

14TH ANNUAL STINNER SUMMIT

October 16th, 2020
HELD VIRTUALLY



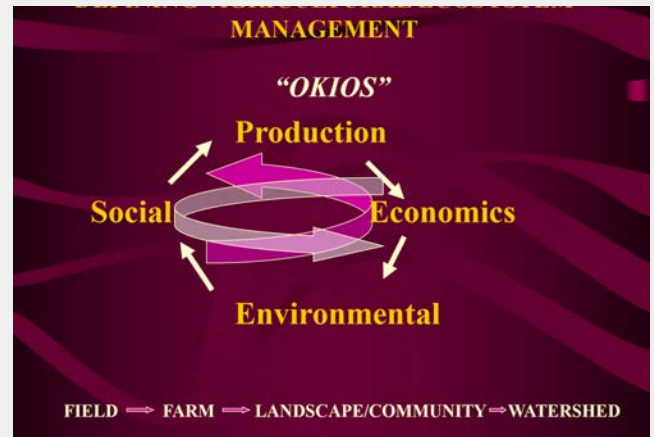
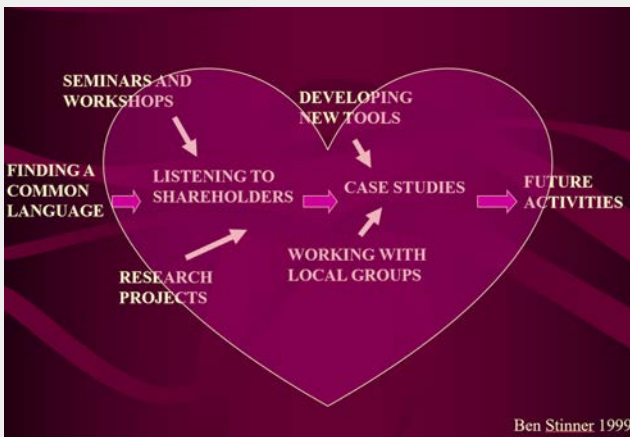
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**The Ben Stinner Endowment & the Agroecosystem Management
Program of The Ohio State University**

During a typical year, the annual Stinner Summit is held at various venues across the state, rotating from region to region to engage different voices across Ohio. If you were arriving in person, you would likely be greeted by the sight of rolling hills or woodlands, with leaves just starting to turn in the cool weather, and the smell of cinnamon from Debra Stinner's ceremonial cinnamon buns. This year, things were a little different. The global pandemic forced the 2020 Stinner Summit to a virtual platform for the first time, so on October 16, 2020, instead of congregating in person, 69 participants logged into their Zoom accounts to partake in an afternoon of conversation around this year's theme: **Adapting Ohio Agroecosystems for Resilience to the Pandemic and Other Natural Disasters.**



The original inspiration for the Summit was to honor Ben Stinner's rare ability to build relationships based on common interests and his vision, passion, and commitment to building healthy agroecosystems and communities. Casey Hoy, Kellogg Chair in Agricultural Ecosystems Management, kicked off the conference by sharing a set of Ben's slides from 1999, when Ben was the Kellogg Chair. The slides illustrate systems thinking and collaboration, which the Agroecosystem Management Program at OSU and the Stinner Summit embody by bringing people together to share ideas and plan for new collaborative work.



With the stage set for collaboration, participants entered virtual breakout rooms to reflect on the impacts that the pandemic has had on their communities and needed responses across agriculture and food systems. Two proposals were brainstormed during the final breakout:

Project 1: Your Local Food System CAN Meet Your Needs With YOU

You can save your local food system by being a part of it. This is the message that collaborators of one group chose to galvanize voices across the food system to become active participants in their local food system. This project will collect and disseminate local food system narratives of how farmers and organizations connect to their communities during emergency times and aim to highlight the stories and artwork from BIPOC communities.

Project 2: Promoting Self-Sufficient Food Production and Preservation in Low-Resource Communities

A second project emerged from discussions about how to build on the momentum of more people growing their own food during the pandemic. From this starting point, this initiative aims to strengthen existing community-based projects around food self-sufficiency (home gardens, institutional, and community gardens) and support family and individual health and wellness by teaching them how to grow, preserve and cook nutritionally. These initiatives will focus on engaging the North Linden community in Columbus and two nursing assisted living facilities in Lima.

The 2020 Stinner Summit marks an important milestone. This was the final year that Casey Hoy will have led the Stinner Summit in memory of his friend and colleague, the original Kellogg Chair. Since his appointment to the Chair in 2006, Casey has overseen the planning and facilitated the Stinner Summit for each of the last 14 years. The Stinner Summit is firmly established in tradition, Casey assures despite completing his final 5-year term as Kellogg Chair this coming year. "The Stinner Summit will ensure an annual commitment to new ideas for widely shared work on healthier agricultural ecosystems, and that's a fitting tribute to the life and work of our good friend and colleague, Ben Stinner." We look forward to the fresh ideas and new projects emerging from Summits for many years to come.

Jane Karetny designed **this year's poster**, a much needed break from her thesis research in which she is investigating how local governments are planning for sustainable food systems. Our thanks to Jane for her contribution to this year's poster and managing the technical side of the summit as the "Zoom Tzarina".

Ben Stinner Endowment Advisory Committee

Casey Hoy
Deb Stinner
Larry Phelan

Venue

Zoom Meetings

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See you next year!

