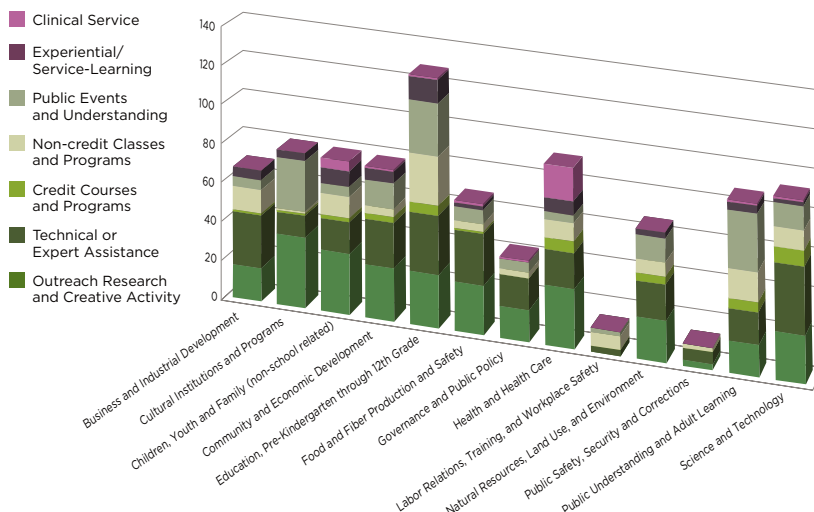
Of the respondents who described specific projects/activities:

46.6% Reported working with external partners

42.5% Reported having created intellectual property and scholarly outcomes

34.1% Reported that their outreach work impacted their scholarly or teaching practices

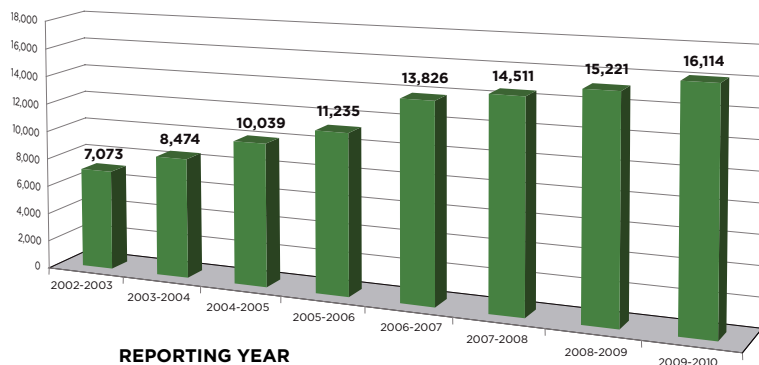
Forms of Outreach Cross-Tabulated with Societal Concerns for 2009



NUMBER OF RESPONSES

The number of "responses" is greater than the number of "respondents." Respondents were given the opportunity to describe their engagement activities for up to two areas of social concern; each description was counted as a separate response.

Number of Student Registrations for Service-Learning Received and Accommodated (2002-2010)



NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS

NCSUE

NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE FOR THE STUDY OF UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT

Awards

MSU Receives Presidential Community Service Award

MSU has been named to the 2009 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. MSU has received the honor each year since 2006, the year the honor roll was instituted.



Davidson's Adolescent Diversion Project Receives Carter Partnership Award

The Adolescent Diversion Project (ADP), founded in 1976 by Dr. William S. Davidson II (Psychology), has received the 2010 Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter Partnership Award for Campus-Community Collaboration. The award is given annually by Michigan Campus Compact to one partnership involving a Michigan college or university and a community group. Over ADP's 25-year operation more than 4,000 youth have been diverted from the local juvenile court, with dramatic reductions in repeat offenses.



Grabill Wins Outstanding Book Award for Civic Scholarship

Jeffrey T. Grabill, Professor of Rhetoric and Professional Writing and Co-Director of the Writing in Digital Environments (WIDE) Research Center, was given the Outstanding Book Award for Civic Scholarship by *Reflections: A Journal of Writing, Service-Learning, and Community Literacy*. Grabill's book, *Writing Community Change*, was chosen from a competitive field of nominations by a prestigious panel of scholars.



Thorp Receives Prestigious Award for Service-Learning Contributions

Dr. Laurie Thorp, director of MSU's Residential Initiative on the Study of the Environment, has been honored by Michigan Campus Compact with a Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award. This prestigious annual award is the highest MCC bestows. Thorp has involved MSU students in a range of environmental protection and education projects, all designed to promote and implement quality community engagement focused on sustainability and to foster an ethic of active citizenship in students.

Transitions



Elledge Promoted to Associate Director of UARC

Michael S. Elledge has been promoted to Associate Director of MSU Usability/Accessibility Research and Consulting, where he has served as an assistant director since 2006. In his new capacity, Elledge will expand client contact and business development, as well as continue project management, usability testing, and facilitation.



