

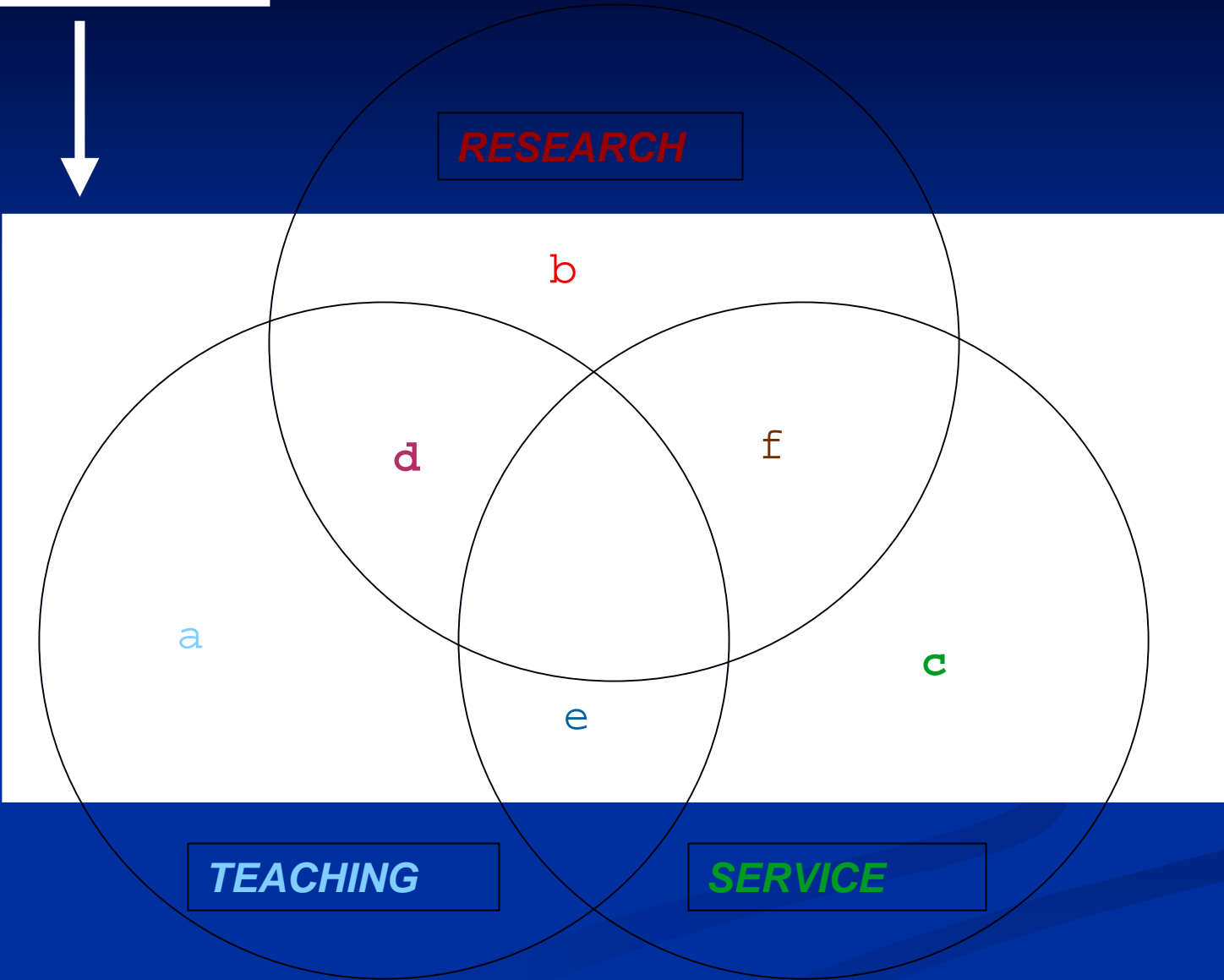
# **STRENGTHING COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**Office of Community Collaboration  
California State University, Sacramento**

**February 18, 2005**

The Engaged Campus

COMMUNITY



# *Elements of Effective Partnerships*

A strong partnership can be defined as one in which the partners:

- participate genuinely and voluntarily;
- feel parity;
- share mutual goals and expectations;
- share responsibility and accountability;
- trust each other; and
- feel a sense of community.

