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Service: University as Community Partner

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ABSTRACT

Service has been seen as a responsibility of higher education since the early 19th century. It remains a responsibility of scholars to use their scholarship and research for the benefit of their community and society. Boyer (1990) developed four elements of scholarship. The application element uses scholarship to solve problems. Working in partnership with agencies and organizations in the broader community is one way to apply scholarship. Googins and Rochlin (2000) looked at cross-sectoral partnerships analyzing the challenges and benefits of these partnerships to the community and to the organizations involved. Cross-sectoral partnerships are a "...tool for change in that the partnering process can demonstrate how the fortune of each sector is inextricably linked to the other" (p. 128).

The sectors involved in the partnership examined in this presentation and paper represent the civil sector and the business sector. The partnership between Kingsport City Schools, Eastman Chemical Company, and Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (ELPA) department at East Tennessee State University (ETSU) designed and implemented the first Teacher Leader Academy (TLA) in Kingsport City Schools. The author will identify the category of value-exchange as defined by Googins and Rochlin, (2000) and present the contributions of and benefits to each organization in the partnership.