The Role of HBCUs Today

“Partnership & Community Engagement”

LOC/ LOCCDC Success

LeMoyne-Owen College Community Development Corporation

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What is the Current Status of Community Engagement

- For student, faculty and service-learning professionals, working in communities requires the institutions to look beyond what is safe and familiar to that Institution. Colleges by pure design are highly self-referential, they often have little understanding about why community partners are interested in them or even how they view the relationship.
What Lesson Have We Learned?

- Communities want the knowledge base the Institution has to offer.
- Collaborations are not a traditional strengths of the Institution.
- There are different views of what a successful partnership model looks like, but most of these work.
- Private Sector/ Public; Philanthropic/ Corporate; Colleges/ Community Campus Collaborations to name a few.
What Lesson Have We Learned?

- Understanding capacity, resources and expected contributions of each partner.
- Shared control of the partnership.
- Culture and Race – must be addressed, we sometimes think “it’s ok”, but we must address these issues.
- Listening, Leadership and Language – do you hear me, can we share management and every voice is viable.
Characteristics of Community Collaborations/Partnerships

- The long standing thought that all partnership’s have identical mission is not right, although all share common origins. The core mission of most is to provide access to a ultimate single/common goal and opportunities for the all of the communities they represent.
Characteristics of Community Partnerships

- The institution itself is not likely to have surplus resources to support community economic development projects.
- Cooperation and Collaboration with the surrounding community is consistent with its mission.
- For many HBCU's there is little difference from the resources of the community and its own resources.
Best Practices

- What are the lists of resources for doing this partnership? We should develop a list of all the resources that are available – community leadership resources, professional development opportunities and funding resources.

- Create opportunities that will provide a shared knowledge based that can assist individuals/communities and colleges in building opportunities for campus/community engagement.
Key Elements for Successful Partnerships

- Encourage serious and sustained examination about promoting a shift from a disciplinary to a problem solving approach to community issues which involves research with community members as active, valued participants throughout the process from beginning to end.
- Roles and responsibilities are based on each partner's capacities and resources.
- Parity is achieved by acknowledging and respecting the expertise and experience of each partner.
Key Elements for Successful Partnerships

- Partners are **committed** to ensuring that each partner benefits from participation.
- Partners are accountable for carrying out plans and ensuring quality.
- Resources, rewards and risks are shared among all parties.
- Power differences - not all partners arrive at the table feeling equal.
LOCCDC’s Success “AMEOBA”
LeMoyne-Gardens in 1984
College Park in 2007
Walker & College in 1984
SOULSVILLE USA in 2007 and beyond
University Place Hope VI
University Place

- **The College’s Role**
- **Design of a Technology Plan for the Complex**
- **College’s Athletic Facility Planned on Site**
College Community Engagement

- Transit Service Use by the Community
- College outreach to the community to provide transit services
- Economic Development Activity
Community Engagement

- Boys and Girls Club Culinary Art and Logistical Training Center
- Recognizing that all students will not go to College
Community Engagement

THE College provide Workforce Development Training statewide with its partner TDOT
Community Engagement

- LOC’s “Think Tank” – role of a Metropolitan HBCU Today – Community, Students, Faculty, Board
National Leadership - Local Impact

US Congressman Steven Cohen speak about the role of LOC and all HBCUs
Future SOULSVILLE USA
Present Dorm Site Neptune & McLemore
Breaking Ground in 2007
Federal, State, Local Government - Private, Corporate, Non-Profit, Community Partnership
Towne Center at Soulsville USA

- Public and Private $11 million real estate deal
- 100% owned by the LOCCDC
- Minority managed
- Retail, commercial, housing development
- New Market Tax Credit Project
- New Urbanism Design
- LOC involvement – School of Business, Student Internship and research implication
Breaking Ground Nov. 2007

STAX MUSEUM & MUSIC ACADEMY
McLemore Street

new towne center at soulsville
Lemoyne Owen College Community Development Corp
Outcomes/Achievement/Results

- Model for Higher Education and Community Development
- Over $200 million invested around this HBCU
- Sustained Investment
- Relevancy for the Community and The College
- Leadership Development – community engaged in the process