

Global Encounter-India

Education-Making a Difference

Group Report Out

Procedure used to generate this document:

This document represents the summary of group discussions related to their self-selected area or interest/expertise in one of six topic areas (Education; Environment; Food Systems and Agribusiness; Gender, Poverty, and Social Inequalities; Health; and Technology and Economic Development.). Individuals first wrote responses to these specific questions related to the topic to be considered:

What are **your** *current or future focused areas of teaching, research and/or outreach (engagement)* related to India?

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 India?

What are the top three to five things that MSU should be doing in regards to this theme/area of concern in India over the next five to ten years? How would we know that we had been successful?

After the pre-writing period, the group discussed both questions within the last item. These report-out notes are taken from the presentation the group facilitator made to the plenary session.

Group One

Opportunities and Advice

- Teaching
 - MSU needs to pick out a few institutions for lasting impact. Choices should be based on MSU's strengths and promising Indian institutions.
 - Use Virtual University model—lower tuition costs and low manpower needs
 - Study Abroad—consider reverse Study Abroad
 - Increase Indian faculty at MSU
 - .teaching Indian languages
 - .teaching culture of India

- Research
 - With universities
 - .Use exchange of faculty
 - .Tailor research to their needs
 - .Provide on-site training
 - With industries (e.g. auto industry, computer sector)
 - .Collaborate with industry in India to provide internship training for MSU students and exchange of ideas
 - Participate in research on Indian education
 - .Currently there is limited research in this area in India
 - All activities must translate into public benefit for the greatest good

- Resources
 - MSU has limited resources
 - There are available federal resources including NSF
 - Partnering institutions
 - Private endowments/scholarships for Indian visitors and graduate students.
 - Fund raising is needed for these endowments and scholarships

Assessment (Metrics)

- Enrollment in MSU programs
- Training/completion rates
- Language testing
- Benefits to Indian society, impacts in U.S. and other

Group Two

- Our strength is in interdisciplinary research collaboration
- Start-up Funds and/or Seed Money are necessary
- Consider the formation of Mid-West University Consortiums
- Technological Collaborations in Distance Learning/On Line Courses
- Points for Improvement—where to focus
 - Exchange of faculty and students
 - More courses on issues of India and South Asia
 - Involvement of Indian Diaspora in tapping resources
 - Hiring of faculty with specialization on India in Social Sciences and Liberal Arts
 - Formal teachers training program to decrease illiteracy in India
 - Develop research project in building data on Indian education

This material was generated from Global Encounter-India, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/india>>, held at Michigan State University on September 22, 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 India and to a lesser degree southeast Asia.