



# Oregon State University

## University Outreach and Engagement Extension Service

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Dear OSU Community,

Oregon State University's public purpose is embedded in our identity as Oregon's, land-, sea-, space- and sun-grant university. Public engagement has been a bedrock for OSU since its founding. Oregon State programs and faculty are located in every county of the state and address the state's greatest challenges. The state of Oregon is OSU's campus, and our mission is to serve the state, the nation, and the world. Outreach and Engagement is part of our [institutional mission](#) and included in our [strategic plan](#). Our deep collaborations with communities we serve beyond the campus borders, and the reciprocal nature of the work we do together, has been recognized by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching with its elective [Community Engagement Classification](#) in 2010.

We have done great work with our collaborating communities since 2010 and it is now time to submit our application for re-classification by the Carnegie Foundation. Because the classification is an evidence-based documentation of institutional practice, it provides us with the opportunity for a truly reflective process of **institutional self-assessment and self-study** designed to 1) help unify our community engagement agenda while identifying promising practices and distinguishing OSU among other peer institutions; 2) legitimize the work we do, giving us public recognition and visibility; 3) hold us accountable to our public service mission; 4) shape our community-engaged curriculum and scholarship.

With these values in mind, we have selected a steering committee to spearhead this effort, and we have hired a re-classification project manager, Susan Rowe. While we recognize that the efforts for collecting data for regional accreditation are also currently underway, we want to call for your support of our Carnegie re-classification effort. Members of our steering committee and Susan will likely reach out to your units/departments/programs during our data collection process for this application. There are a total of [361 U.S. Colleges and Universities](#) awarded this Community Engagement classification, where 240 of these received first-time classification or re-classification in 2015, including a number of our aspirational peer institutions.

Being re-classified by Carnegie as a "Community Engaged" institution is of ultimate importance and we urge you to contribute during this data collection process. If you have any further questions, please contact Susan Rowe, Carnegie re-classification project manager at [obriensu@oregonstate.edu](mailto:obriensu@oregonstate.edu).

Sincerely,

Scott Reed, Vice Provost University Outreach and Engagement, Director OSU Extension Service

Alix Gitelman, Vice Provost, Office of Undergraduate Education