



University of Missouri – St. Louis Civic Action Plan May 2017

Civic engagement and community collaborations have always been at the heart of the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). As a land grant institution, it is built into our mission. As a member of Campus Compact, we work alongside institutions across the nation to advance the public purposes of higher education by supporting community-based teaching, learning, research, and practice to improve community life and educate students for civic and social responsibility.

Campus Compact 30th Anniversary Action Statements:

We empower our students, faculty, staff and community partners to co-create mutually respectful partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities beyond the campus – nearby and around the world.

We prepare our students for lives of engaged citizenship, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.

We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities – economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.

We harness the capacity of our institutions – through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practice – to challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future.

We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.

VISION/MISSION

"Civic engagement means to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and nonpolitical processes."

~Thomas Ehrlich (*Civic Responsibility and Higher Education*, American Council on Education/Oryx Press, 2000, p. vi)

The University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL) was founded in 1963 as a land-grant institution with the responsibilities of teaching, research and engagement. A part of the University of Missouri System, UMSL was created to meet the needs of the local community, providing higher education to area residents, and therefore has a strong commitment to the St. Louis region. Through collaboration among faculty, staff, students, institutions and community partners, UMSL engages in programs to improve the quality of life in local communities as well as those nationally and internationally. In line with our mission statement, these collaborative efforts reflect responsiveness to community needs as they strengthen and prepare our graduates to achieve lifelong success and make meaningful contributions to a diverse, global and interdependent society.

The university remains committed to civic engagement and articulates this commitment in the strategic plan: **“an enriched UMSL experience with enhanced relationships and more research and community engagement integrated into student learning to fulfill our metropolitan land-grant mission.”** The civic focus is on creating new and more effective community partners.

We strive to be a university where civic learning and engagement is pervasive, where people think critically, where deliberative conversations and engaged research address real-world problems, where diversity and inclusive practice is not just an ideal, but a reality, and where collaboration is commonplace. We want all UMSL students to have the competence and confidence to be informed and engaged citizens both now and throughout their lifetimes and to take an active role in community life. We will address these goals **through the academic curriculum, research and scholarship, integrated community partnership activities, volunteerism, and personal and professional development opportunities, so that UMSL students, faculty and staff will have the capacity to be informed, empowered and active participants in creating a more robust, equitable and livable community.**

APPROACH—STRATEGIC ORGANIZING FOR IMPACT

Since its founding, community engagement has been an integral part of the UMSL mission and identity. First and foremost, the university provides accessible opportunities for higher education for a diverse community. Faculty connect their course work with community organizations; students, faculty and staff volunteer at area nonprofit organizations as both individuals and during organized service events; faculty and staff share their expertise through service on community boards; and the campus hosts a variety of events which benefit the community.

Geographically located in the northern portion of St. Louis County, UMSL serves as an anchor institution for the area. The university is involved in the economic development of the community, providing employment opportunities for area residents, and investing talent and resources to support and revitalize the locale. We are invested in education for area youth preK-12 through integrated programs with local school districts and precollegiate programming. We also provide an accessible and affordable option to area residents for higher education. Health, safety and the environment are other priority issues for the university. We have a new Patient Care clinic where we offer optometric services, and will soon be home to one of a very few medical clinics in the community. Our internationally accredited campus police department works in partnership with emergency responders in the community, and our campus sustainability coordinator connects the university with area environmental issues. We are also a vibrant center for arts and cultural programming.

UMSL is proud of our commitment to the community and the connections that we have instituted throughout the last several years as well as our support of civic learning. This current Campus Compact Civic Action Planning connects well with our overall University Strategic Plan, and addresses several areas of institutional programming including the Anchor Institution Dashboard project and our Campus Master Plan. UMSL also has a service-learning leadership advisory team composed of representatives from every college, a community organization, a student along with the Director of Community Outreach & Engagement and the Director of the Center for Teaching & Learning. Furthermore, we have established teams that plan for campus-wide engagement initiatives (e.g., Constitution Day and Civic Engagement Day).

