



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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# **The Ohio State University Mini-Retreat on Aging Final Report**

**Thursday, May 23, 2013**

**Westminster Thurber Community**

Sponsored by:

Department of Internal Medicine; Division of General Internal Medicine > Office of Geriatrics and Gerontology >  
College of Nursing; Center of Excellence in Critical and Complex Care > College of Social Work



# Overview of the Retreat

- Nearly 50 OSU faculty, staff and students came together to discuss the importance of aging at our university.
- The Deans from the Colleges of Medicine and Social Work provided opening comments to launch the event.
- Nine colleges and many different departments and initiatives took part— Arts and Sciences; Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences; Medicine; Nursing; Optometry; Pharmacy; Public Health; Social Work; Fisher College of Business; School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Office of Distance Education and eLearning, and others.





# Purpose

- To build relationships across campus around aging.
- To learn about aging education, research and clinical activities across campus.
- To think about “what could be” at Ohio State.





# The World Café Format

- The World Café format was used for the Retreat.
- World Café is a way to hold a meaningful conversation on what really matters.
- To do so, we asked the group to answer three separate questions





# Question 1



What resources currently exist across our campuses that support and advance aging research, teaching, and service?



# Attendees Identified Current Resources.....

- Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Aging
- The Office of Geriatrics and Gerontology
- Program 60
- Aging curriculum throughout Social Work, Nursing, Medicine and other colleges across campus.
- OSU/Community Partnerships
- Center for Critical and Complex Care, College of Nursing
- Proposed Intergenerational Day Care Center



# More Current Resources Identified at OSU

- Bioethics Center
- Physicians House Call Program
- Generation Rx
- Department of English—medical linguistics.
- Memory Disorders Clinic
- MBA in Health Administration
- Center for Population Outcomes
- And more





# Question 2

In a perfect world, what would an aging initiative at OSU look like?







# The Attendees “Perfect World” would be:

- Center of Excellence on Aging (a building with infrastructure, research, social psych, education)
- Deans collaborating with one another.
- Faculty recruited with interest in aging.
- “Center” offering lectures for older adults, activities, exercise, nutrition, support.
- Central hub of expertise at OSU.
- Community services for aging in place.
- Personalized medicine; patient navigators—resources to support and assist in transitions.
- OSU Institute on Aging; Research Center; Practice Partnership; National Conferences



# More responses to “In a Perfect World?”

- Elevation of what Geriatrics and Gerontology already does.
- Attract physicians with expertise in aging.
- Bridge the gap between medical center and academic campus for NICHE hospital.
- Co-location of social work and health sciences.
- Center for Applied Research on Aging
- Identify a core team that can perform inpatient screenings and develop interventions for patients.
- Clearinghouse for everything on campus related to aging.
- And more.

