

Global Encounter-Brazil: Making a Difference

Institutional Planning and Support

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 institutional planning and support in the next five to ten years:

- Provide opportunities for students to expand their horizons
 - International experiences
 - Two-way student exchanges
 - Redesign what it means to be an alumnus
 - Expand Portuguese instruction
 - “Learn more” while on foreign study

- Good experiences for Brazilians while they are in the U.S.
- “Internationalization at home” here in East Lansing
- Mentoring for undergrads
- Get them early ... partner with honor college and high schools
- Develop Partnerships
 - Universities
 - Foundations / NGOs
 - Government
 - Private Sector
 - Internships
 -make the process easier / less bureaucratic
- Focus on thematic research so as to increase funding potential
- Find a way to leverage library resources to partners around the world
- Alumni / Team MSU connections
 - Mentoring opportunities (undergrads with faculty)
 - Plant seeds – help undergrads develop into better researchers
 - Enhance relationships – How can MSU support alumni as alumni continue to support MSU?
 - Increase information sharing and exchange
 - Leverage visiting scholar connections
 - Develop process for facilitating the connections
 - Maintain faculty linkages
 - Spread the word! Increase marketing efforts

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

Note: The group concentrated on what MSU should be doing and did not provide any metrics.

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).