*(Friend and Cook, 2000)*

# ***Structural Models for Campus-Community Partnerships***

- Centralized Model
- Cross-Campus Collaborative Model
- Academic Enhancement Model
- Community-Engagement Enhancement Model
- Decentralized Model
- Issue-focused Community Partnership Model
- Community Alliance Model

*(Furco, Leiderman, and Goss, 2004)*

# *Levels of Sustainability*

- Institutional level
- Department level
- Project level
- Course level
- Agency level
- Individual/Faculty level
- Issue level

# Research Questions

- What is a good partnership, from your perspective? In contrast what is a bad partnership? What are spoken and unspoken issues that have affected your partnership?
- What are you doing within your own partnership that other similar initiatives might get excited about?

## *Research questions (cont'd)*

- From your perspective, what are the benefits and costs of participating in these kinds of partnerships?
- What do you want campuses to know based on your experiences in these kinds of partnerships?
- What recommendations do you have for the broader field?

## MEDIATING FACTORS FOR COMMUNITY PARTNER PARTICIPATION

- Presence of sufficient, qualified staff at a campus center;
- Level of sustained administrative interest and visible leadership supporting community engagement;
- Assessment of quality of prior experiences with higher education institutions;
- Attention to issues of trust and accountability;
- Clear expectations regarding preparation of students and faculty.

# Four Questions Community Members Consider

- How well does this engagement activity align with my broad goals for partnering with campuses?
- To what extent will this engagement activity contribute to achieving my organization's mission?
- What is the risk or potential harm to my organization's credibility?
- What are the actual and opportunity costs of participation?

# Indicators of Parity

- Early interest in creating meaningful community outcomes;
- Processes and staffing that distribute authority and funds across the partnership;
- Willingness of campuses to support community settings beyond the partnership;
- Welcoming community partners onto the campus to assume important roles.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Allot time for relationship building early on;
- 2) Learn how to talk together about racial, ethnic , and economic inequalities;
- 3) Identify the underlying reasons for establishing the partnership;
- 4) Understand the organizational contexts in which all partnership members work;

## *Recommendations, cont'd*

- 5) Ensure fairness in the exchange of resources among partners members;
- 6) Invite community partners onto the campus to share expertise with faculty and students; and
- 7) Be meticulous about the details.

# *Issues to Consider*

- **PARTNERSHIP FOR WHAT?**

(community-based research, civic education, etc.)

- **RESOURCES**

University: (intellectual and human capital, academic legitimacy; recognition and prestige; etc.)

Community: (experience addressing social issues, understanding the local culture; legitimacy among community members, etc.)

# *Issues to Consider*

- **CHALLENGES**

Programmatic: (15-week semester/10-week quarter; student skill levels; supervising and training students; assessing student work)

Logistical: (transportation, liability, fingerprinting, background checks)

Other: (turnover, politically sensitive issues, time, resources)

- **ACCOUNTABILITY AND SUCCESS**

(Evaluation, feedback mechanisms, assessing partnership quality)

# Traditional Scholarship and the Scholarship of Engagement

## TRADITIONAL

- breaks new ground in the discipline
- answers significant questions in the discipline
- is reviewed and validated by qualified peers in the discipline

# Traditional Scholarship and the Scholarship of Engagement

## TRADITIONAL

- is based on a solid theoretical basis
- applies appropriate investigative methods
- is disseminated to appropriate audiences
- makes significant advances in knowledge and understanding of the discipline

# Traditional Scholarship and the Scholarship of Engagement

## TRADITIONAL

- breaks new ground in the discipline
- answers significant questions in the discipline
- is reviewed and validated by qualified peers in the discipline

## ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

- breaks new ground in the discipline *and* has direct application to broader public issues
- answers significant questions in the discipline which have relevance to public or community issues
- is reviewed and validated by qualified peers in the discipline *and* members of the community

# Traditional Scholarship and the Scholarship of Engagement

## TRADITIONAL

- breaks new ground in the discipline
- answers significant questions in the discipline
- is reviewed and validated by qualified peers in the discipline

## ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

- breaks new ground in the discipline *and* has direct application to broader public issues
- answers significant questions in the discipline which have relevance to public or community issues
- is reviewed and validated by qualified peers in the discipline *and* members of the community

# Traditional Scholarship and the Scholarship of Engagement

## TRADITIONAL

- is based on a solid theoretical basis
- applies appropriate investigative methods
- is disseminated to appropriate audiences
- makes significant advances in knowledge and understanding of the discipline

## ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

- is based on a solid theoretical *and* practical bases
- applies appropriate investigative methods
- is disseminated to appropriate audiences
- makes significant advances in knowledge and understanding of the discipline and public social issues
- applies the knowledge to address social issues in the local community

***NATIONAL REVIEW BOARD  
FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OF ENGAGEMENT***

<http://www.scholarshipofengagement.org>