

Global Encounter-Brazil: Making a Difference Health, Education, and Social Disparities-Group Report Out

Procedure used to generate this document:

Participants were asked to answer these questions in the pre-writing phase and before any group discussion:

What are your current or future focused areas of teaching, research and/or outreach related to Brazil?

What resources (existing at MSU or working in collaboration with MSU) should be considered as the University moves forward on any and all work related to Brazil?

What are the top three to five things that MSU should be doing in regards to this theme/area of concern in Brazil over the next five to ten years?

Looking back in 5-10 years, how would we know that we had been successful (Are there *measurables/metrics* which might be useful?).

For which items in question 3 would you be willing to be contacted to continue work as the Brazilian (or Lusophone) agenda progresses?

Additional comments?

After the pre-writing period, the group discussed questions 3 and 4 only. These report-out notes are taken from the presentation the group facilitator made to the plenary session.

MSU should be doing the following in the area of health, education and social disparities in the next five to ten years:

Focus on collaboration and sustainability

- Establish active partnerships with Brazilian universities
- Engage in relationships with government agencies
 - Education: exchange scholars
(Does FIPSE exist for Brazil? Was the application approved?)
- Social group/support for Brazilian students on campus and in East Lansing area

- Engage in collaborations with broader-based institutional commitment—collaborations need to be based on an idea, not an individual, so that projects do not collapse after the champion moves on – individuals can contribute within the scope of a larger commitment
- Leverage existing programs-e.g. online Food Safety master's degree, blended programs
- Explore collaborative technological solutions to research, education, and outreach
- Initiate/build on faculty-faculty relationships, especially for research which will drive teaching/outreach
 - defined by both or all parties
 - multi-disciplinary
 - mutually satisfying
- Develop relationships with public schools and practitioners
 - build on other relationships (e.g. University of Portugal and Brazil already work together)
- How do you facilitate interaction? How do folks get linked to other people/institutions?
 - global interaction to address global problems
- Promote health, prevent diseases-complete an environmental scan in view of Brazilian citizen priorities
- Generate collaborations and let these drive priorities
 - sustainable

These metrics can be used to determine if MSU has been successful in sustaining projects and collaborations:

Maintain or increase these measurable outcomes (benefits):

- Increase the number of study abroad opportunities
- Increase the number of internships and graduate student exchanges
- Increase the number of research projects, faculty collaborations, publications and monetary support
- Increase the number of students (from Brazil)
- Increase Portuguese instruction at MSU
- Satisfaction surveys of participants-students, faculty, involved universities, countries, contributions. Evaluate if

mutual goals and objectives are being met.

Evaluate trends over time

Outcomes

- In the area of health, education and social disparities, use the Millennium Development Goals as a basis

This material was generated from Global Encounter-Brazil, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/brazil>>, held at Michigan State University on November 7, 2006. This interactive and participatory event was designed to obtain input and to elaborate in a country-specific forum on relevant themes, opportunities, issues, and opportunities affecting MSU's current and future engagement in Brazil (and to some degree Lusophone countries).