1. Indicate which outreach programs are developed for community. Please select all that apply.

**Learning Centers:** The University of Central Oklahoma’s Selman Living Laboratory, located in northwestern Oklahoma, promotes teaching and research collaborations with students and faculty from other institutions of higher learning, with state and federal agencies, with non-profit entities, and with the general public. This learning center, which has historically been supported by National Science Foundation (NSF) grants, promotes collaborative research and teaching in a range of natural environments, including some of the largest bat caves in the region.

**Tutoring:** The university’s well established and highly successful Upward Bound programs provide tutoring and intensive on-campus summer courses for students from five low-income, predominantly minority high schools in the metropolitan Oklahoma City area. University of Central Oklahoma students make important contributions to this program, which supports local schools and is funded by a renewable grant, through their service as Upward Bound tutors and instructors.

**Evaluation Support:** The university provides evaluation support to the wider community through the Department of Mathematics and Statistics’ Project SCHOLAR (Statistical Consulting Help for Organizational Leaders and Academic Researchers). This program, which provides statistical consulting services to industry and non-profit organizations in the community, is staffed by students, who work under the close supervision of faculty members from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Project SCHOLAR’s clients have included the nonprofit Neighborhood Services Organization and Sonic, a national fast food chain headquartered in Oklahoma City.

**Training Programs:** The university offers a variety of training programs to meet the needs of stakeholders within the metropolitan Oklahoma City community and throughout the state. The university’s annual Transformative Learning Conference, for example, provides opportunities for educators and business leaders from throughout the metropolitan area to develop strategies for creating and sustaining creativity within their organizations. The university’s Heartland eLearning Conference, in turn, promotes the sharing of eLearning innovations, the development of collaborative partnerships, and the identification new contexts for applying eLearning strategies in both an academic environment and in the workplace.

**Professional Development Centers:** The university sponsors the Educator’s Leadership Academy (ELA) as a resource for educators and educational administrators at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels from throughout Oklahoma. The Academy, which examines current and emerging trends in both general and higher education, has provided professional development training to more 1,800 Oklahoma educators and continues to develop new programs to
meet the specialized need of education professionals at every level.

**Other:** As a public regional comprehensive university, the University of Central Oklahoma continuously seeks new avenues to meet the needs of its constituents in the wider community. The university’s Child Study Center, for example, provides young children an opportunity to learn through developmentally appropriate experiences based on current research on child growth and development. The university’s Speech and Hearing Clinic, in turn, provides valuable diagnostic and treatment resources to members of the wider community while helping master’s-level students to prepare for careers in service to the community.

2. Which institutional resources are provided as outreach to the community? Please select all that apply.

**Co-curricular Student Service:** Each year, approximately 750 students and faculty and staff members volunteer with local non-profit organizations as part of the university’s Big Event. This day of service has become an important part of the university’s culture of service and reflects the institution’s overarching commitment to community engagement as a pillar of transformative learning. The President’s Club Children’s Christmas Party, which is part of the annual Winterglow holiday celebration, provides another valuable opportunity for students to reach out in support to members of the metropolitan Oklahoma City community. Student hosts and sponsors welcome first-graders from local elementary schools who qualify for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program to campus to participate in crafts, activities, and games and to receive holiday gifts.

**Work/Study Student Placements:** University of Central Oklahoma Work/Study students perform valuable services each semester at local nonprofit organizations including the HOPE (Helping Our People in Emergency) Center of Edmond, the YMCA and YWCA, Teen Recovery Solutions, Edmond Family Counseling, Positive Tomorrows, and Project Read. In addition, the university dedicates tuition-waiver scholarships to support work on behalf of the United States Olympic Committee Paralympic Residence Athletes program; the Urban Teaching Preparation Academy, which the university operates in partnership with the Oklahoma City Public School District; and the Department of Defense’s Yellow Ribbon Program for veterans.

**Cultural Offerings:** The university’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Office of Global Affairs, as well as numerous student organizations, sponsor cultural events that enrich the lives of members of the metropolitan Oklahoma City community. During the annual International Festival, for example, the university welcomes members of the metropolitan community to campus to enjoy the varied cuisines, music, and artistic traditions of its international students’ countries of
origin. The Asian Moon Festival, the numerous events that mark Black History Month, and the annual Powwow sponsored by the Native American Student Association are also open to and well attended by members of the wider community. In addition, the university’s robust program of musical and theatrical productions, including the Broadway Tonight series and the varied repertoire of student and professional performances at the University of Central Oklahoma Jazz Lab, play a crucial role in enriching the cultural life of the metropolitan Oklahoma City community.

**Athletic Offerings:** In addition to providing a varied schedule of athletic contests that are open to members of the metropolitan Oklahoma City community, the university makes its facilities available as a host and training site for the United States Paralympics, while the annual Endeavor Games, which the university hosts, provide a competitive venue for paralympic athletes from across the nation. In addition, the university actively supports the Wounded Warriors Project, which provides programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members.

**Library Services:** The university’s Max Chambers Library offers Films on Demand, a program that allows faculty members to obtain films for educational purposes, both in the classroom and at campus events that are open to the community. The library also maintains an art gallery, open to the general public, that includes one of the region’s most notable collections of West African art.

**Faculty Consultation:** University faculty members and students provide consulting services to the wider community through including Project SCHOLAR, discussed in item 1., above; the Small Business Development Center, which provides consulting services to area businesses; and the Clocktower and Inktank designs studios, which provide essential design services for local organizations and businesses.