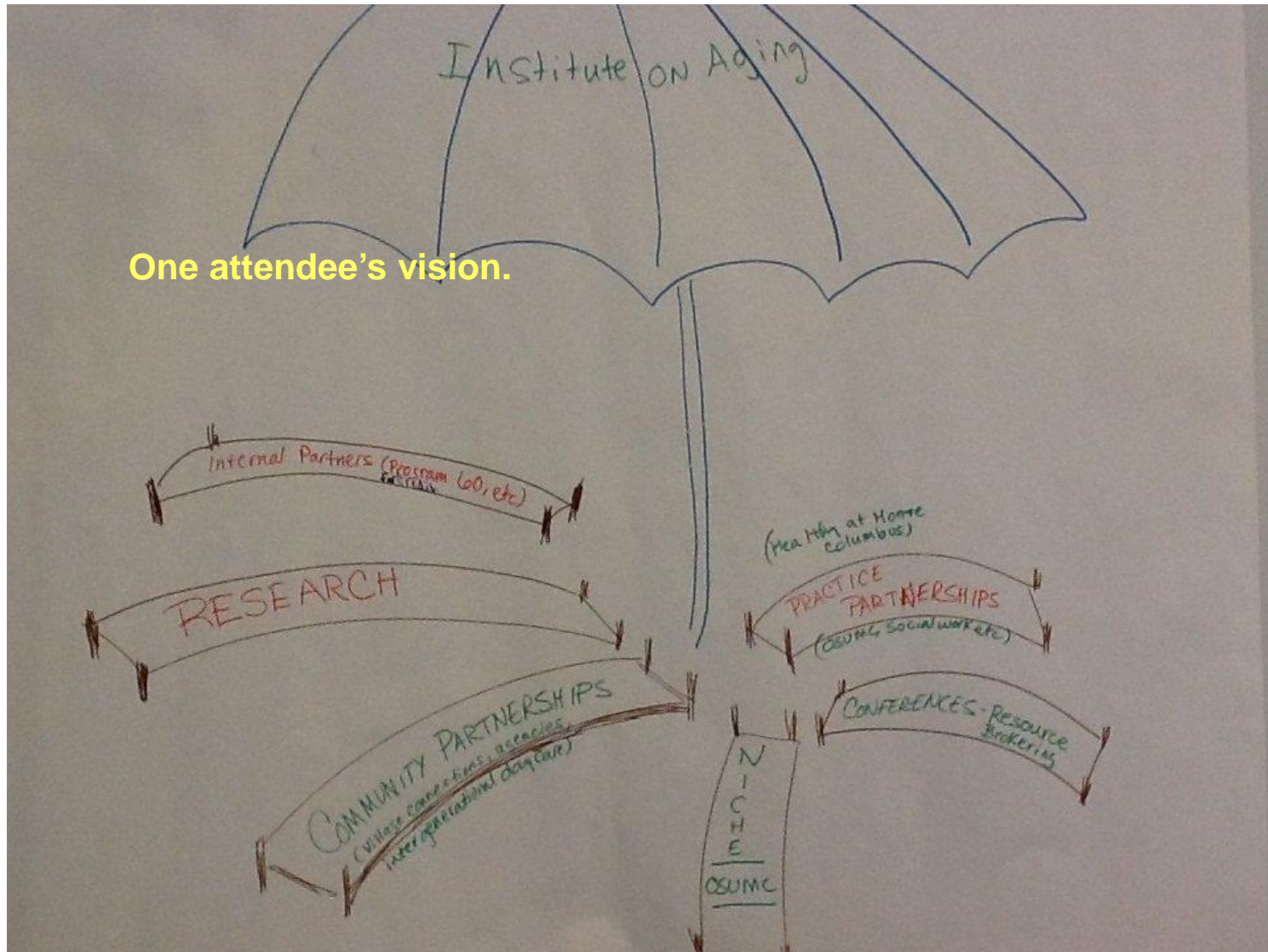


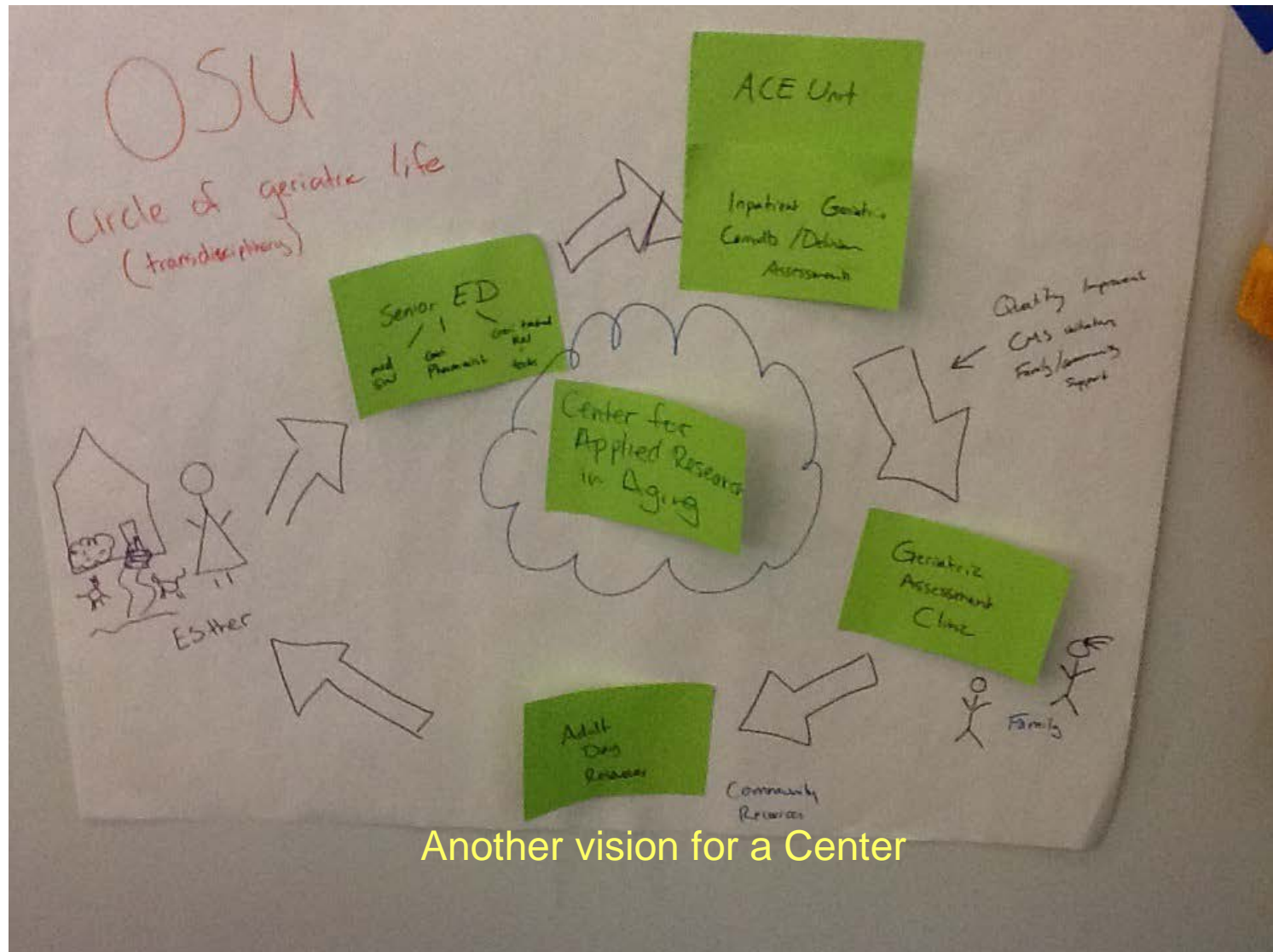
Attendees were asked to work in groups to draw their vision of the “perfect world” at Ohio State. Following are some examples of their drawings.

