

Lost in the Woods:

Reflections on an academic journey

November 2016

D. Myhre



Acknowledgement

- I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot and the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Siksika, the Piikuni, the Kainai, the Tsuu T'ina and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations 5




COI

- Potential for conflict of interest:
 - possibly nil





Inaugural lectures

- The Inaugural Lecture is an opportunity for newly-promoted Professors to inform colleagues in the University and the general public, about their research career so far; and update colleagues on their current and future research directions.
 - The inaugural lecture series is therefore a platform for our professorial staff to contribute to the academic life of the University through the medium of a public lecture.
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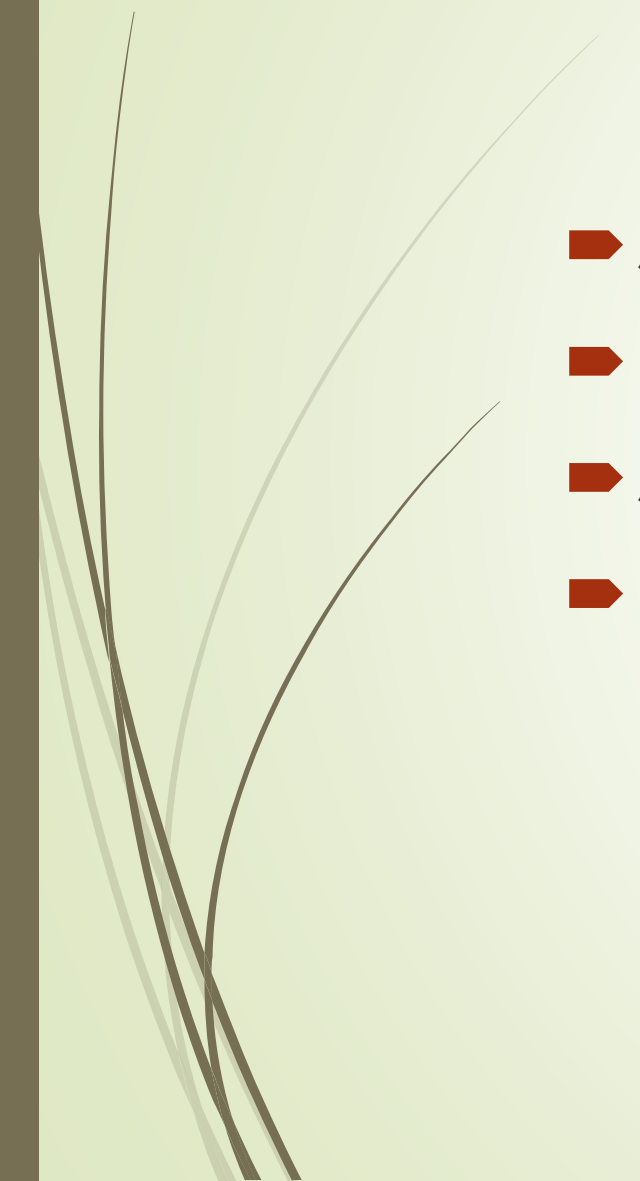
Goals


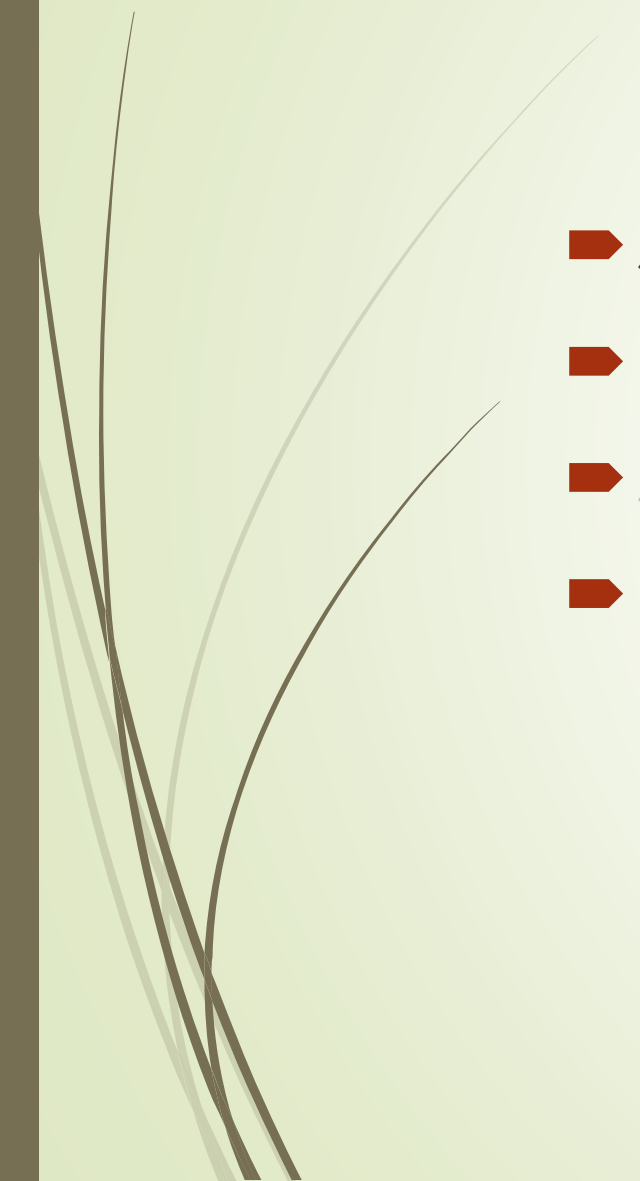
- Highlight broad community engagement, but,
- Consider a forgotten community for engagement and,
- Illustrate the role of emergent mentorship in community engagement


