Creating a Resilient Region

Community Driven, University Assisted

Working together to build sustainable communities in Minnesota

2012 Small Town Symposium
University of Minnesota, Morris

Panelists ~

- Kathy Draeger, statewide director, Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, University of Minnesota
- Carly Boettcher, May 2012 graduate, William Mitchell College of Law, Saint Paul
- Zach Tagar, graduate student, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
- Moderated by Diane Dube, director, William Mitchell Community Development Clinic

Topics & Skills

Think Creatively ~

- The Who:
  - High school
  - Undergraduate
  - Graduate & Law students
  - Faculty
  - Centers
- The What:
  - Any & all disciplines

The Project ~

- The Who:
  - 10 high school students
  - 9 undergraduates
  - 9 law students
  - 7 graduate students
  - 9 faculty
- The What:
  - Environmental
  - Science
  - Policy & management,
  - Landscape architecture,
  - Business & Law
  - Applied economics
  - GIS

The Central Minnesota Sustainable Development Plan
creating a Resilient Region

**Diverse Academic Resources ~**

*What can your institutions do?*

- Fact Finding
- Research
- Analysis
- Drafting
- Technical Assistance
- Faculty expertise & interests
- Student expertise & energy

**The Region 5 Project ~**

- GIS mapping
- Scenario development
- Facilitation assistance
- Faculty speakers
- Activities – local foods, energy
- Economic analysis
- Fair Housing Equity
- Analysis modeling
- Policy toolkits
- Performance measures/indicators

**Examples of student work ~**

*From Base Camp*

**GIS Mapping ~**

- 2010 Population Density
- Central Minnesota: Aging Population 2055

**2013 Lakes, Streams and Water Access**

- Central Minnesota: Aging Population 2055
- Scenarios
creating a Resilient Region

How to create partnerships ~
- Identify research needs
- Connect
- Engage
- Manage
- Complete
- Celebrate

Connecting ~
Identify your “target” ~
- Institutional websites
- Faculty bios
- Student organizations
- Centers located at institutions
- Ask around
- Network
Engage your “target” ~

The Region 5 Project ~
- University of Minnesota
  - Internal networks
  - External networks
- William Mitchell College of Law
- Networking at 2010 Small Town Symposium!
- Initial “targets” brought in their contacts & connections

Four Scenarios ~
Abundance 2035
Bootstrap 2035

Current Trends 2035
Doomsday 2035
Creating a Resilient Region

**Working with Students & Faculty ~**

*Tips & Needs ~*
- Communication
- Clarity of
- Purpose
- Tasks
- Timeline
- End product
- Background information
- Updates
- Guidance
- Encouragement

*The Region 5 Project ~*
- Retainers & Deliverables
- Communication
  - Base Camp
  - Emails
- Background information through Base Camp
- Clear guidelines & expectations
- Acknowledgement & encouragement

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**Complete & Celebrate ~**

*Tips ~*
- Deadlines
- Deliverables
- Share the work product
- Acknowledgements
- Presentations
- Letters of Reference

*The Region 5 Project ~*
- End of semester party
- Base Camp postings
- Thank you
  - One on one
  - Acknowledgement at public gatherings
  - Acknowledgement in reports & articles
  - From multiple sources
  - Frequent & Sincere

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**Lessons learned ~**

- Collaborations between communities & students can be enlightening for both
- Students want relevant experiences
- Sometimes it doesn’t work so well
- Each project is different
- Each student is different
- More often than not, it works great!

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**Questions ?**

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