Civic Engagement:
(National Overview)
(Ehrlich, 2000, vi)
Means working to make a difference in the civic life of our communities and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation to make that difference. It means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes.

Democratic Civic Engagement:
(Ideal Interaction)
(Saltmarsh & Hartley, 2009, 2011)
Democratic Civic Engagement is a democratic process and a democratic purpose where efforts are not for the community but, rather, with the community. Democratic civic engagement recognizes that universities and communities both are sources of knowledge. By working together, they can address pressing problems for all. The purpose of democratic engagement is not only to produce learning for students and to address issues in the community, but also to strengthen the democratic practices that make for stronger communities.

Guiding Principles:
(Social Justice Lens)
(Saltmarsh & Hartley, 2009, 2011)
- Human dignity
- Asset-based understanding of community
- Multidirectional flow of knowledge
- Understanding of the larger ecosystem
- Co-creation of knowledge