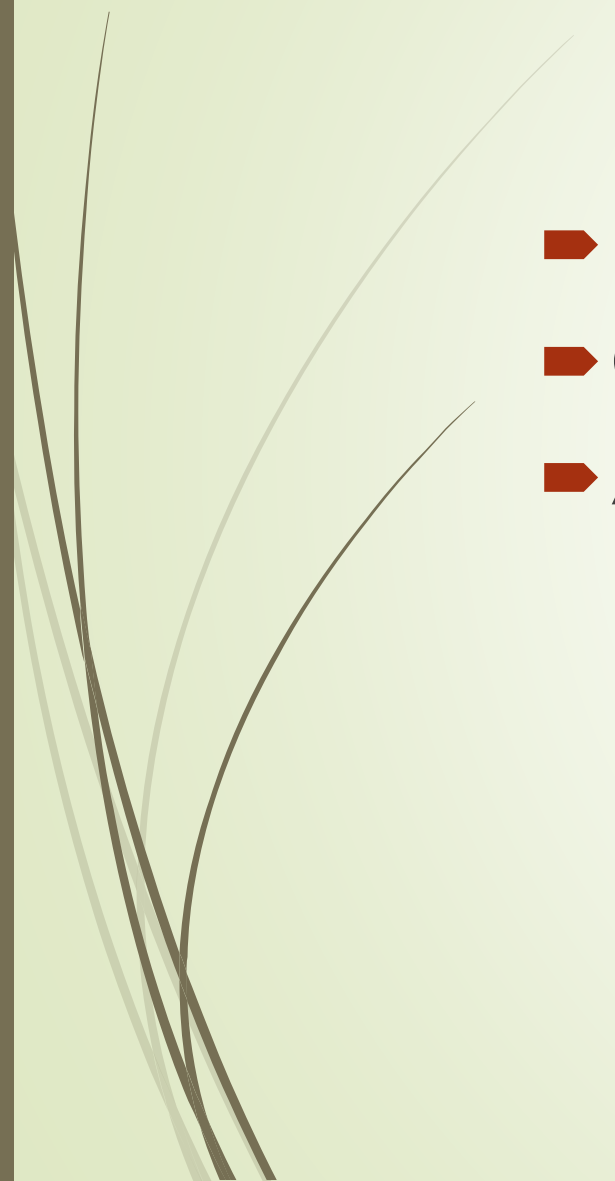


Explicit considerations:


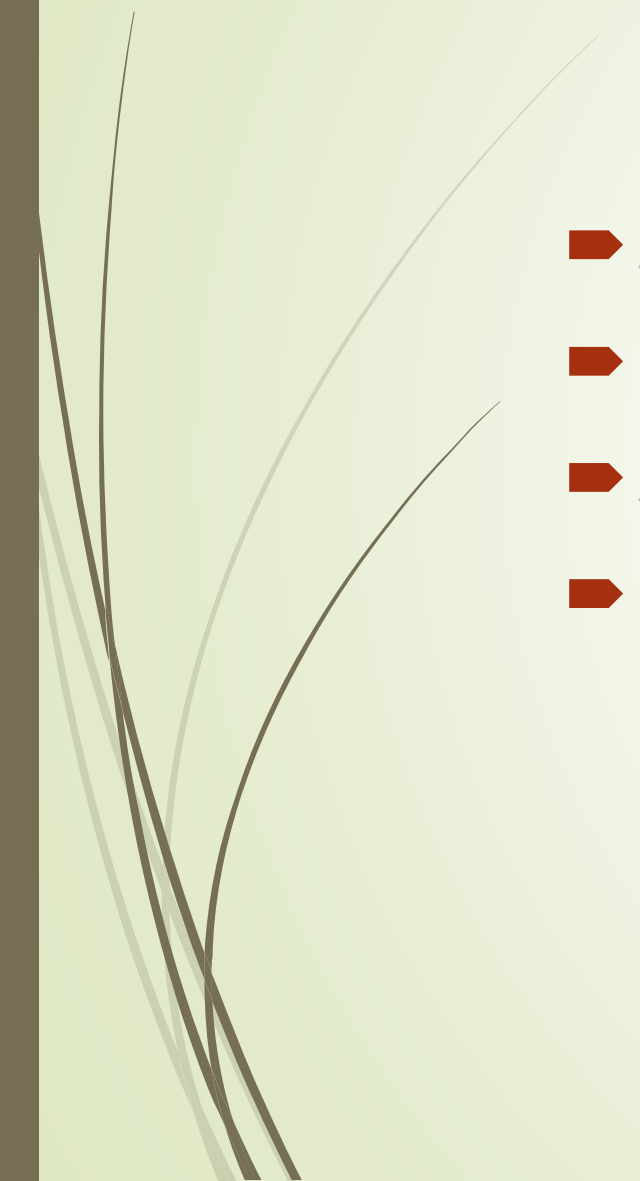
- Recognize community engagement as the major principle upon which the university will be sustained
- Recognize the need to improve community engagement with the forgotten
- Give examples of reaching beyond your comfort zone to mentor and improve community engagement

