



Distinguished Community Engagement Award - Staff

Introduction

The Carnegie Foundation describes community engagement as, “the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.”

Engagement is an integral component of our land-grant mission because it establishes partnerships with the citizens of New Mexico, the nation, and the world so they are actively engaged in the exciting work of our faculty, students and staff. Community Engagement involves collaborative teaching, research, and/or outreach that enables learning to take place beyond the campus walls and makes discoveries useful beyond the academic community.

The Community Engagement Awards were established to recognize individual and group, faculty and staff at New Mexico State University (NMSU) who have rendered exceptional engagement to New Mexico communities (community is defined as “a group of people with a common characteristic or interest”).

General Information

A. Category

- **Staff Community Engagement Award:** Recipients will have demonstrated outstanding achievement in and commitment to community outreach and engagement by having established a project and/or initiative that has a record of sustained impact and achievement.

B. Award Amount

- **Staff Community Engagement Award: \$500.00**

Application Process and Requirements

Substantive and detailed information outlining the individual's or group's program and how it meets the Community Engagement Awards criteria should be submitted at <https://vped.nmsu.edu/nmsu-ce-award/> by November 16, 2015. Completed application forms must include:

- A 1,000-word (max.) summary, 200 words (max.) in each of the five sections, addressing the following:

1. **Significance of the Community Engagement Partnership:** Abstract: This abstract should summarize the community engagement activity and partnership.
2. **Relationship and Reciprocity between the University and Community:** What brought the university and community together as partners? How does such engagement fit into the mission, values and organizational structure of your department/unit or the university? Who are the key community and university partners? How did the university and community work together? What was the role of each partner and what was accomplished?
3. **Impacts:**
 - 3.1 **Impacts on Community Partners:** What has been the impact in the community? Impacts should include, but not be limited to economic, social and educational impact within the community, as well as additional grants and contributions received.
 - 3.2 **Impacts on University Partners:** How has academic excellence and/or scholarship (research, teaching, creative activity, outreach) been integrated into this initiative?
4. **Lessons Learned and Best Practices:** What challenges did the community and university partners face through this partnership and how were those challenges met? What were the benefits of this partnership? What conclusions and best practices can be drawn from the partnership?
5. **Future:** What are the future plans for this partnership?

Timetable of Activities

Applications accepted beginning: Immediately

Applications due: November 16, 2015

Award: Spring Convocation January 18, 2016.