The Campus Compact Action Statements have provided a different frame for our conversations on engagement and have encouraged us to review and think strategically about how we have or want to implement these on our campus. While considering each of these statements, we noticed that there is significant overlap in many of the ways that we currently address or intend to address our impact goals. Though not mutually exclusive, below are some of the actions we are discussing.

PLANNING TEAM—DRIVERS OF CHANGE, CONNECTORS

With many opportunities including national elections and related recognition initiatives, as well as the Campus Compact 30th anniversary statement and Civic Engagement planning converging in 2016, a diverse group of people from departments and organizations across campus began to gather regularly in late summer to discuss campus engagement and subsequently formed the UMSL Civic Engagement Coalition. Currently included in the Coalition are representatives from: the Office of Academic Affairs, the Office of Admissions, the Center for Ethics in Public Life, the Gender Studies program, the Office of Residential Life and Housing, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Involvement, the Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life, the Sustainability/Environmental Health & Safety Office, students from the Associated Students of the University of Missouri, the Student Government Association and the University Program Board, along with faculty members from the Departments of Communication, English and Political Science. Members of the Coalition also represent other projects on campus including the service-learning leadership team, the Anchor Institution Dashboard committee, and the Constitution Day committee, to name a few.

The members of the Coalition meet monthly to share information about the various programs and activities that are in their purview; to discuss ways to systematize collecting and recording information on the many and varied programs and activities taking place; to review data and make recommendations to appropriate committees to improve and support civic engagement activities; to consider and plan opportunities to highlight and celebrate accomplishments in this arena; and to regularly recommit to this important role of engagement. Now that the Coalition has become more structured with regularly scheduled monthly meetings, we intend to continue to invite and include new members representing other colleges and departments to be more inclusive with a broader representation of the campus community. We also intend to include the community voice in our Coalition. Because community members serve on many university committees already (e.g., Anchor Institution Dashboard, Service-learning Advisory), we are strategically considering who should be included in the Coalition meetings and how to make sure that their time is well spent. With these campus leaders and community representatives working together, we will have a stronger voice for advocacy as we develop a clearer understanding of what we need to do to support and expand a culture of civic engagement at our university.

- **We empower** our students, faculty, staff, and community partners **to co-create mutually respectful partnerships** in pursuit of a **just, equitable, and sustainable future** for communities **beyond the campus**— nearby and around the world.

In this area, we foster an open environment and create opportunities on campus for civil discourse and discussions about what is just, equitable, and respectful. Several campus committees and organizations contribute to this environment, including: the Faculty Senate, Civic Engagement Coalition, University Assembly, Student Government Association, Associated Students of the University of Missouri and the Committee on Diversity among others.

We recognize that broad and coordinated efforts are required to make a better society. Therefore, UMSL is a member of the Higher Education Consortium of Metropolitan St. Louis that includes other institutions of higher education in the region. The mission of this Consortium is to advance communication and cooperative activities among member institutions, secondary schools, related community organizations and individuals; to provide member colleges and universities the opportunity to meet to discuss topics of interest; and to collaborate on projects designed to enhance student's accessibility to as well as their achievement in higher education (<http://www.heccstl.com/>).

UMSL is also a founding member of St. Louis Higher Education Sustainability Consortium (STL-HESC). The mission of the STL-HESC is to connect the strengths, resources, and knowledge of St. Louis area universities and colleges, to advance collective sustainable initiatives that cultivate innovation, to eliminate non-productive competition, and to create a network that is more than the sum of its parts (*Charter, May 2014*). These Consortium members meet regularly to share best practices and to collaborate on programs that bring together sustainability champions across campuses and in surrounding communities.

