

# **Global Encounter-Brazil: Making a Difference**

## **Political Economy, Commerce, and Global Relations**

### **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 political economy, commerce and global relations in the next five to ten years and this is how we would know that we had been successful:**

- Joint Research/Conferences
- Teach Portuguese in more sections:
  - For Spanish speakers
  - Second and third year Portuguese offerings

- Secure a FIPSE-like grant to support undergraduate student exchange
- Develop community development/outreach linkages
  - K-12
  - Host-country partners
- MSU competes with Vanderbilt University, Florida International Miami, Arizona State University, and University of Texas at Austin as we lead Brazilian/Latin American studies. MSU has the largest number of scholars focused on Brazil.
- Formal and informal linkages with Brazilian higher education institutions
- Incentives are needed to engage Assistant and Associate Professors
- As we teach political, commercial economic, cultural social, languages, etc. programs, we become advocates for Brazil
- Policy engagement
- MSU needs to be identified in the CIC as a leader in Brazilian Studies
- Entrepreneurship opportunities with targets including
  - number of students
  - number of faculty
  - funding to support research
  - funding for undergraduate scholarships
- Center for Brazilian Studies as MSU

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

- Number of students
- Number of faculty
- Funding to support research
- Funding for undergraduate scholarships

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).