3. Describe representative partnerships (both institutional and departmental) that were in place during the most recent academic year (maximum 15 partnerships). Use the attached Excel file to provide descriptions of each partnership.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

4.a. Do the institution or departments promote attention to the mutuality and reciprocity of the partnerships?

Describe the strategies for promotion attention to the mutuality and reciprocity of the partnerships.
The University of Central Oklahoma, as a metropolitan public comprehensive university, intentionally cultivates mutually beneficial partnerships with public, non-profit and business organizations within the metropolitan Oklahoma City community and throughout the state of Oklahoma.

The President’s Council of Advisors, which provides crucial community input to guide the university’s strategic planning efforts, includes chief and senior executives from area businesses and non-profit organizations including Leadership Oklahoma, the Latino Community Development Agency, the Oklahoma Academy, the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, Southwest Bancorp, Chesapeake Energy, Integris Health Care; the Oklahoma and Greater Oklahoma City Chambers of Commerce, the Edmond and Oklahoma City Public School Districts, Oklahoma City Community College, the Edmond and Oklahoma City Mayor’s Offices, the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, the Oklahoma State Treasurer, the Oklahoma Public Service Commission, and several private foundations and religious organizations. This diverse and representative group of advisors provides the university’s executive leadership with advice on strengthening existing community partnerships and developing new partnerships that will benefit both the university and the communities that it serves.

Most of the university’s academic colleges and academic departments also regularly consult with external advisory boards made up of professionals, employers and community leaders in their fields of specialization, and these boards provide crucial guidance in the initiation and development of mutually beneficial partnerships at the college and department levels.

The university has also established a Service Learning Advisory Board that includes representatives of community partner organizations and that provides valuable guidance in the refinement of service learning pedagogies and in the identification and development of new opportunities for service learning within the wider community. Faculty members also regularly utilize community partner feedback in assessing student learning in internships, field experiences and service learning projects conducted with community partners.

4.b. Are there mechanisms to systematically collect and share feedback and assessment findings regarding partnerships, reciprocity and mutual benefit, both from community partners to the institution and from the institution to the community?

If yes, describe the mechanisms and how the data have been used to improve reciprocity and mutual benefit.

The University of Central Oklahoma annually publishes a “Report to the Community” that provides a detailed overview, accompanied by relevant
statistics and metrics, that demonstrate the institution’s various forms of mutually beneficial engagement with the wider community. In his letter of introduction in the 2013 report, university President Don Betz speaks of the institution’s continuing commitment “to update the citizens of the OKC Metro and our state on UCO’s mission, plans and current initiatives,” including “highlights of our strategic plan, Vision 2020, which is designed to strengthen the university’s capacities to meet the needs and aspirations of the region.” President Betz notes that, “Since our founding as the Territorial Normal School of Oklahoma in 1890, Central has been passionate about learning, leading and serving, and about cultivating generations of ethical and engaged citizens and leaders.”

This “Report to the Community” is the university’s most systematic and comprehensive mechanism for sharing feedback and assessment findings with the wider community. The university also collects information about community engagement initiatives from across campus on a biennial basis and reviews department and college assessment reports as well as assessment reports from units of the Division of Student Affairs to identify and evaluate the efficacy of unit-level partnerships. Academic colleges and schools regularly report on community partnerships to their external advisory boards, while the university’s Volunteer and Service Learning Center conducts community partner site visits to gather information about the effectiveness of existing partnerships as well as to identify opportunities for new partnerships.

5. Are there examples of faculty scholarship associated with their outreach and partnerships activities (technical reports, curriculum, research reports, policy reports, publications, etc.)?

Provide a minimum of five examples of faculty scholarship from as many different disciplines as possible.

The annual High School Day of Dance, sponsored by the College of Fine Arts and Design, showcases the professional proficiency and expertise of the university’s dance faculty while exposing local secondary school students to the opportunities for study in this field of performance at the University of Central Oklahoma. Faculty and students in the Department of Dance’s Kaleidoscope Dance Company also promote artistic interaction between the university and the communities that it serves by presenting works by local and regional artists at performances attended by members of the metropolitan Oklahoma City community.

The Oklahoma Civic Health Index, which is produced in partnership with Oklahoma Campus Compact, the Kerr Foundation, and the Walton Family Foundation, includes contributions both by university faculty members and experts in the wider community. This report, which focuses on the critical
importance of civic skills and voter education, is a valuable educational tool for schools and libraries across the state.

Economics and International Business Professor Sue Lynn Sasser directs the university’s Center for Economic Education, which promotes financial literacy both on campus and in the wider community. Under Dr. Sasser’s leadership, this center, which distributes personal financial literacy information in Oklahoma schools and hosts an annual high school economics competition, has emerged as a forceful advocate for financial literacy among Oklahoma teachers and students.

Dean Mickey Hepner of the College of Business, in turn, has supported the Citizens Policy Center in Oklahoma City through his scholarship and research for the university’s Public Policy Institute, including his publication “Beware the API: Does Oklahoma’s Measure of School Performance Actually Measure School Performance?"

The Da Vinci Institute, Oklahoma’s “Creativity Think Tank,” has recognized the commitment of the university’s faculty to community engagement in scholarship and research by honoring Kinesiology and Health Studies Professor Sunshine Cowan with a Da Vinci Fellowship. Dr. Cowan works collaboratively with local mixed-income housing developments to conduct health interventions and research projects focusing on community needs, and she regularly shares her findings both on campus and at regional and national conferences.