

Overview  
of  
The University of Michigan  
Detroit Center  
March 23, 2010

Mission Statement

*The mission of the University of Michigan's Detroit Center is to offer instruction, provide a central base to support on-going research activities, as well as encourage and sustain partnerships between the university, civic leaders, and community organizations to improve the quality of the city and the life of its residents.*

*It will embody the university's commitment to the city, serving as a visible and accessible information gateway to the University for the city's residents and institutions. Detroit provides a rich urban context and location for education and scholarship.*

General Overview  
of Activity

(The Detroit Center opened on September 21, 2005)

- **There have been more than 1000 meetings of large groups.** These have accommodated more than 25,000 people. These meetings have range from meetings with project partners for the research grants, community partners, departmental meetings, retreats, staff meetings, state and local government meetings, teacher professional development workshops, alumni meetings and academic classes.

- **The Detroit Center is providing central support for University research and community projects. (Examples below)**

- a. Healthy Life Styles; Social Work Research Project
- b. Project Manager Skillman Foundation's Technical Assistance Center
- c. EZ LINK (Exposing Computers and Technology to the Detroit residents); School of Social Work
- d. Promoting Healthy Eating in Detroit: School of Social Work.
- e. Center for Highly Interactive Classrooms, Curricula & Computing in Education, School of Education
- f. Healthy Environment Partnership; School of Public Health

- g. Bio Kids; Kids Inquiry of Diverse Species; School of Education
- h. Architecture & Urban Planning; Exposing Detroit High School students to the field of Architecture
- i. The Semester In Detroit program is in its second year and this experience is benefiting the students and various Non-Profit organizations.

**- The Detroit Center is encouraging and sustaining partnerships between the University and Community organizations and civic leaders.**

- a. Healthy Environment Partnership; School of Public Health
- b. Community Projects: Ginsberg; Americorp
- c. The City of Detroit conducted several forums during their election at the Detroit Center.

**- Serves as a meeting place for our large research projects.**

- a. Center for Higher Interactive computing in Education
- b. Departmental Retreats
- c. National Forum on Higher Education for the Public Good; School of Education
- d. Mental Health and African Americans; School of Public Health
- e. Study of Social and Cultural Influences on Adolescent Literacy Motivation and Development.
- d. The School of Social Work has many projects here including projects with the Skillman Foundation.
- e. The American Culture department from the UM Dearborn has held many workshops and classes.
- f. The Ann Arbor campus has hosted the State of Michigan Gear-UP activities here.

**- Special Events: The Center serves as a place to provide access for special one-time University events.**

- a. Middle School Asthma Project Public information session – School of Public Health
- b. Nursing; Undergrad and Graduate recruitment
- c. Alliance for Minority Participation: NSF Grant announcement

- d. Skillman/SSW Facilitator Training
- e. Detroit River International Border Crossing: Options for the Future
- f. U of M Dearborn; Detroit & Rome Art Exhibit
- g. The Undergraduate Admissions Office has several programs for High School students.
- h. UM Dearborn and Flint has conducted many activities.
- i. We hosted an annual Diabetes organization here for two years. This group has provided free education and medical service to the residents.

### Special Activities

- Faculty members from Wayne State University have come to the Center to get connected to faculty members on the Ann Arbor campus.
- The School of Art and Design open the Art Exhibit in 2008 and it showcase local Artist Art work.
- School of Public Policy forum: Discussion on the proposed new bridge from Windsor to Detroit. The Mayor of Windsor was at this meeting.
- The Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation partnership announcement was kicked off on Jan. 23, 2006 at the Detroit Center.
- The School of Engineering has launched the “First Robotics” Center. This will work with numerous students on building their interest in Math and Science.
- The Universities activity has been good for local business. Many groups have utilized local restaurants in the area for light refreshments, meals and catering for their events. Many restaurants in the local area such as the Avalon Bakery, Majestic, Atlas Bistro, Union Street and many other local businesses have obtain business from the individuals that have use the Detroit Center.