

Linking equity, strategic partnerships, and economic development at Portland State University

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How do urban universities help create jobs in ways that increase prosperity and equity?

- Urban serving universities use innovative partnerships to advance economic development
- USUs draw first generation/underserved students
- Industry partners seek more diverse workforce

How can these elements be combined?

- Portland economy strong in electronics, software, manufacturing, healthcare, and clean-tech
- Many job openings now require import of talent
- State has ambitious education attainment goal
- Portland population increasingly Hispanic and Asian
- PSU ~30% under-represented and 1st generation

Oregon's "40-40-20" higher education goal

- Hallmark of Governor's education agenda
- By 2025:
 - All Oregon adults have high school diploma or equivalent
 - 40% have an associates degree or equivalent
 - 40% have a bachelor or higher degree*
- * Requires more inclusive pipeline

- Expose young adults to hands-on STEM then show them innovation-based career pathways
- Work with local stakeholders on common agenda
- Collective impact approach for STEM pipeline
- Implementing national STEM programs for under-represented groups:
 - Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (K-12)
 - Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (UG)

Research & Strategic Partnerships (RSP) role

- Research combined with strategic partnerships
- Continuum of research-related partnerships: institutional, PI-PI collaborations, workforce training, and community-based learning

PSU Engagement - Partnership Spectrum

Provost and Deans

Research and President

Community Engagement

Professional Development

Research & Sponsored Proj.

Strategic Partnerships

Community-based Teaching & Learning

Student Employment & Professional Application

State & Local Research and Service

Institutional Priority Business & Civic Partners

Course-Based

Work-Based

Contract-Based

Strategy-Based

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- PSU's strategic partners seeking to diversify:
 - Intel (Electronics, Software)
 - OHSU (Healthcare)
 - City of Portland (Cleantech)
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship agenda

PSU Cleantech Challenge

- Build a prototype in 90 days for a chance at a \$20K grand prize
- Seven semi-finalists get \$2500 grants
- Linked to PSU's Business Accelerator and Innovation and Entrepreneurship agenda
- Connects with sustainability institute
- Funded by Wells Fargo, PSU and Oregon BEST