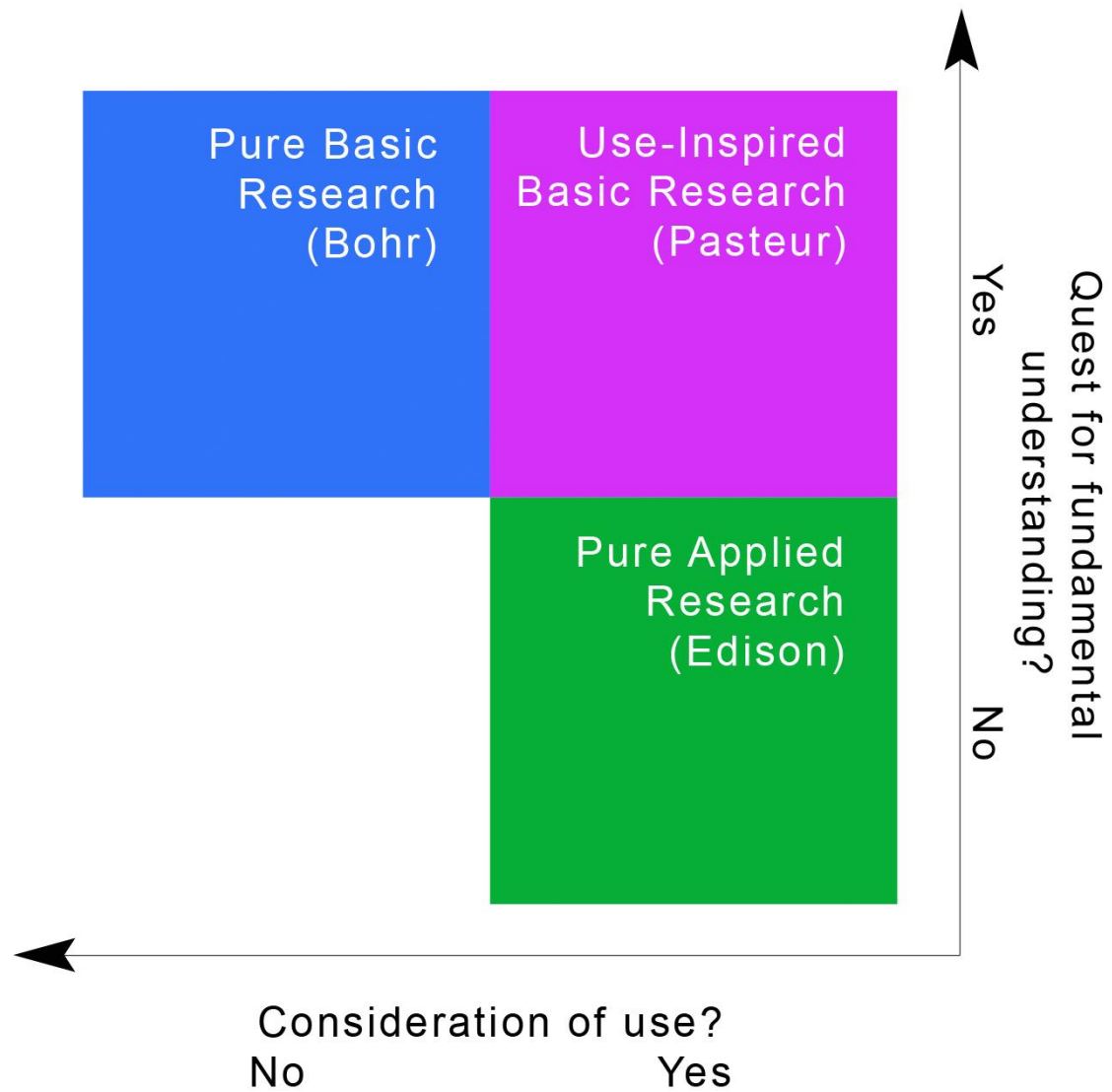
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- Journey to the Academy
 - Research
 - Journey through the Academy
 - Future directions


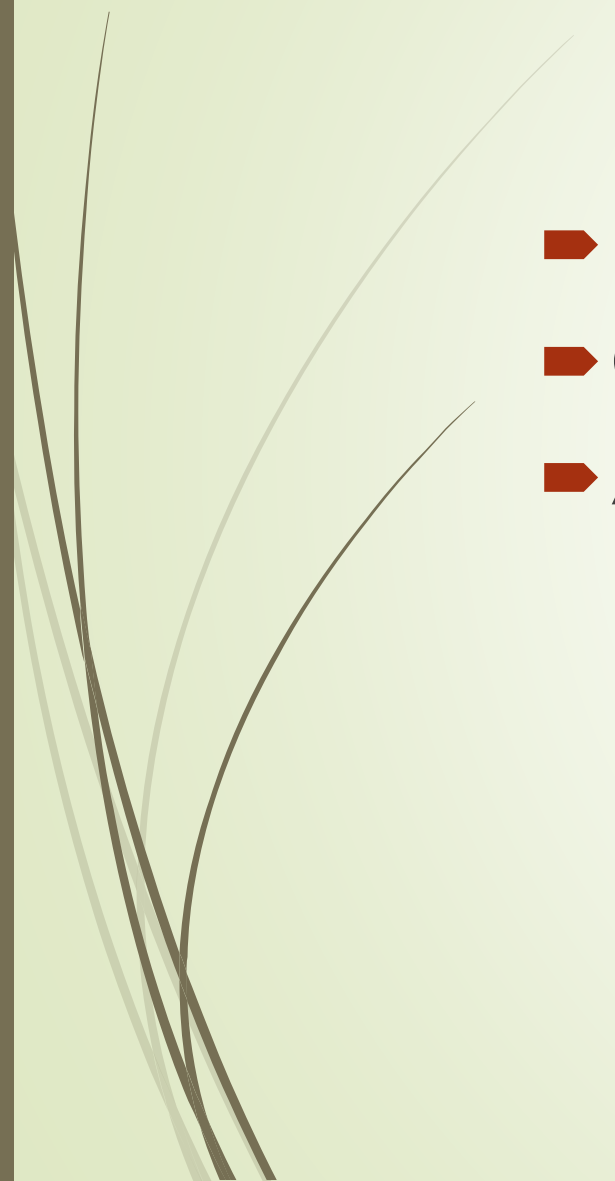
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- Ridiculous
 - Controversial
 - Accepted


