Assessing the Learning of Students involved in Community-University Partnerships

Assessing the learning of students involved in Community-University partnerships for academic credit involves a number of unique issues. These issues relate to the method of assessment, who does the assessment and differing expectations of student performance.

The Centre for Business and Social Entrepreneurship (CBaSE) housed within the College of Management and Economics (CME) is a vehicle through which student experiential learning opportunities are pursued. It is the portal between CME students and community, through which students can be matched with community projects as part of their curriculum. As such, assessment strategies and learning objectives must be evaluated to ensure faculty, student and community needs are being met.

Discussion Items:

• How to allow for student engagement and social responsibility in students while fostering learning.

• How to provide project-based experiential learning opportunities for CME students and, through these, offer services for businesses and non-profit organizations.

• Provide support for on-campus collaborative student projects bringing business and non-business students together, and leading to student entrepreneur competitions.