McNall Promoted to Associate Director of CERC

Miles A. McNall has been promoted to Associate Director of UOE's Community Evaluation and Research Collaborative. He will lead "The Evaluation Circle," a professional development program that is designed to build capacity of students and faculty in program evaluation and community-based research.

New Resources

Transformations in Higher Education: The Scholarship of Engagement Book Series

In partnership with MSU Press, the National Collaborative for the Study of University Engagement has created a new book series designed to provide a forum for examining the issues, challenges, and opportunities surrounding engaged scholarship. The first publications in the series, *The Handbook of Engaged Scholarship: Contemporary Landscapes*, *Future Directions* (Vols. 1 and 2, edited by Fitzgerald, Burack, & Seifer, 2010) and *Democracy and Higher Education: Traditions and Stories of Civic Engagement* (Peters, 2010), are available from MSU Press.

msupress.msu.edu

Planning in the 21st Century Global Knowledge Economy

A new website developed by the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development offers comprehensive support for community planners, students, and citizens. The site provides information about collaborative regional strategies and other innovative approaches.

knowledgeplanning.org

Evaluation and Community-Based Research

The Community Evaluation and Research Collaborative (CERC) has published a list of links to resources for evaluation and community-based research on its website. Topics include program evaluation, data sources, grant writing, logic models, and research assistance available at MSU.

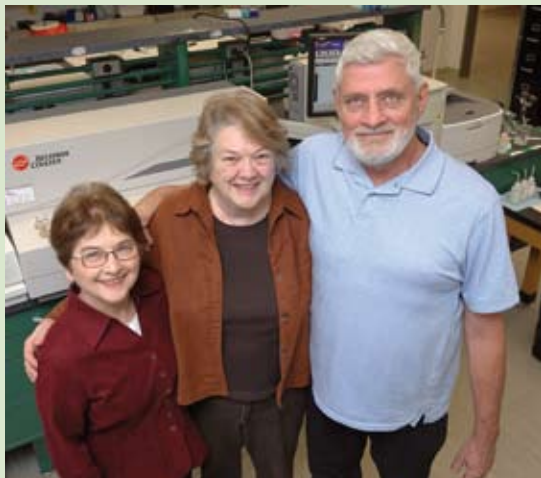
outreach.msu.edu/cerc/resources

The Engagement Exchange Briefs

The Engagement Exchange is a new publication series from the National Collaborative for the Study of University Engagement that provides faculty leaders and administrators with timely, relevant information to assist them in strengthening outreach and engagement activities on their own campuses.

ncsue.msu.edu

Deafness Research and Education Work Receives 2010 Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award



Rachel Fisher (center) with Dream-M Team members Rose Smith (left) and Clare Koenigsknecht (right).

MSU geneticist Dr. Rachel Fisher and the Deafness Research Across Mid-Michigan (Dream-M) project were named co-recipients of the 2010 Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership Award during the annual MSU Awards Convocation in February.

For the Dream-M project, Fisher and a team of MSU scientists worked with members of a mid-Michigan farmland community for more than a decade to identify critical information related to genetic hearing loss.

While collecting family histories, the research team discovered

the hearing loss involved five related families in the area, where residents were predominantly descendants of German immigrants. Working closely with deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals, their families, and other members of the community, they were able to identify several mutations in two genes that cause the inherited deafness. Over time the partnership was formalized to include two community advisory boards, an ethics committee, and a research advisory committee.

The success of the Dream-M project led to the development of a new initiative partnered by this community and MSU researchers, Community-based Cooperative for Studies Across Generations (CoSAGE), to discover local genetic factors that contribute to common diseases such as Alzheimer's and breast cancer and translate the information into meaningful interventions.

For more information about Dream-M visit engagedscholar.msu.edu/enewsletter/volume2/issue1/.

About the Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership (OSCP) Award

The OSCP Award provides University-wide recognition of highly engaged community-based research collaborations that positively impact both the community and scholarship. Each year, one award is conferred upon an MSU researcher and her/his designated community partner. Each receives a stipend. The award co-recipients (researcher and community partner) are recognized at the University's annual Awards Convocation.

Nominations may be initiated by faculty, administrators, colleagues, students, or community partners; self-nominations are also welcome. Nominations are submitted to the dean of the college or administrator of the major administrative unit (MAU) in which the nominee is appointed, and must have the endorsement of the dean or administrator. The college or MAU then forwards the nominations of eligible candidates to University Outreach and Engagement (UOE).

For more information contact Hiram E. Fitzgerald at fitzger9@msu.edu or Carla J. Hills at hillsc@msu.edu, call UOE at (517) 353-8977, or visit outreach.msu.edu/awards/oscpa/.

Mark your calendar...