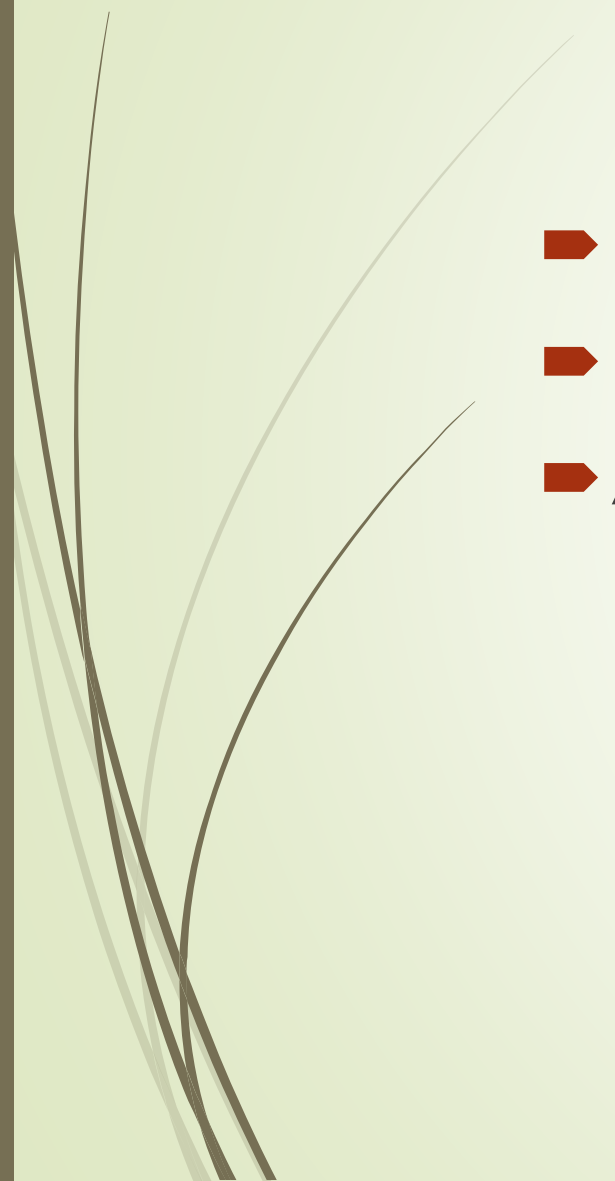


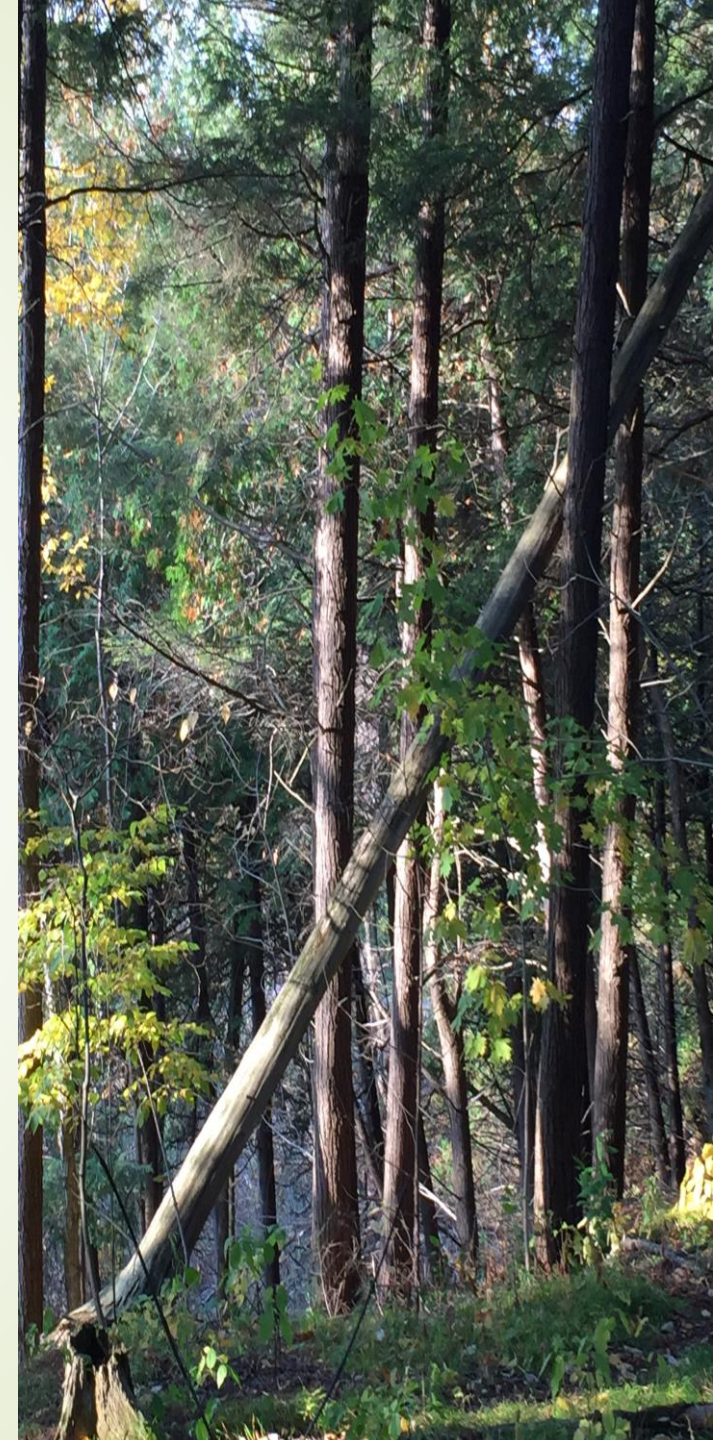
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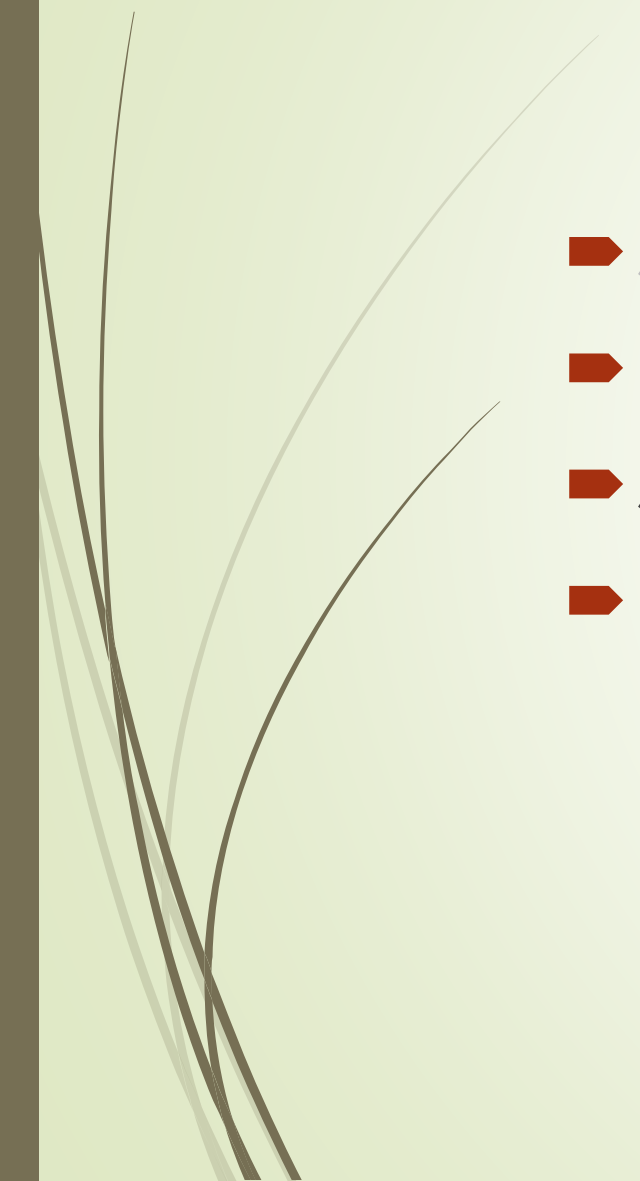


