Best way for us to collaborate with you

What are your desires based on the 1) follow up work and 2) writing we are fiercely involved with and 3) potential collaboration around info gathering to document in a broader and more serious way SIA

Brainstorm together to see where you are in the work

Intermediate position, collaborating with you

Deeply collaborative way, building on Tim’s involvement in the FP workshop to think about documentation work

1. Building an overarching learning community including knowledge sharing, assessment, and communication – web portal, IMPACT
2. Integrating sustainable connections among fields, disciplines, and forms of knowledge
3. Metrics
   1. How to measure, document, track, asses institutional citizenship

Nancy – I really like the portal and the metrics, the second might come out of the 1st and 3rd

Doug – institutionalizing engaged practices as part of the core of university-community programs

Nancy – that might be a metric and an example. If that becomes one of the metrics, then you start talking on campus about how to do it. The learning community/portal thing would get it institutionalized. I see the goal to be institutional imbeddedness

Doug – when you start out it is hard to be institutionalized, but after a few years people will sign on and it has to be a goal and a metric

Nancy – if you had a set of metrics, engaged courses, numbers

Susan – the numbers are an important measure, but don’t actually speak to an integrated FP agenda that is actually moving the needle

Nancy – our metrics would not necessarily be the numbers, I want to see how SIA could be institutionalized and how this transforms the institution itself

Tim – IA has a small grant program to support curriculum development. Not all of the courses have a FP engagement component, but we could emphasize that in the next go-round

Susan – what the measures of sustainability and impact are, think about process for thinking about how to assess in a targeted way – it would be a self-assessment and some key projects would be able toapply the metrics to themselves

Tim – overlaps, democracy colleges

Susan – going back to Kal’s point – what do we want to use this for? The process could be a collective impact workshop. Assess progress and movement toward

Doug – department, organization, program, would be able to use the assessment tool?

Susan – you can use it to assess, to document impact, value, and as a planning tool. All three aspects of assessment could be built into this. A way to look forward and backward to assess improvement, and to document impact for those outside to demonstrate the value of work being done

Nancy – what we need and what we have going on. This is a very important time. We have a year and a half before I step down. I am looking at things that have been started. Near Westside, IA, Say Yes. We need to describe impact and plan to drive change going forward.

Susan – we are writing, based on the data collection and reflection we have been doing together, Margie is writing a narrative of the origin story of Scholarship in Action – how it took shape, who are the players and why. I am writing a theory of change. What is the theory by which SIA is achieving its aims. What is the process by which is gains traction, mobilizes, brings people together, and moves toward collective impact. An important start of that story is leadership change.

Nancy – SIA’s theory of change begins to get at the impact thing and notion of change with respect to multiple intersecting directions. 1) Full participation, 2) Public problem solving, and 3) cultural shifts in the institution. Doing public problem solving with full participation iterates back to create cultural shifts in the institution. Those three intersecting pieces need to be kept in mind.

Susan – we haven’t come together to identify outcomes (in terms of programs), but also these kind of collective impact outcomes. Those need to be collaboratively developed. It would be good to include people who think about evaluation (like Shena and Gina). Is it possible to do this in a way that would include them? Tim and I had a conversation to think about the sustainability project – those could be evocative of this project (re: Amartya Sen).

Tim – This may be pushing us too far, but the IA conference is going to be here in Syracuse in October and that may be a good moment to share what we have been doing. We had the first organizational meeting at the Warehouse. There are several community partners involved. How do we take the theme of “linked fates and futures” forward?

Susan – here are the measures, what can we do to move the needle, and where do we want to move toward? Part of the measure of something real is when those who are involved know what they have achieved and where they have yet to go. I’m sensitive to the politics involved in showing “how good we are.” Some of this is the capacity for self-criticism. I am conscious of the context.

Kal – people have to figure out what needs to be done, especially after June 2014. Space for engagement that leads to a critical juncture.

Doug – what is a deadline we could use for assessment and reporting back? Can we have this in hand by the end of February?

Susan – shared idea of what these measures are is important – and the process of coming up with them is as important as using them. Workshop in early March. We can plan toward that. Facilitate a workshop that would produce something, at the end of which people could buy into and bring forward. What do we already know about these measures? We have a lot of starting places for this kind of discussion. Not a huge event, but good representation – including community and students. We don’t have to have everyone, but representatives where people could respond and talk through what we care about and how we know and what indicators, and questions, and categories of analysis would help us get where we want to go. How would we collectively commit to building this kind of reflection and analysis into the work? (at least for some period of time)

Nancy – one meeting might not be enough. I don’t want this to start from scratch. There is a tremendous amount of work already done

Tim – constructive critique is very important

Nancy – to me, a key thing is being able to document what we have done, not just selfishly for me, and then be able to create something that becomes a planning tool. We have gone this far, now we have to go another mile. The public scholarship, tenure stuff is an example. We have it, now how do we make sure people use it?

Susan – you can never reach FP, so the measure is directionality. Are you moving in the right direction. You can talk about how far you have come and where you have yet to go. Reading people’s materials and expecting something transformative, and then you really look under the hood you realize it’s cosmetic. If there is a way to talk about this is by having self critique.

Doug – and having language that allows deep engagement

Susan – hour long brainstorming session with students, staff, faculty, organizational catalysts, and community folks – with a small group of people consistent across these groups. Two days of work. We really want to hear from people. Bringing together a couple of different stakeholder groups.

Thoughts about who and how would think about pulling this information together?

Doug – thinking about what would be in this – and what I would understand as engaged scholarship. Full participation which includes engaged scholarship. Are the problems real? Urgent? Is there a critical mass of people who want to come together? Does the work take multiple forms? Is the work imbedded? Are there new conversations? Do they set goals to collect data along the way? Is the university becoming better? Where do students go after having had these experiences? Who is reached in the larger world because SU is engaged in this work? What is the faculty doing and what forms does faculty work take? Products, creative work, etc?

Kal – these fit into Nancy’s 3 intersecting themes

Susan – having conversation across: 1) community, 2) faculty, 3) students, 4) intermediaries, 5) staff, the role of staff keeps coming up. This is something being attended to at SU and there is room to do more. If we don’t include staff we would be criticized.

Nancy – measuring impact made in the core of the work in SIA. Down the line there will be utility in thinking more broadly. I want to be able to say, these are the key things this agenda has been about. Here is how it has influenced community, the experiences of faculty, students, etc. and here are the things that need to be pushed further.

Kal – rubric gets people excited about the opportunity for public dialogue and the portal

* **December**: dates for middle of February with Kalpana (February 20-23? Possibly February 7-8?)
* **Dec-Jan**: Logistics of pulling this together: identify who the people are, invite them, and set up the room.
* **Week of January 7th**: another conversation
* **End-January**: Center will produce a short list of our idea for metrics, followed by conversations about them
* **February**: 2 days of brainstorming meetings with 5 different groups (including 1) community, 2) faculty, 3) students, 4) intermediaries, and 5) staff) – that would be for the purpose of developing a Tool/Rubric/Matrix for strategic planning and assessment
* **March-June**: Follow up to the workshop would include the development of the tool/rubric/matrix and its use to document what has been done and how in terms of SIA
* **May**: Theory of Change and Narrative of Scholarship in Action Origin coming afterward
* **September**: And something can be launched in time for the IA conference

SU Metrics document

Collective conversation with staff about the document