Civic Engagement Awards
Four Award Categories:

I. Excellence in Community-Based Teaching and Learning - These $250 awards will be given to faculty members who utilize exemplary community-based teaching and learning strategies that enhance student learning and engage in public problem solving.

Review Criteria:
1. Joins theory and practice that results in students understanding of relevance and application;
2. Facilitates reflective learning;
3. Understands and facilitates civic learning outcomes for students; and

II. Excellence in Departmental Civic Engagement - This $250 award will be given to a department or program that makes engagement with community a central aspect of their department’s aggregate approach to student learning and scholarship. Award is designated to a department or program.

Review Criteria:
1. Uses community-based learning to facilitate students’ integration of community work and reflection into their academic study;
2. Encourages and rewards the scholarship of engagement where community-based action, or applied research is pursued; and
3. Provides support to key departmental / programmatic initiatives which engage the community in efforts to fulfill the University’s mission.

III. Excellence in Community-University Partnerships - This $250 award will be given to a community partner in order to recognize and celebrate the contributions their organization has made to help PSU realize its motto: “Let knowledge serve the city.” Award is designated for PSU’s community partners.

Review Criteria:
1. Facilitating student learning in a community based context;
2. Providing venues for faculty to advance their community-based scholarship;
3. Serving as a co-educator with faculty; and
4. Suggesting creative ways to work with students and faculty in an educational, community development context.

IV. Excellence in Community-Based Research - This $250 award will be given to faculty/community teams that provide pertinent data and responses to community needs with a focus on research. Award will be given to faculty/community partner team that contribute to community-based research.

Review Criteria:
1. New or innovative approaches to “defining, discovering, and disseminating knowledge” and/or a “commitment to social action for social change” via community-based research activities;
2. Collaboration with community entities, democratization of knowledge, and/or social change/justice implemented via research activities; and
3. Any community-based research in social action and/or social change that attempts to promote social justice.

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