

Resolution on Campus Definition of Community Engagement

Whereas community engagement is central to Sacramento State's identity and culture as an engaged campus dedicated to making a difference beyond the classroom; and

Whereas our colleges and departments are committed to infusing community engagement into many of our curricular and co-curricular opportunities for students; and

Whereas our centers and institutes partner with our broader community to promote cultural and economic growth and innovation in the Sacramento region; and

Whereas our campus continuously strives to meet our high standards for equitable, reciprocal, and mutually beneficial engagement; and

Whereas, because of our collective efforts, our campus earned the prestigious elective classification for community engagement from the Carnegie Foundation in 2010, 2015, and 2020; and

Whereas, in the current re-classification cycle, we have revisited our definition of community engagement, which currently is identical to the Carnegie Foundation's definition, to make it our own; and

Whereas, our revised definition is the product of an ongoing collaborative process including review by the Carnegie Re-Classification for Community Engagement Steering Committee, the Anchor University Advisory Committee, the Community Engagement Center, the Division of Inclusive Excellence, and the President's Office; and

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate for Sacramento State also hereby endorses the following revised definition of community engagement for our campus:

At Sacramento State, community engagement refers to reciprocal and collaborative partnerships between our university and diverse communities at local, regional, national, and global levels for the mutually beneficial, equitable, and inclusive exchange of knowledge and resources. The purpose of community engagement at Sacramento State is to enhance teaching and learning; to enrich scholarly and creative activity; to prepare educated, engaged community members; to strengthen democratic values and civic responsibility; to identify and respond to critical societal needs; and to advance social justice and contribute to the public good.

Community engagement at Sacramento State is guided by the following core values:

- **Reciprocal Partnerships:** We prioritize reciprocal partnerships characterized by mutual respect and shared decision-making. These partnerships strive for co-creation and co-learning and recognize the unique contributions and perspectives of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.
- **Advancement of Social Justice and the Public Good:** Our engagement efforts seek to address critical social issues and contribute to the common good of society. By leveraging the collective resources and expertise of our university and community partners, we work towards promoting equity, justice, and inclusive prosperity for all.

- 49 • **Equity-Oriented Collaboration:** We are committed to fostering fair, equitable,
50 and inclusive collaborations that distribute benefits and burdens equitably among
51 all participants and thus reject activities that are exploitative and/or extractive.
52 This commitment to equity also includes ensuring equal access to high-impact
53 engagement opportunities for students, recognizing and valuing the community-
54 engaged work of faculty and staff, and addressing the unique needs, contributions,
55 and perspectives of historically underserved communities and communities of
56 color.
- 57 • **Caring Interdependence:** We acknowledge the interdependence between our
58 university and broader communities, recognizing that both are essential for the
59 well-being and vitality of our region. Our engagements are characterized by
60 respect, care, and sensitivity towards our shared history, cultural diversity, power
61 dynamics, and mutual reliance on one another for collective success.

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63 We are committed to integrating community engagement into every aspect of Sacramento
64 State's mission and operations. University-community partnerships that exemplify the
65 abovementioned values are the responsibility and privilege of our entire campus
66 community.
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