

Office of Academic Community Engagement (ACE)  
Faculty Advancement & Student Success (FASS)  
San Diego State University (SDSU)

## 2024-2026 Strategic Plan: Strengthening Our Foundation

This plan is not a permanent document; it exists as a living document whose contents will be regularly reviewed, evaluated, and updated as needed over the next two years.

**LAST REVISION: AUGUST 2024**

### The Vision of ACE

*What are our hopes? What is our desired future?*

*The vision of Academic Community Engagement is for faculty and community partners to feel part of a collaborative community of practice utilizing service learning pedagogy, community-based action research, and other forms of community-engaged scholarship to facilitate deep student learning as they explore and address critical societal issues.*

### The Mission of ACE

*What is our purpose? What do we do?*

*To cultivate community engagement within and across SDSU's research and teaching programs while supporting accessible engagement opportunities for 75% of SDSU's students.*

### 2024-2026 Strategic Priorities and Goals

*What goals will help us move forward and evaluate our progress?*

#### 1. Support the Carnegie Community Engaged campus certification, including building a sustainable infrastructure for ACE at SDSU.

##### 1.1. Maintain SDSU's relationship with CSU Center for Community Engagement and secure CA Call to Service funding to support the ACE Office.

- 24/25: Complete submit the 2023-2024 CA Call to Service Annual Report and submit via the S4 system. [COMPLETED]
- 24/25: Complete and submit the 2024-2025 CA Call to Service Statement of Intent and submit via the S4 system.
- 24/25: Meet monthly with CSU Center for Community Engagement Director.
- 24/25: Meet monthly with CSU Service Learning Directors working group to explore programming, policy, initiatives, and more.
- 24/25: Attend the 2-day CSU Service Learning Directors Affinity Conference annually in the fall.

##### 1.2. Successfully complete the Carnegie re-classification by the end of AY 2024-2025.

- 24/25: Establish a Carnegie taskforce | Presidential charge letter. [COMPLETED]
- 24/25: Design and Implement project plan and materials. [COMPLETED]
- 24/25: Hold 3-5 working sessions for taskforce members in the fall.

- 24/25: Develop and advertise the inaugural SDSU EXcel Awards. [COMPLETED]
- 24/25: Review nominations and select an EXcel Award winner and runners-up. Identify 5-8 campus partnerships to highlight and collaborate (e.g. meetings, site visits, etc.) to strengthen application content.
- 24/25: Collate section drafts into a single application, copyedit, and gather feedback from the key campus stakeholders and consultants.
- 24/25: Organize and complete meetings/site visits for the 5-8 Carnegie-identified community partners.
- 24/25: Host the SDSU EXcel Award winner celebratory lecture and luncheon.
- 24/25: Submit Carnegie Reclassification application by April 1, 2025.

**1.3.** Design and implement a **CANVAS Community-Engaged Learning Homeroom** for asynchronous training, sharing of ACE Community of Practice recordings, managing community engaged faculty listserv, and community discussion board.

- 24/25: Design and launch the CANVAS Homeroom to interact with community engaged faculty and manage official ACE communication.
- 24/25: Develop a minimum of four modules that contain short deck-based instructional videos, guides, infographics and other materials related to community engaged course-related tasks: course/project development, designing a CE syllabus, completing the CELT course certification process, and applying for SDSU course designation via Curriculog.
- 24/25: Set up and launch a CE-related community discussion in CANVAS.
- 24/25: Redesign of the ACE website so that faculty facing information is complementary to CANVAS Homeroom rather than redundant.

**1.4.** Employ the assistance of Department Chairs, Program Directors and faculty to ensure known **SL/CE courses are documented in the SDSU SL/CE Catalog and certified** using the CELT (Community Engaged Learning Tool).

- 24/25: Meet 1:1 with department Chairs/Directors to identify courses and reestablish relationships. [COMPLETED: 35 meetings summer 2024]
- 24/25: September outreach to Chairs/Directors/Faculty to inform re: ACE Community of Practice events and Carnegie Reclassification goals related to CE course/project data collection.
- 24/25: Three targeted outreach communications (fall, spring, EOY) to known CE course instructors for both F24 and S25 offering help with the CELT process.
- 24/25: Beginning the year with 25/30 required CELT-certified courses (30 is the 3-year goal for SDSU set by the CSU Center for Community Engagement), ACE will exceed the goal by the end of 24/25.