While we can identify and provide examples of the many ways that UMSL is engaged with the community through volunteerism, community-engaged research and service, high voting rates, centers and programs, etc., we know that we must do a better job of collecting data to quantify and then assess the impact of this work. Furthermore, we know that we must communicate more effectively to the campus community and the public about how we contribute to the health and welfare of the region.

Therefore, one of our challenges is collecting information about who is doing what, where and with which community partners. For example, despite the fact that we have had a service-learning course designation recognized by the registrar's office for the last few years, we have yet to effectively use the designation to promote or even track service-learning courses adequately due to inconsistencies in the process that departments use to list courses. Based on stakeholder conversations across campus, we have

agreed that there is a need for a clearer understanding of what we are doing so that we can better determine how to best allocate our time, energy and limited resources.

- **We prepare our students** for lives of **engaged citizenship**, with the motivation and capacity **to deliberate, act, and lead** in pursuit of the public good.

UMSL is committed to civic learning and democratic engagement work. We were early adopters to the American Democracy Project initiatives and regularly host related programs. Our Constitution Day activities go beyond a mere “observance” of the day and permeate the entire campus community through presentations, forums, contests, and art and word expressions akin to a democracy wall. Throughout the year, the UMSL student newspaper, *The Current*, also partners with *The New York Times* for several lunch-and-learn programs on current issues.

In addition to the Political Science and the Public Policy Administration departments, UMSL has a handful of offices and centers related to civic engagement that support civic learning. Local government is a strand in the Masters in Public Policy program. Students in this field and beyond are connected with internships in a variety of civic organizations, and offices and campaigns throughout the community. Further, the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Involvement at UMSL host local legislators to speak to students several times a year. In a number of classes, individual faculty members have legislators (and others who work in government) deliver guest lectures in their classes. UMSL student representatives also go to the Missouri capitol to meet legislators personally during the annual System “Day at the Capitol” and for other events related to their fields of study. We host events on campus like debate watch parties and panels on ethics reform in politics, black lives matter, conceal and carry, and other important topics to inform students and encourage them to become active and engaged in issues of concern to their communities and themselves. These are often coordinated by one of the many student organizations on campus focused on civic engagement including: Associated Black Collegians; Associated Students of the University of Missouri; Hispanic Latino Association; Political Science Academy; PRIZM Queer-Trans-Straight Alliance; Student Government Association; and the UMSL Democrats and UMSL Republicans, among others.

Related to civic engagement, UMSL has been a part of the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement (NSLVE) coordinated by the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education at Tufts University since 2013. To date, the study has revealed that UMSL has an active and engaged student body with a higher voting rate compared to other universities. This trend is significant, even when controlling for age of student population, commuter status and the civic health of the state. As a result, NSLVE selected UMSL, along with four other campuses nationally, to participate in a qualitative case study of national significance. When the study is complete,

researchers will use the findings to help other campuses improve student participation in voting and community affairs, and UMSL will receive an individualized report highlighting strengths and areas for improvement. We look forward to receiving these results of the study so that we can make better informed decisions about how to support voter engagement on our campus.

Providing leadership development opportunities is another way UMSL helps prepare students for lives of engaged citizenship. Our campus provides several semester-long leadership programs and workshops, as well as conferences and awards such of those offered through the Office of Student Involvement. The Sue Shear Institute, for example, conducts leadership programs focused on encouraging more women to take part in public life, and we have several mentoring/protégé programs for underrepresented students and in fields such as Information Systems and Executive leadership. Furthermore, we offer a variety of internships and encourage externships in areas such as public policy administration and sustainability.

