Community Engagement and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

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Dilemmas for Humanity

- **Prosperity and Poverty**

- **Plenty and Scarcity**

- **Growth and Degradation**

- **Power and Insecurity**

- **Democracy and Exclusion**

Higher Education @ Crossroads

- **Higher Education in Turmoil: growth, quality, funding**

- **Systems of governance and regulation need reforms**

- **Student and Parent expectations soaring**

- **Demand for Public Accountability Growing**

- **Opportunity to make a difference in society**

Global Networks

- **Global University Network for Innovations (GUNI)**

  www.guninetwork.org

- **Living Knowledge Network - www.livingknowledge.org**

- **PASCAL International Laboratory -ww.pascalobservatory.org**

- **Talloires Network - www.talloiresnetwork.tufts.edu**

- **Global Alliance for Community Engaged Research (GACER)**

  www.gacer.org

Fostering Social Responsibility in Higher Education

In the face of growing isolation of HEIs from society, there is a need for renewed effort for HEIs for genuinely engaging with community, conduct socially relevant research and education and foster social responsibility amongst students as part of their core mission. For this purpose, a National Initiative to Foster Social Responsibility in Higher Education would be launched.

An Alliance for Community engagement, an independent association of practitioners, academics and community leaders would be created to support its implementation.

Principles of Engagement

- Mutually agreed interests and needs of both communities and institutions be articulated and respected;

- Engagement must encompass all the three functions of institutions of higher education—teaching, research and outreach/practice;

- Institutional engagement cutting across disciplines and faculties should be mandated, including natural sciences, and not restricted to social and human sciences alone;

- Participation in community engagement projects by students should earn them credits and partially meet graduation requirements and it should be integrated into their evaluation systems;

- Performance assessments of teachers, researchers and administrators in such institutions should include this dimension of community engagement.

Forms of Engagement

- **Linking Learning with Community Service**

- **Linking research with Community Knowledge**

- **Knowledge Sharing & Knowledge Mobilisation**

- **Devising New Curriculum with Community**

- **Inviting Practitioners as Teachers**

- **Social Innovations by Students**

Structures for Future

- **Empowered Committee of UGC on Community Engagement**

- **Alliance for Community Engagement (ACE) bringing community, civil society and academia together to learn, promote and assess the progress of socially responsible community engagement by Higher Education Institutions in India**

- **Systematising lessons for sharing widely --- institutional mechanisms**

Thank You