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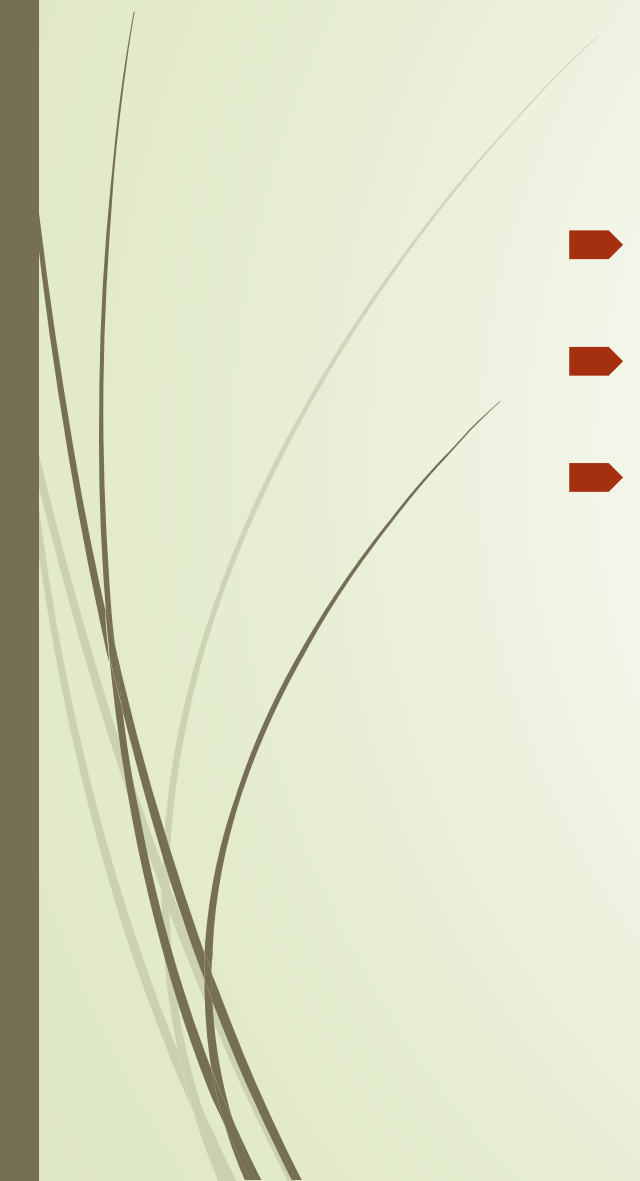
- 
- 
- Innovative, therefore curious
 - Evaluated
 - Accepted and translated



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Why?

- “why” is critical for success
 - people think and act from the inside out
 - Enables the “what” and “how”
- 



Advocating for values of social accountability: essential for the health of all our communities

- “It is not your responsibility to finish the work....., but you are not free to desist from it.”

- Rabbi Tarfon, Pirke Avot 2:21

- “To try to make the future is highly risky, it is less risky, however, than not to try to make it”