While our current efforts demonstrate our dedication to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good, we continue to seek new opportunities for the university to expand and strengthen this commitment. For instance, providing an overview of civic engagement programs and activities in First Year seminars would allow us to communicate to a broader audience on a more consistent basis. Currently, all students must satisfactorily complete a course or courses in American history or government, and a number of colleges and departments have some type of community engagement experience as a requirement for graduation. We plan to work with other departments to encourage this type of experience before graduation as well. Furthermore, we plan to continue to refine our efforts on voter participation and put additional emphasis on taking part in local elections. We know that internships and externships offer students real-world experience that influence their future activities and therefore are looking to expand these opportunities with community partners. One area on which we plan to put greater emphasis is sustainability. To this end, we will work to get more UMSL students participating in externships with an orientation toward sustainability such as with the U.S. Green Building Council Green Shadow Program.

➤ **We embrace our responsibilities** as place-based institutions, contributing to the **health** and **strength** of our **communities**—economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.

UMSL is one of six institutions participating in the Anchor Dashboard Learning Cohort initiative supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Democracy Collaborative and PolicyLink. The Anchor Dashboard Learning Cohort seeks to develop a “dashboard” framework that might help universities more accurately understand both the status of the surrounding community and institutional efforts to support community improvement, with an eye toward both better communicating impact and making strategic adjustments over time. The goal is to help universities adopt and implement an anchor mission that applies the university’s long-

term, place-based economic power, in combination with human and intellectual resources, to better the welfare of surrounding communities over time, with a particular focus on communities of moderate and limited incomes.

Through this initiative, UMSL has created an Anchor Dashboard Committee to track community and institutional effort indicators across economic, community building, education, health, safety, and environment issue areas. After collecting quantitative data in each of the issue areas listed, community focus groups were conducted by the UMSL Anchor Dashboard Committee during the summer of 2016. These focus groups revealed how residents, business people, and government officials view UMSL, the roles the University could play in the community, and the reasons people like living in neighborhoods around campus.

The UMSL Anchor Institution Dashboard Committee reviewed quantitative and qualitative data and prioritized doing working in 2017 on communications with neighboring communities as well as considering procurement practices that can increase spending with businesses in communities immediately surrounding the university. A second round of data will be collected in the summer of 2017 and priority activity on other areas like education or environment will be decided on by the UMSL Anchor Institution Dashboard and leaders at the university and in community.

➤ **We harness the capacity** of our institutions—through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practice—to **challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities** that threaten our democratic future.

Ferguson, Missouri is located adjacent to the UMSL campus in the northern part of St. Louis County. Ferguson received national attention with the shooting and death of an unarmed African-American teenager by a local police officer in late 2014. The events that followed impacted the entire St. Louis community and beyond. The issues brought to light by the incident and its aftermath continue to spur campus initiatives related to race, equity, health outcomes, trauma-informed response, employment, education, etc. These have included such things as forums, service-learning courses, research projects, and health fairs. The university campus hosted dozens of civic meetings during this time for public debate and dialogue. These organized community events included St. Louis Public Radio, the Ferguson Commission, the Department of Justice and the Missouri Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, to name a few. UMSL is now involved in “St. Louis Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma (ReCAST)” projects that support community well-being in the Promise Zone of northern St. Louis City and County. This is a partnership of 70+ community organizations working together to address challenges in this designated geography.

Such programs and activities remind us of our responsibility as a place-based institution to address the challenges of social and economic inequalities that threaten our democracy. UMSL is engaged in addressing these civic duties in several ways, from very

practical, immediate service models to more long-term research and development activities. For instance UMSL nursing students take part in health fairs, and the College of Optometry has a mobile van that visits local schools and provides no-cost services to children in poverty. The College of Optometry also offers services for low-income resident and the university has a new Patient Care Clinic that will soon offer primary, obstetric, and pediatric medical services that are lacking in this part of the community.

Collaboration with external groups is central to long-term effectiveness. For instance, UMSL has a strong relationship with Beyond Housing, a nonprofit organization focused on community capacity building in the region immediately surrounding the university. University leaders serve on the Beyond Housing board of directors, and representatives from Beyond Housing serve on leadership and advisory boards and committees at UMSL. The university also has strong connections with area legislators and leaders in local governments. Through such relationships, UMSL has been able to support economic development in the community by securing grants and attracting businesses to the area.

