

2017

CIVIC ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

Utah State University (USU) is pleased to celebrate Campus Compact's 30th anniversary through the development of a Civic Action Plan. This plan will help USU recommit to community engagement in research, academics, and the preparation of students for a lifetime of democratic citizenship. Over the past year, the civic action planning team developed the following three commitment statements:

- ▶ **Develop a campus culture of civic and community engagement through *increased awareness* of opportunities that prepare USU students for lives of engaged citizenship.**
- ▶ **Provide incentives to increase the high-impact practice of service-learning/community engaged learning across all disciplines.**
- ▶ **Improve USU's ability to share successes and tell the story of community engagement through systematic *campus-wide tracking and assessment*.**

ENGAGEMENT AS A CORNERSTONE OF UTAH STATE

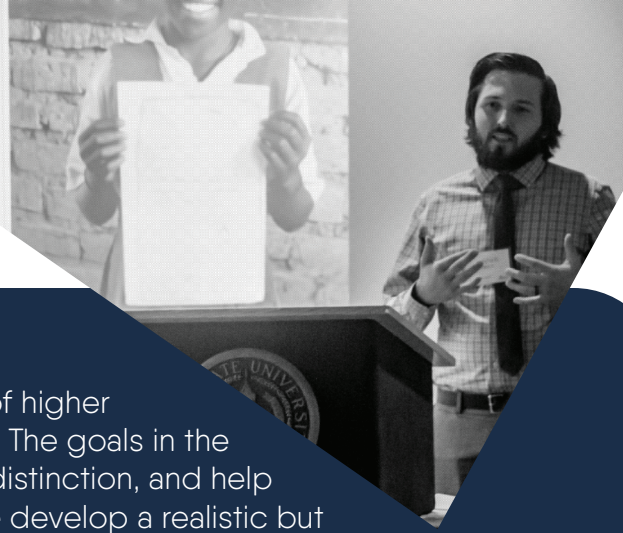
Following the land-grant tradition, USU was founded upon the principle that higher education has a public purpose. USU built its mission on bettering the communities it serves and has continued to focus on the development of active citizens and community engagement. The university acts as an anchor institution, offering Extension services in 28 of the 29 Utah counties, and providing education, economic, and community development resources to Utah through its Logan campus and 32 Regional Campuses and Centers.



STRATEGIC ACTIONS

PURPOSE

cultural learning
elementary students
Uganda.



Alongside the creation of the Civic Action Plan, USU is preparing to apply for the 2020 Carnegie Community Engagement Classification, a designation for institutions of higher education that lead the nation in community engagement. The goals in the Civic Action Plan support our work toward this Carnegie distinction, and help USU align our short and long-term goals, ensuring that we develop a realistic but bold plan for fulfilling our mission as a land-grant institution.

The following strategic actions will be completed within five years, moving the university toward meeting its Campus Compact commitment and obtaining the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification. The goals identified include specific actions that will improve opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community partners to create mutually beneficial partnerships in our city, region, state, nation, and world.

1. Raise Awareness: Develop a campus culture of civic and community engagement through increased awareness of opportunities that prepare USU students for lives of engaged citizenship

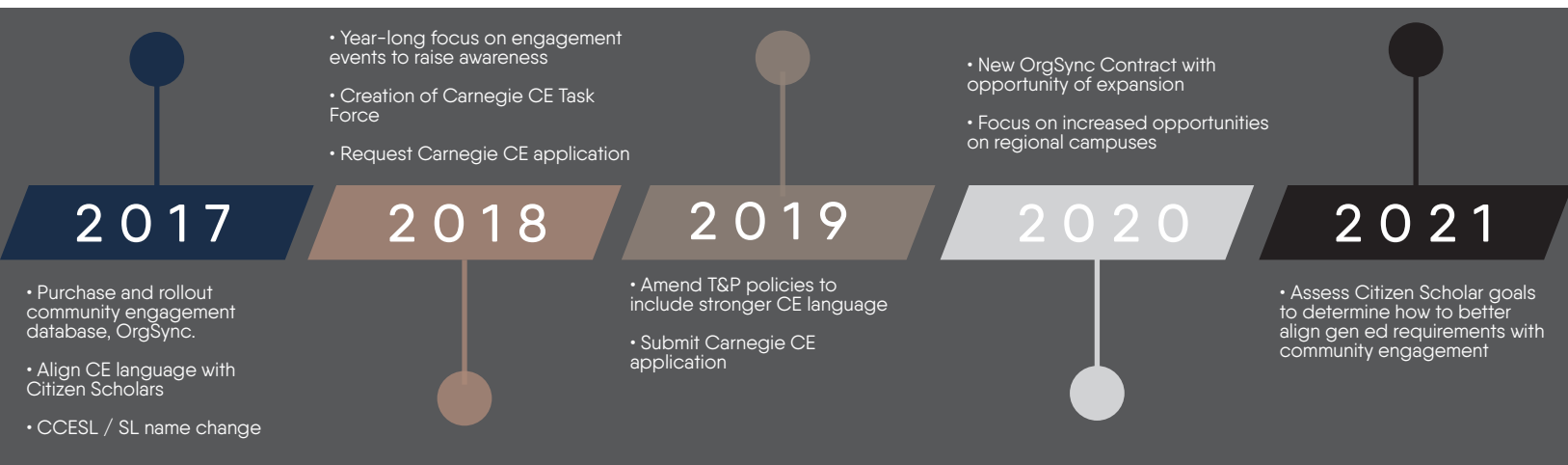
- ▶ Align opportunities with USU's general education Citizen Scholars goals
- ▶ Highlight community engaged learning over service
- ▶ Create excitement by celebrating success

2. Incentivize Students and Faculty: Provide incentives to increase the high-impact practice of service-learning/community engaged learning across all disciplines

- ▶ Implement range of incentives to recognize meaningful community engagement completed by faculty (role statements, tenure/promotion policy wording, and funding opportunities)
- ▶ Increase student engagement through added engagement opportunities

3. Track and Assess: Improve USU's ability to share successes and tell the story of community engagement through systematic campus-wide tracking and assessment

- ▶ Purchase and implement institution-wide community engagement database



USU aims to guarantee every student the opportunity to experience community engagement through classes, volunteer opportunities, research, or campus-based jobs and internships. The above goal statements will allow USU to continue serving Utah communities, while simultaneously preparing students for – and supporting faculty in – the rewarding work of active citizenship, collaborative problem-solving, and civic engagement.