

2016 RAYMOND A. SCHINDLER EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION AWARD

ERIC ROMICH has demonstrated a record of excellence in creative and scholarly work by

- Developing curriculum, authoring/co-authoring over three dozen peer-reviewed publications including journal publications (7), factsheets, and bulletins (34), AND being selected by peers to make nearly five dozen scholarly presentations at regional and national conferences.
- being responsible in part for obtaining nearly \$1.1 million to support collaborative research efforts in partnership with communities, organizations, and agencies throughout Ohio and beyond.
- being recognized with over two dozen state, regional, and/or national awards for creative and scholarly work.

ERIC has demonstrated a record of excellence in teaching by

- engaging nearly 10,000 learners face to face.
- receiving nearly a dozen awards for collaborative teaching efforts as well as for using technology in teaching.
- effectively teaching one-on-one and groups of a variety of sizes individually and as part of a teaching team and not only all over the state of Ohio but also utilizing a variety of teaching methods to reach several thousand local officials new and diverse clientele.
- maintaining the Energize Ohio website which received 165,543 page views from 72,350 visitors sessions representing all 50 U.S. states and international visits from 129 different countries.

ERIC has steadfastly served the profession and community by serving

- in a variety of state, national professional organizations; responsibilities aligned with Extension and CFAES; as well as the local community.
- as a board member of OJCEP, NACDEP's Finance Committee Member, and chair of ANREP's National Energy Initiative committee.
- as an active member of the Wyandot County Workforce Investment Board and the North Central Ohio Regional Development Alliance.
- as CED, Extension CD Marketing committee co-chair, OSUE CARES Grants review committee member and member of the Extension Director's Internal Advisory Committee, and host of the OSU Roads Scholars Tours.

ERIC ROMICH

- joined Extension in 2008.
- has led more than 150 programs in 62 Ohio counties involving more than 5,350 participants since becoming a field specialist in 2012.
- designed a unique teaching tool by engineering and assembling a mobile solar unit comprised of a 140-watt photovoltaic solar panel, charge controller, battery back-up system, 2000-watt inverter, and safety disconnects.
- has taught more than 39 distributed energy programs to roughly 1,660 participants to enhance their knowledge of renewable energy development, net metering policy, and best practices for financial evaluations to promote informed decision-making on renewable energy investments and the implementation of sustainable energy strategies.
- as the Energize Ohio Signature Program leader, led efforts that resulted in over 235 programs in nearly 70 Ohio counties, reaching nearly 13,000 participants.
- worked with four regional economic development districts (representing 25 Ohio counties and a combined population of 2,575,298 or about 22.2% of the State of Ohio's total population) to develop strategies for achieving long-term economic viability and community sustainability.