Local service projects and volunteer events are commonplace and several large service events take place throughout out the year, where students do such things as work hand-in-hand in area neighborhoods on clean-up activities, work in community gardens, etc. One of the signature annual events is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, during which over 200 students, faculty and staff work with more than a dozen nonprofit community organizations.

Obviously, research and scholarship is a major function of the academic community. Hence, UMSL faculty members engage in research involving communities, health outcomes, education, criminal justice, etc. Several centers and institutes on campus representing a variety of disciplines are focused on translating this research into practice with follow up assessments. Furthermore, UMSL faculty members evaluate community programs and initiatives to help community partners understand their effectiveness and challenge their assumptions through applied analyses that are unbiased and methodologically rigorous. While this is often done by individual professors, it is also a part of the mission of institutional divisions such as The Public Policy Research Center and the Missouri Institute of Mental Health. Sharing information about new research and offering accessible cultural programming is part of this work, too. A number of lecture series, conferences, concerts and cultural events are examples of the kinds of things UMSL makes available to the campus community as well as the public.

The University is also very interested and engaged in education for pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade. The College of Education, for example, has an innovative model for preparing pre-service educators that does not involve traditional student teaching. Instead, “Educator candidates actively engage in unique practicum experiences in the Studio School Model for clinical practice. As Missouri's leader, the College partners with 36 different public, private, and charter schools... preparing *community educators* who

are well-experienced to impact all students in a wide variety of settings, and with a much broader understanding of education's role in society. Our candidates make a collective impact as faculty members in the differentiated staffing model” (<http://bulletin.umsl.edu/collegeofeducation/epir/undergraduatestudy/>). Our university also offers a variety of precollegiate programs throughout the year, on weekends, and during the summer giving young people in the community experiences in research, music and the arts, technology and other fields. These experiences are designed to help them in their current growth and to help them be successful in future endeavors in college and career. College access and career readiness is a fundamental focus of our engagement activities. We work very closely with not only area K-12 schools, but we strategically partner with corporate entities, public agencies and not-for-profit organizations. UMSL was part of the founding of the College Access Pipeline Project, now aptly called St. Louis Graduates, and we continue to hold a seat on the initiatives’ steering committee. The mission of St. Louis Graduates is to increase the proportion of low-income, first generation and African-American students in the St. Louis region who earn a postsecondary degree. We also have fourteen endowed professorships affiliated with the College of Education that are part of the Des Lee Collaborative Vision, an enterprise composed of professorships that have a strong community engagement component foundational to their work.

Even so, we know we must continue to create and strengthen outreach and partnerships. One area where we can better focus is in “community impact” research. Our Creating Whole Communities partnership provides funding for summer fellowships for this research and we work strategically with stakeholders to identify community needs and endeavor to promote broader participation by a more diverse range of faculty and disciplines conducting these kinds of projects. Importantly, while the primary purpose is to benefit the community and the region, these projects also inform and extend discipline-specific knowledge through publication in peer-reviewed journals and other academic outlets. In addition, there are other ways in which UMSL can partner with the community. For instance, we have the potential to stimulate economic activity by collaborating with area businesses for college nights, promoting a sense of local community and local spending. We will continue to focus on improving our established, ongoing partnerships with the municipalities in our immediate locale (Normandy, Ferguson, etc.) and work with them on sustainability projects and events that improve the community and the region through volunteerism and outreach.

➤ **We foster an environment** that consistently affirms the centrality of the **public purposes of higher education** by setting **high expectations** for members of the campus community to **contribute to their achievement**.

