

# ANCHORING COMMUNITIES: The Impact of University Interventions on Neighborhood Revitalization

*Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*

22 September 2015

Meagan Ehlenz, AICP, PhD . [mehlenz@asu.edu](mailto:mehlenz@asu.edu)

# Universities Matter to Cities

2



# Neighborhoods Matter to Universities?

3

- Universities are investing in place
  - ▣ Neighborhoods viewed as an asset, not a detriment
- Large universities are developers in neighborhoods
  - ▣ Harnessing existing skills
  - ▣ Emphasizing attraction strategies for university consumers
- Interventions are working
  - ▣ Stimulating neighborhood improvement via home values (20%)

# Universities in Context: Three Cases

4

Criterion	Definition	Penn	UC	Duke
Typical Institution	Large research univ.	X	X	X
Typical Tools	Real estate + multiple approaches	X	X	X
Durable Strategy	First generation (1990s)	X	X	X
Successful Strategy	“Strong” to “moderate” improvement	X	X	X
Differentiating Variable	Community context + partnerships	Limited approach	Moderate approach	Deep approach

# Case Studies: Penn

5



# Case Studies: Univ of Cincinnati

6



# Case Studies: Duke

7



# Lessons: University as...

8

**WEALTH + COMMUNITY BUILDER**

**PLACE MAKER**

**DEVELOPER**

# ANCHORING COMMUNITIES: The Impact of University Interventions on Neighborhood Revitalization

*Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta*

22 September 2015

Meagan Ehlenz, AICP, PhD . [mehlenz@asu.edu](mailto:mehlenz@asu.edu)