

Discovery at Ohio State: New Thought for Food - FEBRUARY 2021

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InFACT-Funded Land Reuse Study Published in International Edited Volume

A study led by InFACT faculty affiliates **MJ Van Maasakkers** and **Nancy Bowen-Ellzey**, and partially funded by InFACT through an Ohio State Office of Outreach and Engagement Connect and Collaborate grant, has been published in the edited volume [*Civic Engagement, Community-Based Initiatives and Governance Capacity, An International Perspective*](#) (Routledge 2020). The



chapter, “Community-Based Initiatives in the Rust Belt: Collaborative Land Use Governance in a Shrinking City,” chronicles the experience of rehabilitating a vacant lot in Lima, Ohio, through community partnerships. The resulting space—the **South Jackson Community Garden**—will open on Lima’s south side this summer.

[Read the Story](#)

A Clinic for Food System Transformation

InFACT could not be more excited to initiate the planning and development of our new **food systems clinic** that will get students and their supervising faculty members directly involved with real-world food system projects in communities throughout Ohio. Projects may involve such things as land use planning, supply chain problem solving and entrepreneurship, and even distribution and delivery systems for locally and regionally grown food where applicable. The types of projects would only be limited by the imaginations of those wishing to plan and implement them. Read more about InFACT's food systems clinic in **Executive Director Brian Snyder's** essay. *{note: please watch our upcoming weekly digests and targeted emails for more information regarding a leadership role for the clinic to be announced}*



[Read the Essay](#)

InFACT Sponsors Scholarships at 42nd Annual OEFFA Conference

InFACT staff virtually attended the **42nd Annual Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association's (OEFFA) conference**. For the third-straight year, InFACT sponsored scholarships for Ohio-based growers or producers of color to increase the diversity of conference attendees, with particular focus on underrepresented participants such as Black, Indigenous and Latinx people who are or want to be in food system work.

During a breakout session organized for scholarship recipients, attendees discussed the challenges and opportunities that came to light during the pandemic. Due to social distancing requirements, connection with existing customers became difficult; however, more people became interested in supporting urban farming projects that serve their communities. Although beginning farmers face challenges, such as land acquisition, understanding



licensing needs and inspections, the motivation of feeding one's own family and neighbors was strong enough to persist. Diversity is key to resilience in agriculture, important not only in what farmers grow, but in the farmers themselves. These scholarships support OEFFA and InFACT's shared goals of increasing diversity throughout the food system, including farmers, farmworkers, food preparation and service workers, food system advocates, and food and farm educators.

InFACT AFFILIATE ACHIEVEMENTS

[The farmer's battlefield: traditional ecological knowledge and unexploded bombs in Cambodia](#)

New publication from InFACT affiliates/faculty hires Erin Lin and Christine Sprunger (*Agriculture and Human Values*, February 2, 2021)
{This is a new feature. Please send your news to aduncanson@gifted-communications.com.}

UPCOMING EVENTS

[APOP & SFC Spring 2021 Lecture Series – Adaptation and Resilience: Food, Food Security, and Food Systems in and outside of Central Ohio](#)
March 9, 2021, 6:00 - 7:15pm

[APOP & SFC Spring 2021 Lecture Series – Adaptation and Resilience: Food, Food Security, and Food Systems in and outside of Central Ohio](#)
April 13, 2021, 6:00 - 7:15pm

[The Power of Food: Cultivating Equitable Policy through Collective Action – Kansas City, MO](#)
September 20-22, 2021

FUNDING & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

[Warner Grants for Sustainable Agriculture](#)
Deadline: March 1, 2021

[InFACT Linkage and Leverage grant](#)
Deadline: April 9, 2021

[NIFA's Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program](#)

Deadline: May 3, 2021

[NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program
Sustainable Agricultural Systems](#)

Deadline: July 1, 2021

[NIFA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied
Science](#)

Deadline: July 29, 2021

[Learn More About Funding Opportunities](#)

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INITIATIVE FOR FOOD+AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION

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