Everyone was advised that no artistic talent was necessary to contribute to this portion of the Retreat!

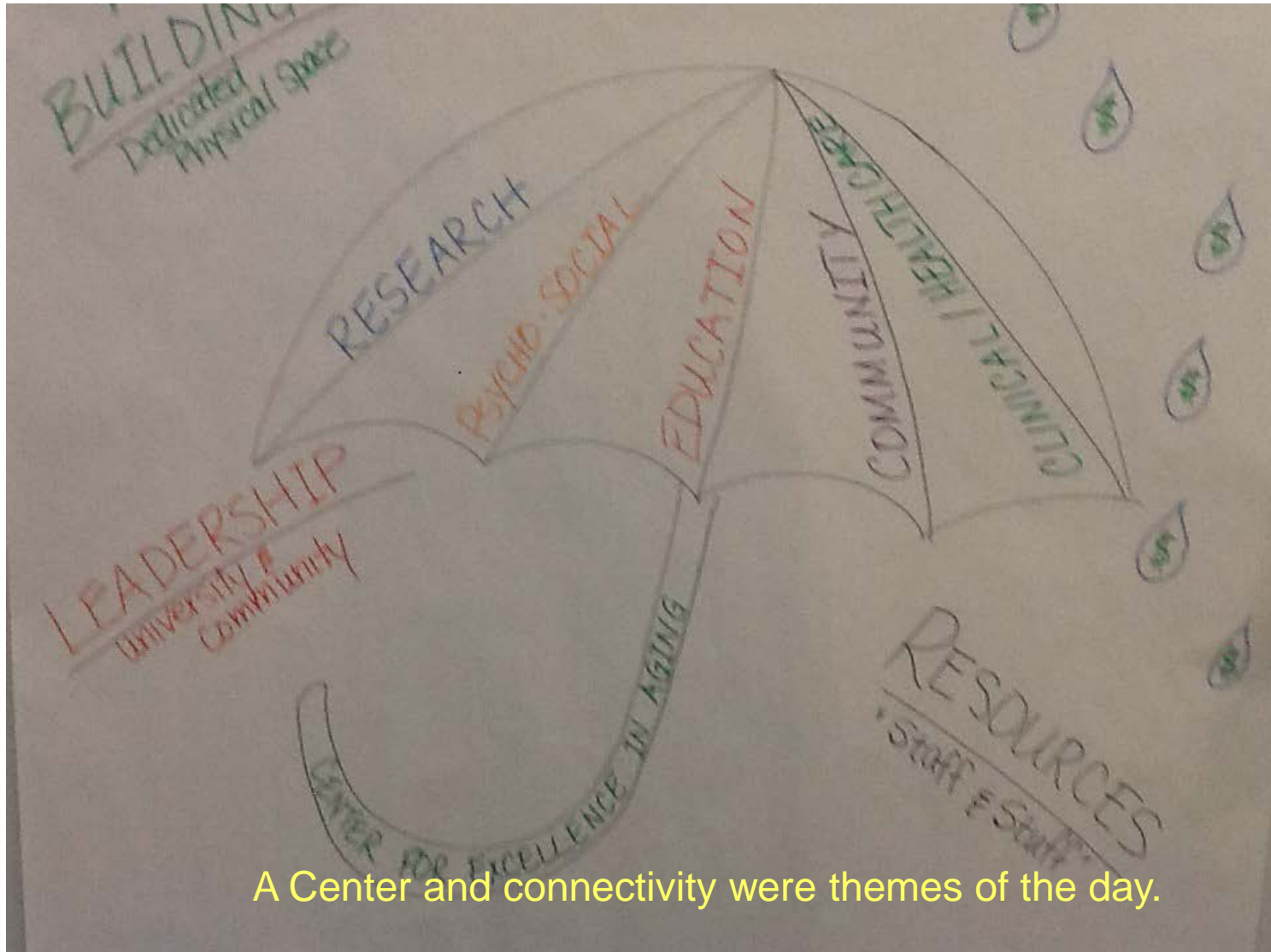


One attendee's vision.





Another vision for a Center



A Center and connectivity were themes of the day.



# Question 3



To be successful, what would need to happen to make these goals and ideas a reality?



# Attendee Responses: What's Needed?

- Support from top leadership to make aging a high priority; institutional champion.
- Funding—strategic fundraising, government grants, foundation grants, OSU alumni.
- Dedication and passion for the field of aging.
- Establish interdisciplinary collaboration, communication, and internal partnerships.
- Motivation, interest, willingness to “get it done.”
- Infrastructure – building, physical space, presence, people.
- Clearinghouse for research/sustainable





# The World Café Conversation Brought Forward 3 Clear Themes

## That our resources are many:

- The Office of Geriatrics and Gerontology
- Aging education in other colleges across campus, including the undergraduate Minor in Aging and the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Aging.
- Collaborations among disciplines and programming across colleges.
- The size of the university.
- Connections with the larger community.
- Research resources and connections.





# More Identified Themes

## That “the perfect world” would include:

- A center on aging.....a physical space. The proposed intergenerational day care center was identified multiple times as a clear possibility.
- Comprehensive leadership in teaching, learning and research.
- Person-centered/patient-centered approach.
- One-stop shop.



# The Third Theme

**That, in order to be successful, the university would need:**

- Institutional champion(s)
- Money/grants
- To consider the proposed intergenerational day care center as the possible location of a “center.”
- The groundswell and momentum to continue
- Communication – Collaboration -- Information



# Commitments

**Those in attendance were asked what they were willing to commit to in order to advance the issue of aging on campus. Some of their responses included....**

- *“I would like to co-lead an initiative to open an ACE unit at OSU Wexner Medical Center.”*
- *“I will meet with the Dean of the College of Social Work to start a collaborative working relationship.”*
- *“I will meet with administration and faculty to further initiatives for better care in the Emergency Department.”*
- *“I will start a community board on aging that will include durable medical equipment suppliers, skilled nursing facilities, and home health agencies.”*
- *“I will help create the next meeting to move today’s discussion forward.”*
- *“Bring inspiration in the College of Pharmacy about the opportunities in the field of aging.”*



# More Commitments.....

- *“I would sit on a committee for the development of our Center for Excellence in Aging.”*
- *“Assemble a team that can perform geriatric screenings and select interventions for inpatients.”*
- *“Work on the aging minor in order to attract more undergraduates to aging.”*
- *“Meet with other groups within the university to improve collaboration and communication.”*
- *“I will share the visions and conversations of the mini-retreat with university community and leadership.”*
- *“Communicate with someone at three other colleges at OSU for collaborations on classes, research and networking.”*



# What Are Our Next Steps?

- Share the report with attendees and the campus-wide community.
- Create a database of existing programs that concern aging.
- Identify champions for specific initiatives.
- Share the vision of the Intergenerational Day Care Center with attendees.
- Further the energy and enthusiasm of the World Café/Mini-Retreat on Aging by organizing another event during the 2013/14 academic year.



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