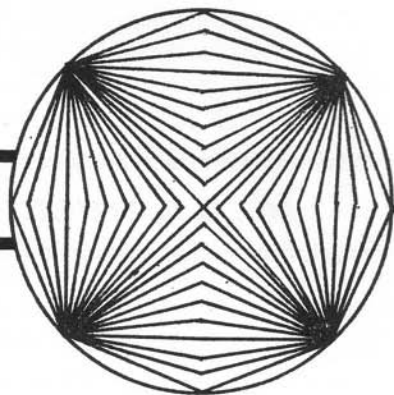


Points of View



Extending the University

I think there are some unique ways Extension adult educators can help implement some of the imperatives for adult education that were discussed at the AEA "Action" breakfast meeting in Minneapolis. I suspect that before we can contribute to our full potential in this kind of an effort, we need to consider, individually and collectively, our own philosophies of extending the university.

I went through this kind of soul-searching recently in response to an Epsilon Sigma Phi invitation which asked me to define my philosophy of Extension. I found it a fruitful exercise. Here are the 10 points I defined:

1. That Extension is the university working in the community.
2. That the university is an integral part of community education.
3. That community education should be available to all.
4. That the university is a logical catalyst to focus all appropriate resources on human and community needs.
5. That the people of a community must have a part in identifying needs, determining desired

change, and designing learning experiences to bring about that change.

6. That the professional Extension educator and the professional resident educator are equally professional, and equally concerned with maintaining professionalism.
7. That the professional faculty should have a part in identifying, with the people, the basic human needs and designing learning experiences to meet those needs.
8. That the satisfying life for any individual comes with a full knowledge of all his alternatives — the aim of education.
9. That the satisfying life in any community comes when all people can work together in consciousness, making purposeful decisions on the basis of a wide range of information, provided by whatever resources are most appropriate.
10. That the individual or the community emerges from each learning experience more capable and sufficient than before.

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