“Metropolitan Land Grant universities have a responsibility to enhance and serve the educational, health, social, cultural, and economic needs of their neighbors.”
~ UMSL Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, March 2017

UMSL Chancellor Thomas F. George models this commitment through his leadership and involvement in community engaged organizations and activities and has received several awards and other recognitions for his contributions. For example, Chancellor George has received the Distinguished Higher Education Award from the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Missouri State Celebration Commission; the Outstanding Community Service Award from the St. Louis County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the Lifelong Vision Award from the Lifelong Vision Foundation of St. Louis; and the Silver Beaver Award and Good Scout Award from the Greater St. Louis Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and he has been named St. Louis North County Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. He serves on numerous civic boards and currently is chair of the Higher Education Consortium of Metropolitan St. Louis. In addition to his role as campus and community leader and fundraiser, Chancellor George contributes at the state and national levels, such as currently serving as vice-chair of the Council on Public Higher Education in Missouri and president of the Coalition of Metropolitan and Urban Universities (<http://www.umsl.edu/chancellor/about/index.html>). Chancellor George serves as an example to UMSL faculty, staff and students on how to be an engaged and involved citizen using his capacity as a leader and his personal interest and experience to create a better community.

Another model initiative of the campus is the Des Lee Collaborative Vision (DLCV) which embraces and promotes the opportunities created by linking the knowledge and resources of universities with public organizations throughout the region. Founder and philanthropist E. Desmond Lee frequently remarked that using principles of collaboration and partnership “can produce a synergism far exceeding the efforts of any one segment working independently.” The DLCV brings together key educational, cultural, governmental and social service institutions to establish programs and share resources for the benefit of the St. Louis community. This is accomplished through the collaboration of more than thirty endowed professors with over 100 partner and community organizations in the St. Louis region and worldwide. Administered through UMSL, the DLCV’s primary focus is to enrich the overall quality of life in the St. Louis area and beyond, improve education and create opportunities for underserved populations.

UMSL also is a place—a physical space in which people are encouraged to come together, share their concerns and allow for peaceful, nonjudgmental discussion on a variety of often challenging topics. For many in the broader community, they view the university as “neutral” ground where they will be able to voice ideas and opinions without judgment or negative consequence, and work together to achieve a broader and shared understanding of the community’s needs. This is an important role for a university, especially a public entity.

While we have leadership and initiatives that embody our public purpose, we must continue to prioritize this in our own understanding of our work and efforts and we must continue to communicate this to the broader society. Though we have many

programs and activities that reach students, faculty, staff and community members, it is critical that we remain forward-thinking and adaptable as we continue to refine our efforts to better serve the needs of everyone as time and circumstances change. We must be flexible to remain relevant and responsive, and this can only happen if we maintain effective internal and external communication.

Part of this includes discussing and developing consistent, across-discipline incentives for tenure and promotion that value community engagement and community-based research. It also includes the consideration of funding models that track and support engagement activities. Finally, formal recognition and celebration of civic engagement at both the individual and departmental levels are opportunities that would reaffirm this commitment.

OUTCOMES - How will you measure progress?

Outcome	Commitment	Measure(s)	Indicator(s)
Partnerships between UMSL faculty, staff, and students and community organizations will be meaningful and integrated (not just episodic experiences)	#1. We empower our students, faculty, staff and community partners to co-create mutually respectful partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities beyond the campus – nearby and around the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registrar data on service- learning and internships Student Involvement data tracking on volunteerism and service Faculty reported data in MyVita 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of faculty working with community partners Increased number of full semester service-learning courses Increased number of students with internships/externships/ practicums in sustainability, public policy, government, nonprofit, etc. Increased number of community partners working with UMSL in more than one program
Students vote and are informed about issues (emphasis on taking part in local elections)	#2. We prepare our students for lives of engaged citizenship, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student voter registration and voting rates Participation in forums such as lunch with legislators Social media posts on public policy issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of students who register and who vote Increased participation in forums Social media metrics/click rates