**1.5.** Develop a strategy to **improve data collection/sharing** related to community engagement, including the improvement of risk management processes, ability of faculty/programs to achieve compliance, assessment and reporting.

- 24/25: Attend monthly CSU S4 Consortia meetings for service learning programs regarding the new V3 of S4 to help determine feasibility for SDSU.

- 24/25: Regular meetings with P2P, risk management working group, and other campus stakeholders, to update campus policies regarding Executive Order (EO) 1064, and subsequently updated EOs.
- 24/25: Develop and implement guidance to departments and 1-2 training sessions for faculty regarding updated risk management processes, including key terminology changes.
- 24/25: Using a campus-wide collaborative approach, develop a plan/proposal to help the SDSU campus better collect, maintain and utilize data related to community engaged courses/projects.
- 25/26: Develop a proposal for the implementation of S4 (or alternative system/process) at SDSU, as appropriate.

## **2. Build campuswide relationships to advance student participation.**

### **2.1. Collaborate with Glazer Center for Leadership** to cross-promote events and initiatives, including conducting students from opportunities into coursework.

- 24/25: Facilitate a Glazer Center presentation to the ACE Community of Practice about programming and collaboration in recording student service hours.
- 24/25: Facilitate a way for Glazer Center to promote course opportunities to students on campus.
- 24/25: Develop a plan to ensure the campus has an effective way to track student service, whether as part of a course or independently.

### **2.2. Develop meaningful partnerships to engage more students in SL/CE courses.**

- 24/25: Meet with student-facing campus partners (YMOC leadership, EOP leadership, Director of General Studies, Director of Interdisciplinary Studies, and others) to identify ways to connect more students to CE.
- 24/25: Develop a plan to increase community-engaged course/project outreach with targeted student populations.
- 24/25: Provide 3-5 faculty mini-grants (\$500-\$1500) for faculty developing new or expanding existing community engaged opportunities for students.

### **2.3. Explore new campus partnerships** that can increase awareness about community engaged learning opportunities for students while also increasing visibility for faculty.

- 25/26: Schedule meetings with International Affairs to discuss partnering with the Faculty Global Engagement Awards.
- 25/26: Schedule meetings with Research and Innovation to discuss S3 and ways to better incorporate and highlight community engaged research.

## **3. Advance the visibility, rigor, credibility, and transparency of community-engaged teacher-scholarship.**

### **3.1. Continue to build a culture of support and collaboration by maintaining the ACE Community of Practice.**

- 24/25: Schedule and hold six (6) hybrid lunch & learn events reaching 200+ faculty, record and make them available asynchronously on CANVAS site.
- 3.2. Using strategic partnerships developed during the Carnegie Reclassification efforts, rebuild the ACE Advisory Committee, and institutionalize it as a Senate Committee.**
- 24/25: Appoint two faculty in residence. [COMPLETED]
  - 24/25: Engage the Carnegie Taskforce members feedback in determining the most appropriate/effective composition of a campus-wide advisory committee.
  - 25/26: Submit an Action Item to SDSU Senate to charter the advisory committee.
  - 25/26: Charge the committee to explore ways to enhance the importance of community engaged work within the RTP process.
- 3.3. Promote and raise awareness of exemplary community engaged learning at SDSU through ACE website, listserv, community emails and partnerships with StratComm.**
- 24/25: Establish a dynamic media repository on the ACE website (e.g., EXcel Award winners/runners up and/or other exemplary faculty community engaged work).
  - 24/25: Engage CCR on SDSU EXcel Award process and amplify media assets through campuswide communicator partnership to highlight the work of the 5-8 Carnegie highlighted partnerships (at minimum).
- 3.4. Update the Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion (RTP) Policy so that a faculty member's community engaged work positively impacts RTP outcomes in a more formalized way.**
- 25/26: Work with Senate leadership to issue a referral to Faculty Affairs (FA) (Academic Policy & Planning and ACE Advisory Committee as collaborating committees) to explore updates to the RTP Policy.
  - 25/26: Research how other campuses have adjusted RTP policy to formally recognize and reward community engaged work.
  - 25/26: Collaborate with Senate committees to move recommended RTP Policy updates through the Senate.