Goal 1: Identify institutional priorities to help shape engagement

A Task Force for Community Engagement works to implement and enforce the Community Engagement Initiative of the Strategic Plan.

Responsibilities of the Task Force include tapping existing leadership resources across campus, working with departments and program directors to build collaboration and human relation skills into curricula, working with deans and higher administration to provide incentives for faculty to reach community engagement goals, and working with Resource Allocation Work Force to provide fiscal infrastructure that supports community engagement in face of financial challenges.

The fiscal infrastructure of EWU adopts policies and procedures to fund a leadership initiative. Such policies take into account the cost and value of applied learning. Such policies reward faculty for community service and leadership.

Goal 2: Identify the communities in which EWU builds partnerships and provides leadership

The EWU community prioritizes a regional presence among faculty versus a national or international presence, but supports leadership and community involvement at all levels of engagement, including regional, state-wide, national and international.

Goal 3: Faculty, Student, Staff and Administrative Inventory of Community Leadership

The EWU Internship office creates an activity inventory of students, faculty, staff, and administrators already connected to various agencies, organizations, businesses in Spokane County and Eastern Washington. Interested faculty, students, staff, administrators, and community members contact this office to connect with the person or persons already connected.

The inventory serves to help measure the extent and impact of EWU's involvement across the region and to identify existing community partnerships and to identify faculty with expertise in various areas of community service.

Goal 4: Creating incentives for faculty community engagement

The university utilizes guidelines of the Service Learning Committee to recognize and reward community engagement, including work through grants and applied research. The university supports an annual award or recognition process for community engagement to be held during commencement exercises or the annual breakfast.

The task force on community engagement identifies options for measuring the value of faculty participation in service learning for tenure and promotion considerations.
Faculty are encouraged to solve research problems in the community, as demonstrated by the Institute for Public Policy and Analysis and other institutes and organizations currently engaged in community partnerships. Departments are convinced that regional engagement through research and scholarship is at least as beneficial as national/international engagement.

Deans support faculty efforts toward community and regional engagement. College plans adopt principles and policies that reward faculty for engagement accomplishments on same level as teaching and scholarship.

The EWU community develops a university-wide agreed upon metric for the evaluation and measurement of community engagement.

The Teaching and Learning Center sponsors a quarterly forum for faculty engaged in community activities to present their efforts. The forum provides for interchange and exchange among faculty to build on successful efforts in which faculty are engaged.

**Goal 5: Encourage two-way partnerships with communities rather than imposition of knowledge or expertise on the community.**

EWU supports a "bottom up" approach to community engagement, beginning with EWU students, faculty and staff listening to the community define their needs and investing time and effort working in the community to address those needs. EWU supports community participation versus an imposition of knowledge or expertise. Current projects such as Pathways to Progress and the coordination of student teaching in various school districts across the region serve as successful models for two-way partnerships.