<p>Civic engagement is regarded as a critical component of a university education and experience</p>	<p>#2. We prepare our students for lives of engaged citizenship, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good. AND #5. We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degree requirements • Student Involvement tracking system for data on volunteerism and service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of colleges and departments with civic engagement as a requirement for graduation • Increased number of student organizations engaged in volunteer and civic activities • Increased tracking and # of students checking in at CE events documented on co-curricular transcripts
<p>UMSL will increase spending to local and minority companies in the area immediately surrounding the university creating a stronger local economy</p>	<p>#3. We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities – economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and adopted promising procurement practices • List of spending needs that could be filled by local businesses • Number of local businesses on a local supplier list that can bid on projects developed at a local supplier meeting at UMSL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in spending at local and minority businesses
<p>UMSL will develop university goals in other impact areas of</p>	<p>#3. We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of areas UMSL commits to improving an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in number of institutional level actions taken in different impact areas in the surrounding community

Anchor Institution Dashboard Initiative (education, health, safety, and environment)	health and strength of our communities – economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.	outcome from the Anchor Dashboard Initiative	
The campus and community immediately surrounding the university will learn about how we contribute to the health and welfare of the community	<p>#3. We embrace our responsibilities as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities – economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically. AND</p> <p>#5. We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of community • Tracking and communications methods developed and delivered • Variety of outreach efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved perception and understanding of UMSL’s engagement efforts
Faculty and staff will broaden their worldview of social and economic inequalities	<p>#4. We harness the capacity of our institutions – through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practice – to challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of grants, publications, and presentations on social and economic issues included in MyVita data • Number of campus forums on social and economic issues and related attendance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased grants, and diverse portfolio of faculty publications and presentations that support the values and reveal the inequities in social and economic situations • Increased number of forums on social and economic issues • Increased attendance at social and economic forums

<p>Faculty value engaged teaching, integrating research throughout the courses they teach</p>	<p>#5. We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of faculty attending course design workshops and institutes where they explore pedagogies, develop outcomes demonstrating a commitment to engaged teaching, and assess student learning that aligns with the outcomes • Number of engaged activities included in faculty records in MyVita 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased number of community-engaged courses offered • Increased number of community-based research projects underway
<p>Civic engagement will be recognized and celebrated at the individual, departmental and campus levels</p>	<p>#5. We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of nominations for civic engagement awards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition program will be developed and every college will submit at least one nomination to recognize a civically-engaged program or person • Individuals, departments, or colleges that prioritize civic engagement will be more visible through events and formal recognition

TIMELINE AND ACCOUNTABILITY - How will the Civic Action Plan be put into motion?

YEAR 1- focus on tracking, documenting and cataloging current activities

Activity	Responsible	Status
Roll out of new MyVita faculty records software with review and training on including engagement activities	Office of Academic Affairs	In-process
Roll out of new Campus Labs Engage -Student Engagement software	Office of Student Involvement	Scheduled
Collaborate with United Way on stlvolunteer.org data tracking	Office of Student Involvement with Community Outreach & Engagement	In-process
Write grant proposals to support research for developing engagement catalog	Community Outreach & Engagement	Complete/ awarded
Create and advertise Community/University Engagement communication internship	Community Outreach & Engagement with Anchor Dashboard committee	In-process
Catalog of Service-learning courses and community partner connections	Community Outreach & Engagement	Scheduled
Catalog degree programs which include engagement requirements	Community Outreach & Engagement	Scheduled
Workshops and mentors for Service-learning	Service-learning leadership team with Center for Teaching & Learning	In-process
Train and implement use of event attendance tracking equipment	Office of Student Involvement, Colleges & Departments	Planned
Meet with advisors group to promote co-curricular transcript	Office of Career Services, Office of Student Life	Planned
Review and comparison of NSLVE voting reports	Civic Engagement Coalition ASUM	Planned (expect NSLVE results by July 2017)
Provide tools and support to include current events/news in course design	Center for Teaching & Learning	In-process
Develop and host Civic Engagement awards program	Civic Engagement Coalition	Planned
Gather second round of data for tracking community and	Anchor Dashboard Committee	Planned to begin

institutional effort indicators across economic, community building, education, health, safety, and environment issue areas		summer 2017
Analysis of the business sector in the area surrounding UMSL	Public Policy Research Center with Anchor Dashboard Committee	Completed
Host a local supplier event and showcase opportunities for local vendors to connect with university procurement	Anchor Dashboard committee	Planned

