

**Applied Research  
Innovation through Social  
Networks:**

The Story of a Mechanical Engineer,  
a Sociologist, and a Restaurant

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**MOTIVATIONS**

- The problems facing our world are evolving and challenging
- Globalization often perpetuates those problems and requires new skills for tomorrow's leaders
- Cross-disciplinary collaboration can improve outcomes, draw from the available diversity of experiences
- Scholars must also find and/or develop non-academic partners with similar goals in sustainability and justice

**GOALS**

- Develop, maintain, and grow relationships to tackle challenging and evolving problems
- Work to address issues of equity, justice, and sustainability in agriculture
- Develop solutions for the preservation of biodiversity in agricultural products and the strengthening of local cultures
- Create educational opportunities for students that will shape them into leaders in addressing future problems for our globalized world
- Partner with the research organization, Mater Iniciativa, and Central Restaurante to invest in the strength of rural communities in Peru
- Expand the work done in Peru and extend it to Wisconsin



mobilize communities and  
utilize engineering to preserve  
biodiversity and protect and  
empower local cultures

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