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Smashing Silos: Community Engagement Maps - A VIVO Extension

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Abstract
This poster was presented at the VIVO 2016 Conference in Denver, Colorado.

Keywords
VIVO, CTSA, higher education, community engagement, VCU, Virginia Commonwealth University, map, mapping, partnerships, university-community partnerships, community engagement, engagement, civic engagement

Disciplines
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Smashing Silos
Community Engagement Maps: A VIVO Extension

The Map:
- Is an extension of VIVO that enables the discovery of research and scholarship beyond campus walls.
- Promotes networking among academics and community members.
- Uses community engagement ontology.
- Includes an interactive search interface with map display and four filter areas: Geographic Reach, Focus Area, VCU Unit, and Activity Type.
- Utilizes freemarker code & Google Map API.

The Map Displays:
- Sustained university-community partnerships* between VCU & community partner organizations.
- Community partners (i.e., external organizations) include, but are not limited to, nonprofits, businesses, government agencies, schools, and art galleries.

WHAT

VCU is actively involved in the Richmond region through community-engaged partnerships in research, teaching, service/outreach, and patient care.

VENICE MAP

Before the Map, there was no mechanism to identify, track and evaluate partnership activities.

The Partnership Map provides a pan-institutional resource to connect, collaborate, and coordinate community-engaged activities and identify potential areas of opportunity.

VIVO and the Map provide flexible reporting and data aggregations at the university, college, school, department, and faculty levels.

WHY

In 2016, VCU completed its first round of partnership data collection using an online survey.
- Survey was distributed university-wide and by faculty who are involved in sustained community-engaged partnerships.

DATA

Partnership Survey Data Points:
- VCU Faculty & Unit Involvement
- Partner Information
- Geographic Reach
- Focus Areas
- Partnership Activity Type

Survey Results:
- 184 Partnerships involved in the Richmond region and beyond.
- 17 different focus areas.
- 107 sustained partnerships appear on map.

VIVO combined with a google-based map provide flexible reporting and visualizations that can be filtered by geographic reach, unit, focus area and activity types.

NEXT STEPS

This project is an ongoing collaborative effort that will continue to develop as a community engagement networking tool.

- Targeted Rollout: Fall 2016.
- Data Updates: Annually, using the online survey.

PROJECT TEAM + SPONSORS

- Tessa McKenzie, Division of Community Engagement
- Audrey Trussell, Division of Community Engagement
- Valerie Holton, Division of Community Engagement
- Stephen Guilford, University Relations
- Jon DeShazo, Center for Clinical and Translation Research
- Council for Community Engagement