



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

EMMANUEL INTSIFUL & GUILLEN NGONGPAH | OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

UBUNTU IN ACTION: HARNESSING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING IN AFRICAN UNIVERSITIE

ABSTRACT:

This presentation explores how the University for Development Studies (Ghana) and the Center for Community University Partnership and Outreach (Cameroon) apply Ubuntu philosophy to address community challenges and advance Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through initiatives like Community-Based Learning, Sustainable Agriculture, and Women's Empowerment, these universities integrate Ubuntu values of interconnectedness and collective responsibility, demonstrating how higher education can drive sustainable development and social justice in African contexts. Insights will guide institutions seeking to align community engagement with Ubuntu and SDG principles.

THEMATIC FOCUS: DISSONANCE & RESILIENCE | LEARNING THE CHORDS | LISTENING CLOSELY

BIO(S):

EMMANUEL INTSIFUL

I have had the opportunity to engage in service-learning through my role as a coordinator for student success and retention. In this position, I worked closely with students to connect academic theory with practical, community-based applications. One of my key responsibilities involved mentoring students in leadership programs that emphasized social responsibility and community engagement. Through these experiences, I developed a deeper understanding of how experiential learning enhances academic growth while fostering a commitment to civic

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duty. This has reinforced my passion for integrating service-learning into education, as it benefits both students and the broader community.

GUILLEN NGONGPAH

Doctoral Student and Graduate Research Associate
Oklahoma State University
School of Educational Foundation, Leadership and Aviation