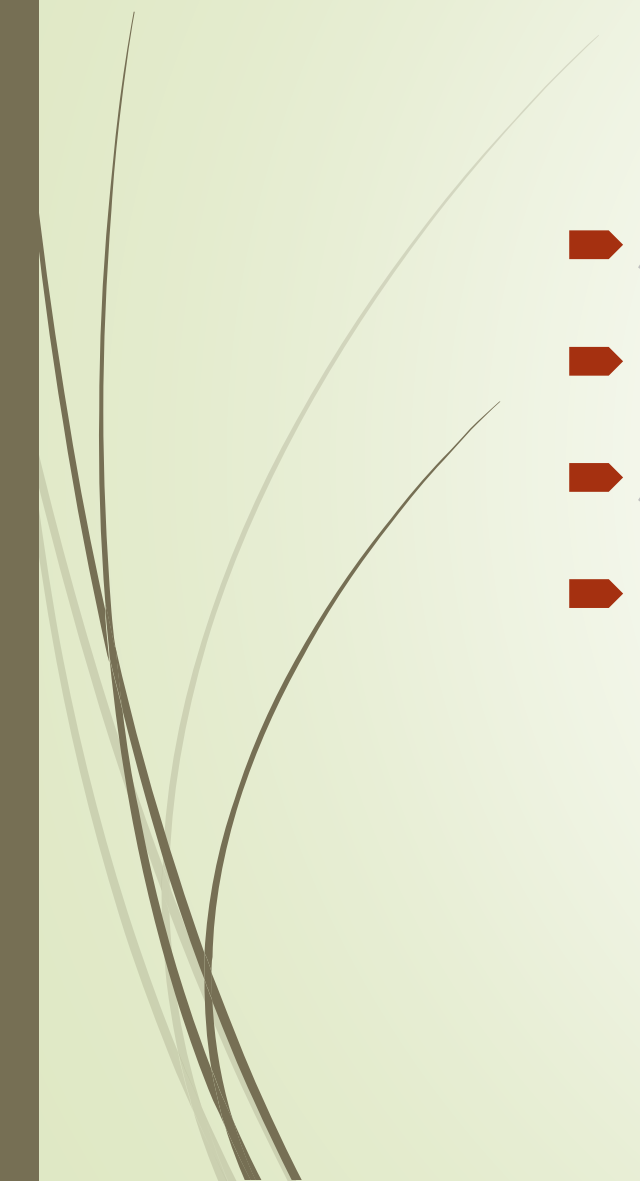
- Peter Drucker


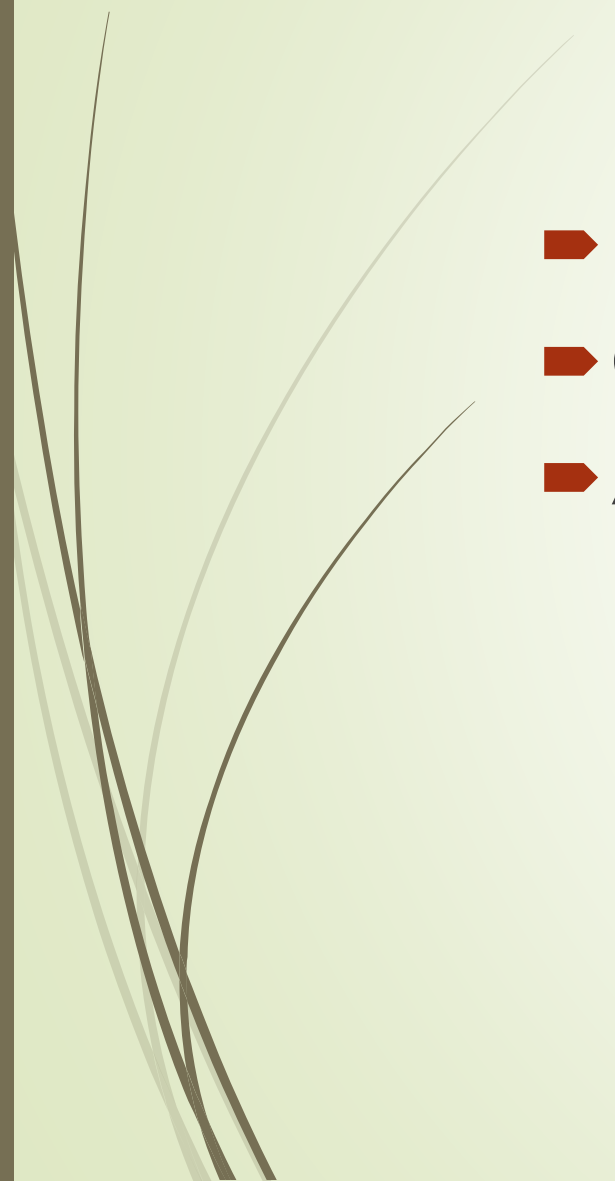


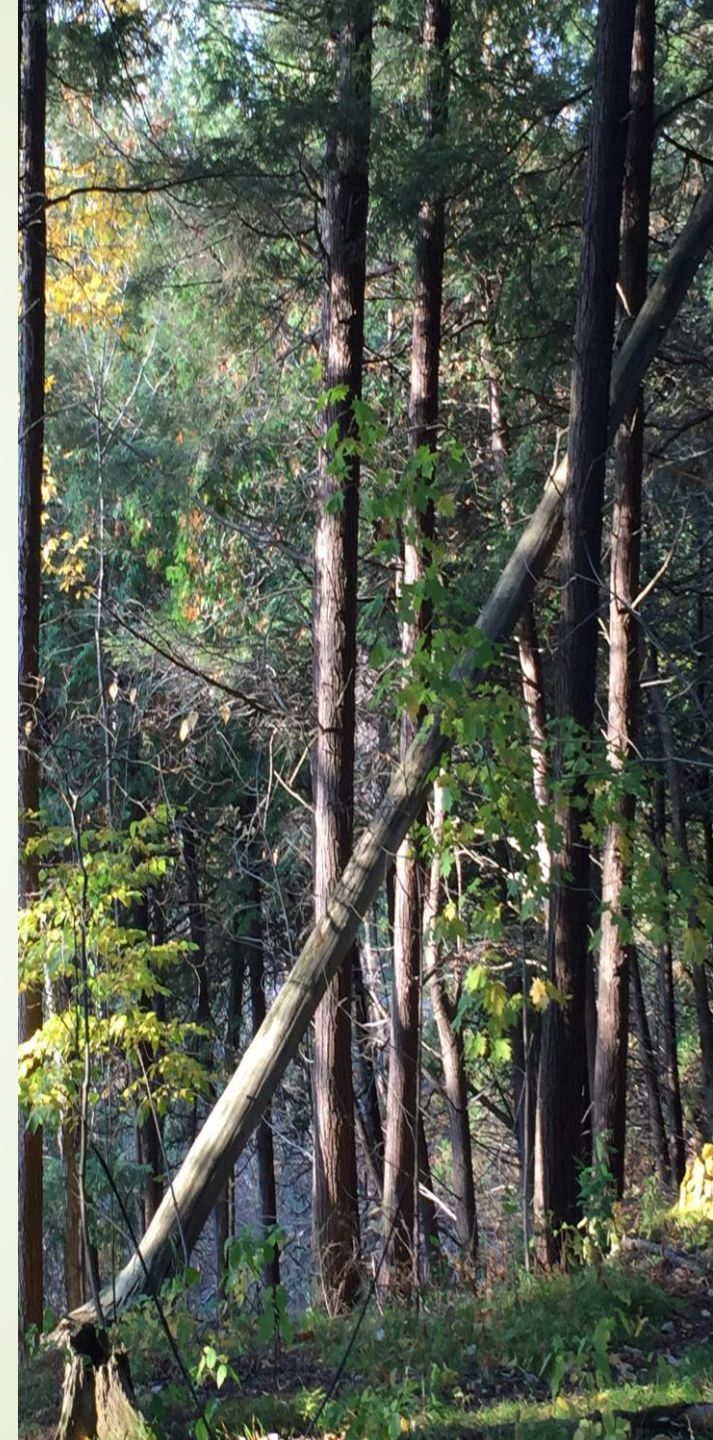
Sustainable only by community engagement


