

6-4-2011

Town and Gown: First Steps in a Campus-Community Civic Engagement Partnership for Deliberative Democracy Forums

Chad M. Kahl

Illinois State University, cmkahl@ilstu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/fpml>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Kahl, Chad M., "Town and Gown: First Steps in a Campus-Community Civic Engagement Partnership for Deliberative Democracy Forums" (2011). *Faculty and Staff Publications – Milner Library*. Paper 20.
<http://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/fpml/20>

This Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the Milner Library at ISU ReD: Research and eData. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty and Staff Publications – Milner Library by an authorized administrator of ISU ReD: Research and eData. For more information, please contact ISUReD@ilstu.edu.



Town and Gown:
First Steps in a Campus-
Community Civic Engagement
Partnership for Deliberative
Democracy Forums

Chad Kahl
Illinois State University
Milner Library
June 4, 2011



**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Illinois' first public university

Campus

Residential comprehensive
university

Began as a teacher's college

Nearly 19K FTE

American Democracy Project

Be Enlightened, Be
Empowered,
Be Engaged

Civic engagement is one of five
core values in campus
strategic plan

Living Democracy Project of B-N

- Community group located in Bloomington-Normal, IL started in early 2000's
- Received Deliberative Democracy training
- Forums
 - End of Life - Fall 2009
 - Political Partisanship - Spring 2010
 - Illinois Budget - Fall 2010
 - Mission of Public Schools - Spring 2011



Goals

Collaboration between ISU ADP/PEP and LDP

Get more involvement from campus

- Especially students
- Curricular integration

Event

Held at the ISU student union on April 4, 2011

Coordinated by LDP and paid for by PEP/ADP

Had nearly 40 attendees - almost exclusively from community

Press coverage

- Community AM radio station, WJBC - [story](#)
- Community newspaper, *The Pantagraph* - [story](#)

Accomplishments

- Successful event
- Utilized National Issues Forum material for the first time
- Campus participation
 - Two faculty members agreed to be moderators

Challenges

- Campus participation
 - No new student involvement
 - Was not incorporated into any course curriculum
- Timing and location
 - First weekday night event
 - Community concerns
- Still would like to develop stronger relationships between ISU ADP/PEP and LDP

Additional Information

ISU American Democracy Project

- <http://americandemocracy.illinoisstate.edu/>

Living Democracy Project of Bloomington-Normal

- www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_196885327024466

National Issues Forum

- <http://www.nifi.org/>

Contact information

- Chad Kahl, Social Sciences Librarian - cmkahl@ilstu.edu