Dean Bob Bucker and his advisory group met for their biannual meeting, and Coraggio Group led them through the strategic planning process to date. As they are advising the Dean on creative activities and community engagement through COTA, we took the opportunity to solicit their input for the Topic Team that will address such issues: Innovative research, scholarship, and creative activities.

Our very brief conversation captured the following:

- We need to create new kinds of working relationships and connections in the community that highlight and further artistic endeavor.

- Prioritize experiential activity.

- Bridging the gap between organizations that may not have historically operated together in the community – bring people together in different combinations can create something that would be impossible otherwise.

- Can be challenging for community organizations already struggling to manage their own resources (financial and temporal) to partner with PSU without assistance. The desire is there, but they need university resources to expand those relationships.

- It can be a challenge for partner organizations to reach PSU students, even with low ticket prices.

- How to develop a presence, an awareness of these activities among the students?

- Can we find a way to improve coordination between PSU and community arts orgs on scheduling, timing, etc.?