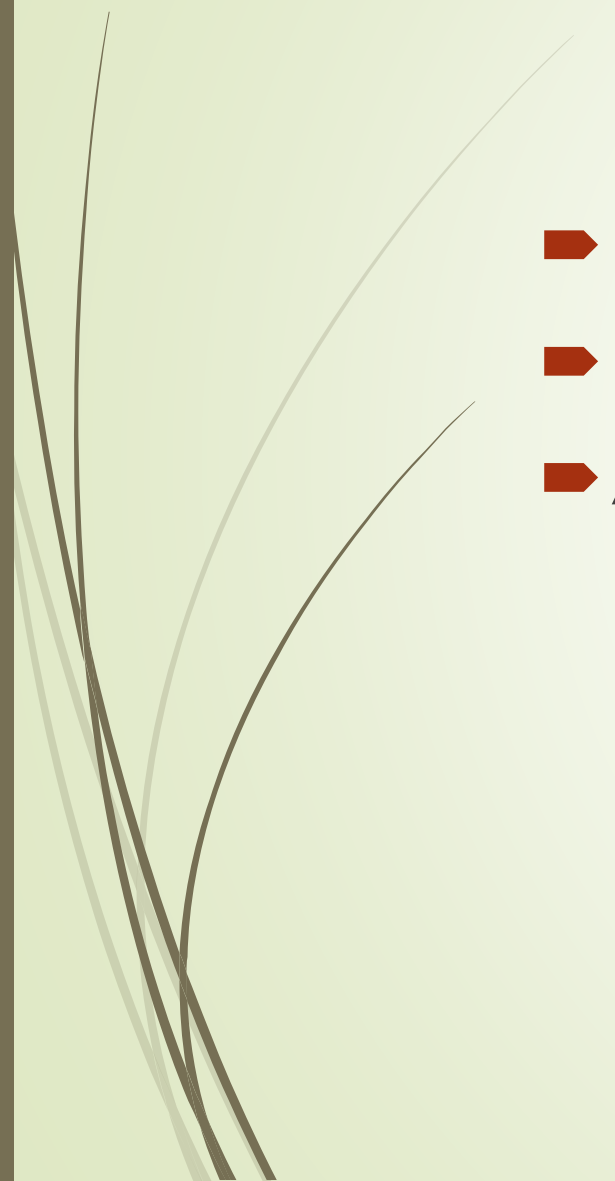
- ▀ Equity imperative
- ▀ Research imperative
- ▀ Care imperative

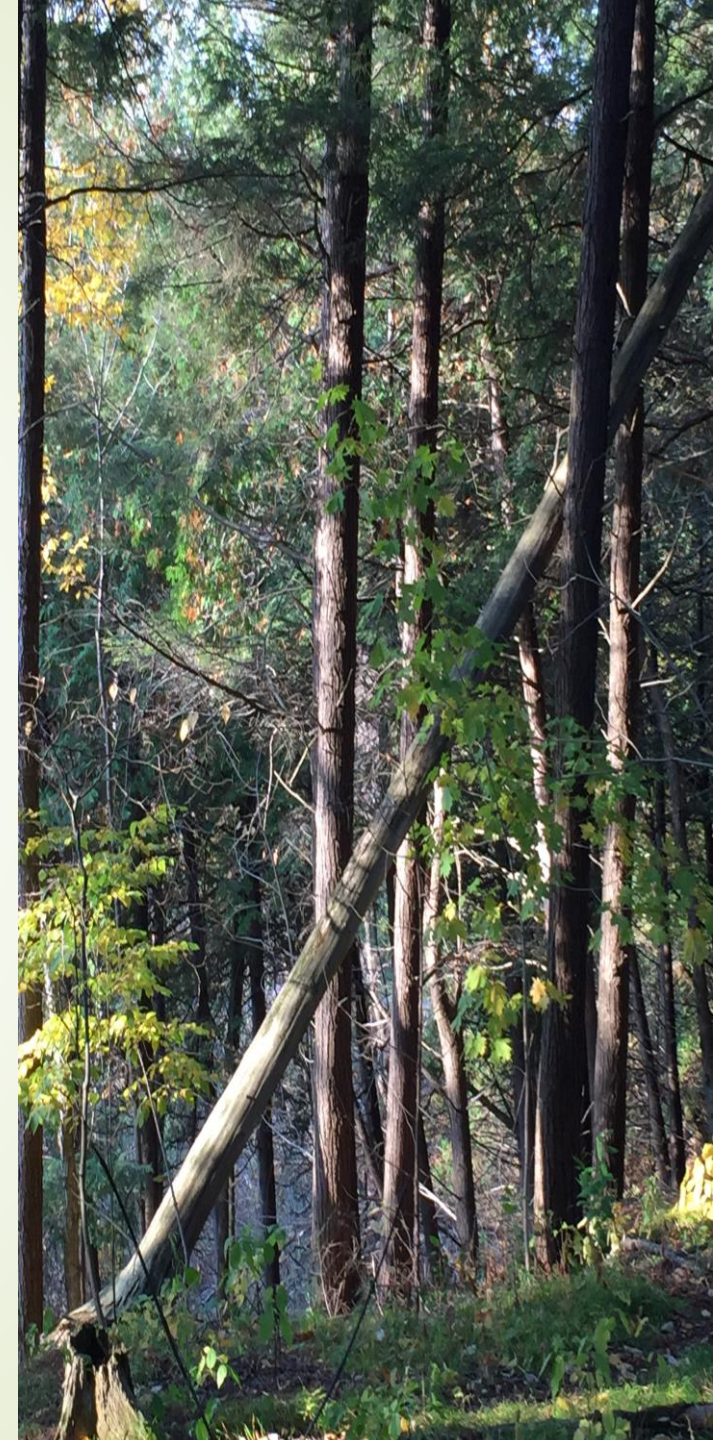
And we have an overlooked community...



