Towards an Engaged Institution
SPC Engagement Workgroup

Core Theme: Engagement

Goal:
Montana State University students, faculty and staff will be leaders, scholars and engaged citizens of their local, state, national and global communities, working along-side community partners through the mutually beneficial exchange and application of knowledge and resources to improve the human prospect.

Measurable Outcomes:

- By 2017, all MSU students, faculty and staff will have a meaningful engagement/outreach experience during their time at MSU.
- By 2017, MSU will have increased the number of students actively participating in the number of student organizations while also actively increasing the number of student organizations with a focus in engagement activities.
- By 2017, MSU will have a campus-wide coordinating infrastructure to support and advance engagement.
- By 2017, the number of faculty scholarly products with students will increase 20%.
- By 2017, the number of MSU students participating in meaningful cross cultural study, work or service experiences, incorporating both academic preparation and post-trip reflection, will double.
- By 2017 the number of students, faculty and staff involved in outreach and engagement activities with underserved and minority populations will increase.

Other Discussion Points:

- Faculty, staff and students help improve the lives of the citizens of Montana by increasing the range of educational opportunities.

Themes in Comments:

- MSU should be fostering: leadership, partnerships, outreach, research, service learning, etc.
- Accomplishing any of this requires institutional structures and support (faculty incentives)
- Many felt the “How” was missing
- The metrics are two “inward” focused. We need to include outreach and other stakeholders (faculty, staff, communities)
- “Meaningful” needs to be defined
- Measuring the number of student organizations isn’t effective. Student organizations are important, but should measure # of students.
- The research metric is very ambitious, and would require more graduate students
- The coordinating infrastructure is good!