MT Engage Summer Institute
May 10, 2018

High Impact Practices:
Civic Learning/Civic Engagement

KRISTIN NAYLOR, COMMUNICATION STUDIES
MARY EVINS, HISTORY, HONORS COLLEGE,
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY PROJECT FOR CIVIC LEARNING
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
AT THE CENTER

Integrating Civic Responsibility into the Curriculum

A Practical Guide for

SECOND EDITION

Marla Gottlieb

RHEA HOFFMANN AND MARLA GOTTlieb
Civic Engagement Initiatives
"TO SERVE A LARGER PURPOSE"

ENGAGEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

EDITED BY JOHN SALTMARSH AND MATTHEW HARTLEY
THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY ACTION STATEMENT OF PRESIDENTS AND CHANCELLORS

- Civic responsibility of higher education
- Advance the public purposes of higher education
- All students are prepared for lives of engaged citizenship
Assessing Underserved Students' Engagement in High-Impact Practices

BY ASHLEY FINLEY AND TIA McNAIR

High-Impact Educational Practices

What they are, who has access to them, and why they matter

Making Progress?

What We Know About the Achievement of Liberal Education Outcomes

BY Ashley Finley

Ensuring Quality & Taking High-Impact Practices to Scale

* * * * * * * * *
The Three Cs Mission of Higher Education

Educating for Democracy
PREPARING UNDERGRADUATES FOR RESPONSIBLE POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT
A CRUCIBLE MOMENT: COLLEGE LEARNING AND DEMOCRACY’S FUTURE

A NATIONAL CALL TO ACTION

Caryn McTighe McCullen
Association of American Colleges and Universities

The National Task Force on Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement
### FIGURE 1: A Framework for Twenty-First-Century Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
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**Values**

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- Integration of knowledge, skills, and examined values to inform actions taken in concert with other people
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- Compromise, civility, and mutual respect
The Equity-Minded Civic Learning All Americans Need

The most constructive response to Charlottesville would be for educators to make such learning central, writes Carol Geary Schneider.

By Carol Geary Schneider // September 25, 2017

Sobered by events in Charlottesville, Va., leaders from all walks of life have rallied to fiercely repudiate this nation's legacies of racial hostility and white supremacy and to vigorously proclaim our responsibility to create a more just society.

To repair democracy in the United States, educators will need to make equity-minded civic learning central rather than evanescent in any efforts to strengthen educational quality and support student success.
“Education for citizenship should not be crowding out the ‘real’ focus of the course; it should be a way to engage students in that work.”

CIVIC PROMPTS, P. 7
Massachusetts Higher Education Policy on Civic Learning

With a commitment to Preparing Citizens established, the next step for the MBHE was to adopt a state policy for pre-secondary civic learning. The MDHE Study Group completed the key work of gathering input from institutions and stakeholder groups and developing policy recommendations. The MDHE Study Group also initiated comprehensive documentation on student civic learning and engagement experiences with the Massachusetts Institutional Rubric for the Promotion and Development of Civic Learning and Engagement. The MBHE took the final step to incorporate these recommendations into a statewide Policy on Civic Learning for public institutions.

Higher Education Civic Learning and Engagement: A Massachusetts case study

JAN BRENNAN

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education (MDHE) lays out their ambitious strategic plan for Massachusetts public institutions with the commitment, “We will produce the best-educated citizenry and workforce in the country.” Among the key outcomes is:

PREPARING CITIZENS

PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND DISPOSITIONS TO BE ENGAGED

5. First-in-the-nation policies to align civic learning across the K-16 education continuum. 

Like many state public higher education systems, Massachusetts began with several exemplary civic learning and engagement programs, but civic learning was not a central academic expectation and engagement opportunities varied...
“...constructing environments where education for democracy and civic responsibility is pervasive, not partial; central, not peripheral.”

A Crucible Moment, p. 2
Civic Learning in the Major by Design
What Would a Civic-Minded Campus Look Like?

CIVIC ETHOS governing campus life

The infusion of democratic values into the customs and habits of everyday practices, structures, and interactions; the defining character of the institution and those in it that emphasizes open-mindedness, civility, the worth of each person, ethical behaviors, and concern for the well-being of others; a spirit of public-mindedness that influences the goals of the institution and its engagement with local and global communities.

CIVIC LITERACY as a goal for every student

The cultivation of foundational knowledge about fundamental principles and debates about democracy expressed over time, both within the United States and in other countries; familiarity with several key historical struggles, campaigns, and social movements undertaken to achieve the full promise of democracy; the ability to think critically about complex issues and to seek and evaluate information about issues that have public consequences.

CIVIC INQUIRY integrated within the majors and general education

The practice of inquiring about the civic dimensions and public consequences of a subject of study; the exploration of the impact of choices on different constituencies and entities, including the planet; the deliberate consideration of differing points of view; the ability to describe and analyze civic intellectual debates within one’s major or areas of study.

CIVIC ACTION as lifelong practice

The capacity and commitment both to participate constructively with diverse others and to work collectively to address common problems; the practice of working in a pluralistic society and world to improve the quality of people’s lives and the sustainability of the planet; the ability to analyze systems in order to plan and engage in public action; the moral and political courage to take risks to achieve a greater public good.
7 Billion +
7 Billion +

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD.
Civil Discourse:

“the exercise of patience, integrity, humility and mutual respect in civil conversation, even [or especially] with those with whom we disagree.”

James Calvin Davis, *In Defense of Civility*
Civil Discourse:

...Civil discourse goes beyond courtesy. It involves committing to an informed, frank exchange of ideas, along with an understanding of complexity and ambiguity.

David Wegge, Toward a More Civil Discourse
Civil Discourse:

Creates room for discussion.
Small Group Exercise in Civil Discourse
Panel Discussion Presentation
Key Components

- Randomly selected small groups choose a controversial topic
- Group members interview someone in the community who is knowledgeable about the topic
- Group members collaborate to create and present a balanced, informative, respectful presentation
The Civil Discourse Project