YEAR 2 and beyond - refine tracking, improve communication and expand involvement

Activity	Responsible	Status
Review and update Civic Engagement Plan	Civic Engagement Coalition	Planned
Develop communications plan for public policy and voter education	Civic Engagement Coalition	Planned
Mid-term elections voter registration and information sessions	ASUM	Planned
Workshops and mentorship for sponsors of student organizations with engagement focus	Office of Student Involvement	Planned
Workshops and mentors for Service-learning	Service-learning leadership team with Center for Teaching & Learning	Ongoing
Assess and adapt Civic Engagement awards program	Civic Engagement Coalition	Planned
Presentations on engagement activities and opportunities to academic departmental	Community Outreach & Engagement, Civic Engagement Coalition, with Center for Teaching & Learning	Planned
Presentations and materials on engagement for recruitment office	Community Outreach & Engagement, Civic Engagement Coalition, Admissions	Planned
Presentations and community engagement activities in first-year experience program	Office of New Student Programs	Planned
Develop materials to promote grant opportunities and partnership connections for broader impacts and community -engaged research	Creating Whole Communities and Community Outreach & Engagement	Planned

COMMUNICATION

Especially at this time when institutions of higher learning are facing budget cuts and state legislators challenge their support, we at the University of Missouri – St. Louis see it as our role to facilitate and contribute to discussions about the value and purpose of an educated society—particularly in regards to public higher education. Colleges and universities play a critical role in the development and maintenance of a civil society through activities that contribute to an engaged, informed electorate, increased employment, better health outcomes, and the like. However, as an urban institution located in St. Louis County, near economically challenged populations, neighborhoods and struggling school districts, we have a unique responsibility to support the region and to foster a better quality of life for its citizens. Whether through the optometry clinic, psychological services, or the recreation/fitness center, UMSL embraces the St. Louis community by investing time, talent, and resources to support our neighbors.

We consistently hear from the community that they look to the university to be a leader in responding to societal issues. They look to the university for guidance and research, and genuine interest in and engagement with the community. They look to the university to provide more than just the acquisition of job skills and career development for a student body, but simultaneously to create a student experience that fosters curiosity, confidence, cultural understanding, and civic responsibility that serves them throughout their lives. Society also looks to public institutions of higher education to be open ground for civil discourse and exploration. It is clear that while much has been accomplished at UMSL, much remains to be done. We must be strategic in our investments to maximize our contributions to the community. We must be thoughtful about how we measure and improve our processes; and we must be proud and communicate about our civic engagement efforts through traditional information and media outlets as well as social media channels. In this way, we hope to challenge and inspire others to make meaningful contributions.

By signing on to the Campus Compact 30th Anniversary Action Statement and subsequently developing a Civic Action Plan, the University of Missouri – St. Louis is affirming our intent to put into action the principles contained therein. We are finalizing a web page for Community Engagement that will showcase our activities and partnerships, volunteer and service opportunities, as well as research and service-learning courses. The Civic Action Plan will be posted on this site as a visible sign and reminder of our intentions. Furthermore, as the current engagement activities are catalogued, these will be shared with UMSL administration, community partners and within each College alongside the Civic Action Plan to inform dialogue on the value of engagement in creating whole and healthy communities. Information gathered for the Anchor Dashboard will also be included. By comparing and aligning actual practice to our goals, we will be able to better integrate the research, teaching, learning, and involvement of individuals and groups on campus with our community organizations and agencies to the mutual benefit of our society.