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For Immediate Release

DR. HIRAM FITZGERALD RECEIVES 2026 SOBRERO AWARD

At the August 2026 annual meeting of the Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship (ACES), Dr. Hiram Fitzgerald received the 2026 Patricia M. Sobrero Community Change Award. As a founding member of ACES, Fitzgerald has been a leader and pioneer in advancing the practice and scholarship of community engagement. He is University Distinguished Professor and Associate Provost Emeritus at Michigan State University spending his career dedicated to the impact of early childhood experiences on life course development. In making the announcement, ACES founding recipient, Dr. Patricia M. Sobrero said, "Fitzgerald's nomination and selection are a fitting tribute to a person who has made a huge difference in the lives of people and the resilience of communities around the world. ACES is honored to honor him."

Fitzgerald is past president and executive director of both the Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health and the International Association for Infant Mental Health, past executive director of the World Association for Infant Mental Health and past president of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium. He was associated with the National Evaluation of Early Head Start and the Michigan Longitudinal Study of Family Risk for Alcoholism.

Currently, he is a member of the Training Research Center for Tribal Early Childhood; the Native Children's Research Exchange; and the advisory board for the University of Nebraska Buffett Early Childhood Institute. Previously he served as scientific advisory for the Oklahoma State University Center for Integrative Research on Childhood Adversity, and the Rocky Mountain Prevention Center.

Fitzgerald's past editorial appointments include *Infant Mental Health Journal* (editor), *Child Development* (associate editor), *Perspectives on Infant Mental Health* (assistant editor) and *Adversity and Resilience* (Associate Editor and Editor). He is a Fellow of the Association of Psychological Science and the American Psychological Association. He is a recipient of the Zero to Three Dolly Madison Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contribution to the Development and Well-Being of Very Young Children.

ACES is an international honorary academy whose members are scholars and practitioners working with communities to find solutions to global challenges. The Academy provides expertise to policymakers, higher education institutions and organizations, community leaders, and national and international entities interested in addressing complex societal issues community-higher education engagement. For more information about the award or ACES, contact Suzanne Moomaw, president of ACES, swm2x@virginia.edu

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