November 2010 - February 2011
Call for Proposals: 12th Annual National Outreach Scholarship Conference

Engaged Scholarship and Evidence-based Practice

To be hosted by Michigan State University at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, October 2-4, 2011.

outreachscholarship.org

January 2011
Nominations Due for Kellogg/Magrath Engagement Awards Program

The *Outreach Scholarship W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Award* is an annual regional award that recognizes outstanding outreach and engagement activities. Nominations (including self-nominations) are encouraged. Each year two projects are selected to represent the University in the regional competition. Projects that win regional awards become finalists in the competition for the national *C. Peter Magrath University/Community Engagement Award* presented by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.

outreachscholarship.org

February 8, 2011
All-University Awards Convocation
Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center

The ceremony includes presentation of the Outreach Scholarship Community Partnership (OSCP) award in recognition of a mutually beneficial sustained campus-community research partnership. outreach.msu.edu/awards/oscpa/

About University Outreach and Engagement

University Outreach and Engagement (UOE) connects university knowledge with community knowledge in mutually beneficial ways. UOE assists academic departments, centers, institutes, and MSU Extension on priority issues of concern to society by encouraging, supporting, and collaborating with MSU faculty and academic staff to generate, apply, transmit, and preserve knowledge.

Hiram E. Fitzgerald Associate Provost

Michigan State University
Kellogg Center
Garden Level
East Lansing, MI 48824

Phone: (517) 353-8977

Fax: (517) 432-9541

Web: outreach.msu.edu

E-mail: outreach@msu.edu

The UOE Associate Provost is supported by the advice of two important councils:

Outreach and Engagement Campus Senior Fellows, a group of faculty who have distinguished themselves through careers as engaged scholars

Outreach and Engagement Community Senior Fellows, comprising leaders from government, business, foundations, and nonprofit organizations

For lists of these individuals, see outreach.msu.edu/people.

Contact University Outreach and Engagement to learn how you can become more active in the MSU engagement enterprise.

outreach.msu.edu

University-Community Partnerships

Patricia A. Farrell, Assistant Provost for University-Community Partnerships

UCP facilitates research collaborations between MSU faculty and community-based partners to address a wide variety of societal issues.

Center for Community and Economic Development

Rex LaMore, Director

Located in central Lansing, CCED works to improve the quality of life for people in distressed Michigan communities through responsive engagement, strategic partnerships, and collaborative learning.

Community Evaluation and Research Collaborative

Laurie Van Egeren, Director

CERC provides a hub for university-based evaluators and conducts participatory program evaluation in the areas of education, youth development, early childhood, health, and community development.

Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement

Karen McKnight Casey, Director

CSLCE provides curricular and co-curricular service-learning and engagement opportunities for MSU students and helps faculty integrate service-learning into their courses.

Communication and Information Technology

Burton A. Bargerstock, Director

CIT provides public access to information about university-wide outreach initiatives through the Internet, as well as consulting and product development services for websites, databases, publications, graphic design, and event management.

Usability/Accessibility Research and Consulting

Sarah J. Swierenga, Director

UARC conducts research and evaluates new interface technologies to ensure that they are useful, usable, accessible, and appealing to a broad audience.

Wharton Center for Performing Arts

Michael J. Brand, Executive Director

Wharton Center educational programs connect students to the performing arts by offering a wide range of programs suited to a variety of learner needs.

Michigan State University Museum

Gary Morgan, Director

The MSU Museum reaches a broad public audience through collections, field- and collections-based research, public service and education programs, traveling exhibits, and innovative partnerships.

Arts and Cultural Initiatives

C. Kurt Dewhurst, Director

UOE Arts and Cultural Initiatives facilitates research collaborations between MSU faculty and community-based partners using arts and culture to foster effective inclusive communities and cultural economic development.

Estate and Wealth Strategies Institute

Robert A. Esperti and Renno L. Peterson, Co-Directors

EWIS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing strategies for wealth, estate, business, and charitable planning.

National Collaborative for the Study of University Engagement

Burton A. Bargerstock and Laurie Van Egeren, Co-Directors

NCSUE is a national innovator, conducting studies about faculty roles and rewards as well as facilitating conversations on benchmarking, engaged scholarship, and the scholarship of engagement.

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
EAST LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 21

This is 4.5" x 2.5"
No varnish here.

**University Outreach
and Engagement**
**Michigan State
University**
**Kellogg Center
Garden Level
East Lansing,
Michigan 48824**

Subscribe now.

University Outreach and Engagement's *Engaged Scholar E-Newsletter* is a quarterly supplement to *The Engaged Scholar Magazine*. The more frequent publication schedule allows for timely updates about upcoming events, partnerships, and other announcements. To subscribe, e-mail esenews@msu.edu or call Carla Hills at (517) 353-8977.



Outreach and Engagement