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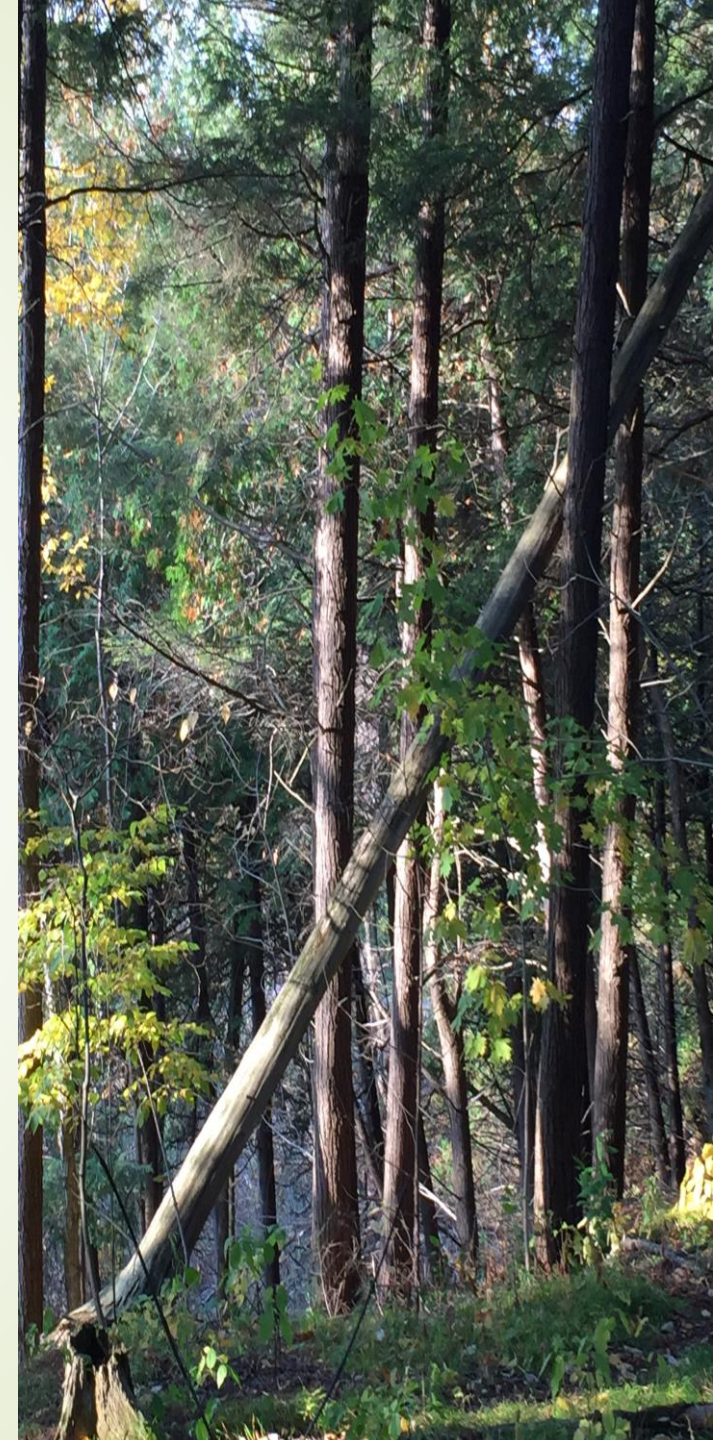
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- Ridiculous
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- One approach does not fit all
 - The more interaction (and the more interactive the learnings) with community, the better the journey and the better the outcome



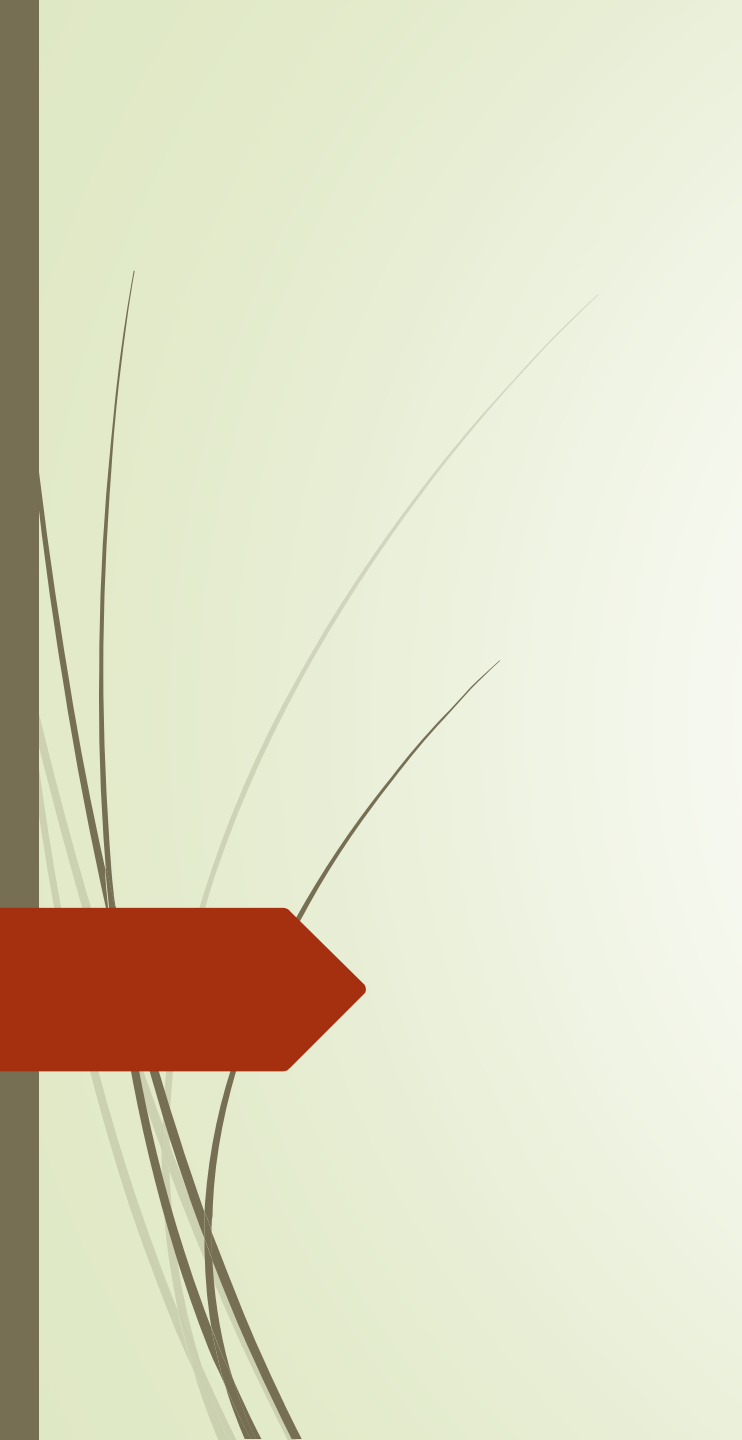


Mentorship and Timing

- Its like accounting or ironing...
 - keep doing it regularly
 - never too late to start



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- Recognize community engagement as the major principle upon which the university will be sustained
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Lost in the Woods: If a tree falls....

November 2016

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