



APLU Innovation and Economic Prosperity (IEP) Universities Program

Testimonials of Impact and Endorsements / www.APLU.org/IEP

An internationally recognized designation program designed to advance university-based economic and community development

“University technology transfer is essential to maximizing the impact of universities in the United States and global economies. Programs like APLU’s IEP Universities designation underscore the vital role of tech transfer in a university’s broader economic development and public impact strategy and allow for university-wide focus on these critical themes.”

- **Stephen Susalka**, Chief Executive Officer, Association of University Technology Managers

“Over the past several decades, university missions have expanded from teaching and research to include economic development and translating university-based research into real products and technologies that benefit society. Recognition of the tremendous value that academic innovation and inventions create for all is extremely important in encouraging even greater contributions in the future. The IEP process is a wonderful program that facilitates engagements at all levels, focuses institutions and inventors on the economic impact they can create in their communities, and is paramount as we work to magnify innovation within academia.”

- **Paul Sanberg**, Paul Sanberg, President, National Academy of Inventors; Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Knowledge Enterprise, University of South Florida

“The IEP Universities program has enabled many senior research officers to engage their colleagues, staff and partners to think critically and earnestly about their work in economic development and community engagement including how best to codify, measure, communicate and advance economic engagement. Arizona State University reaped great value from the IEP process and is a proud recipient of the IEP University designation and the 2017 APLU’s IEP Economic Engagement Connections award.”

- **Sethuraman "Panch" Panchanathan**, Director of National Science Foundation; Former Executive Vice President, ASU Knowledge Enterprise; Chief Research and Innovation Officer, Arizona State University

“Clemson University’s participation in the IEP university designation process led to a new vision for the type of organizational structure that will most effectively serve our efforts in the future.”

- **Robert H. Jones**, former Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Clemson University

“APLU’s IEP Universities designation is more than a certification program. APLU’s IEP process lends itself to an invaluable opportunity to holistically assess an institution’s work in economic and community development—identifying achievements but also areas of growth and improvement. Institutions share best practices and learn how to address mutual challenges in a community of practice spanning APLU’s membership and beyond. NCSU is a proud recipient of the IEP University designation as well as the 2014 IEP Award for Place Development. Pursuing the designation is a worthy objective, and I fully recommend this program to any university leader keen on advancing economic engagement across their campus.”

- **Randy Woodson**, Chancellor, North Carolina State University

“The IEP Universities program is wealth of a resource for higher ed institutions seeking to advance and elevate their work in economic and community engagement. The designation process and the community of practice among designees provide ongoing value to campus leaders seeking better strategies for assessing, measuring and communicating their economic and societal impact. Over the course of my career spanning three presidencies of IEP designated institutions, I have come to recognize the importance of institutions in economic development. I strongly recommend this program to presidents and chancellors seeking to further an institution’s economic engagement enterprise.”

- **Duane Nellis**, President, Ohio University

“We were delighted to earn APLU’s Innovation and Economic Prosperity designation because we believe it not only benefits New Mexico State University, but also the state of New Mexico and our entire region. Increasingly, it’s becoming the responsibility of public and land-grant universities to focus outreach programs in the areas of economic and community development. By turning the lens on ourselves during the self-review process, we were able to evaluate and strengthen what we are doing in terms of Innovation with NMSU’s Arrowhead Center, our economic development engine, which works throughout the state and surrounding areas. We were also able to examine our university-wide community engagement efforts. We are now building on the Talent component of our process through new experiential learning and career development.”

- **Garrey E. Carruthers**, former Chancellor, New Mexico State University; Former Governor of New Mexico

“The IEP designation process has generated tremendous cross-campus buy-in for our shared responsibility of advancing innovation and economic prosperity in our region. The investment of time and resources towards this process will serve us well for decades to come.”

- **Rebecca Robinson**, Chief Economic Development Officer, Kansas State University; Board member, University Economic Development Association

“As described in our book, *Land-grant Universities for the Future: Higher Education for the Public Good*, the Kellogg Commission’s Returning to Our Roots report, the Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement, and the Innovation & Economic Prosperity Universities designation created by APLU together have played a critical role in codifying how public and land-grant universities make significant intellectual and economic contributions to the well-being of our society and economy.”

- **Gordon E. Gee**, President, West Virginia University and **Stephen Gavazzi**, Professor, Ohio State University (Johns Hopkins University Press)

“APLU’s IEP designation process and subsequent IEP awards to the University of Maryland helped initiate university-wide awareness of the importance of engagement with the community from the president's office, the vice presidents, faculty, students and staff. As former president of the Association of University Research Parks, I can attest to the importance universities are attaching to the promise of community based economic empowerment, and I know of no tool better equipped to demonstrate economic engagement to both internal and external university stakeholders than the IEP designation process.”

- **Brian Darmody**, CEO, Association of University Research Park; Associate Vice President, University of Maryland College Park

“The IEP University designation process served as a tool for cataloging the University of Pittsburgh’s economic engagement activities and shed light on opportunities for growth. It helped to build momentum for the creation of the Office of Economic Partnerships that I now lead. Our IEP designation connects us to a network of like-minded universities for sharing and developing economic development strategies and serves as a symbol of Pitt’s commitment to economic engagement across talent, innovation, and place.”

- **Rebecca Bagley**, former Vice Chancellor, Office of Economic Partnerships, University of Pittsburgh; Board member, State Science and Technology Institute (SSTI)