



IUPUI

CENTER FOR SERVICE AND LEARNING

Public-Engaged Scholarship, an Overview

What is Public Scholarship?

IUPUI defines *public scholarship [aka. engaged, community-engaged or publicly-engaged scholarship]* as an intellectually and methodologically rigorous endeavor that is responsive to public audiences and public peer review. It is scholarly work that advances one or more academic disciplines by emphasizing the co-production of knowledge with community stakeholders.

Public scholarship, as a type of scholarly work and creative activity, is distinguished by its purposes, processes, and outcomes, including:

- a. co-production of knowledge between faculty and community stakeholders,
- b. significant time investment to cultivate relationships with community stakeholders,
- c. engagement with public(s) at multiple stages across time,
- d. interdisciplinary work and collaboration, and
- e. an explicit goal of a public good impact.

An orientation to producing engaged scholarship is part of the mindset and identity of a scholar. It is an epistemological and axiological lens that any faculty member can integrate and apply within or across their teaching, research, and/or service in a manner consistent with their values, scholarly goals, roles and responsibilities, and the institutional mission.

Domains of Engaged Activity/Practice

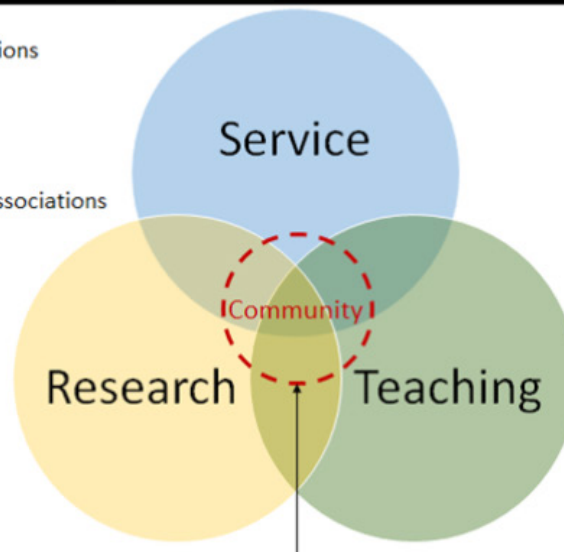
Service

- Clinical Services
- Consulting
- Policy Analysis
- Service to community-based institutions
- Knowledge transfer and workshops
- Expert testimony
- Technical Assistance
- Contributions to managed systems
- Leading professional societies and associations
- Commercialization of discoveries
- New business ventures

Research/Discovery/Creative Work

- Applied research
- Community-based (participatory) research (CBPR)
- Contractual research
- Demonstration projects
- Exhibitions/performances
- Needs assessments/asset maps/program evaluations
- Knowledge transfer and research
- Technical assistance
- Publications/presentations

Experiences/practices that can generate public scholarship



Teaching and Learning

- Co-curricular/curricular service learning
- CBPR/action research
- Study Abroad/Alternative Spring Break
- Internships/Practica/Field Study
- Inter-professional Education
- Distance and Off-campus Education
- Contract Courses or programs designed for specific audiences
- Conferences, seminars, workshops
- Educational programs for alumni
- Participatory curriculum development

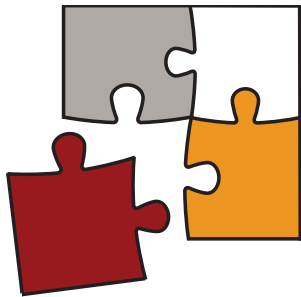
Location of activity is insufficient to make an activity "community-engaged" as opposed to "community involved."

Quality and Rigor in Public Scholarship

The rigor of public scholarship can be evaluated by the following criteria:

1. Clear Academic and Community Goals
2. Adequate Preparation in Content Area and Grounding in Engaged Scholarship
3. Appropriate Methods: Rigor and Community Engagement
4. Significant Results: Impact on the Field and the Community
5. Effective Presentation/Dissemination to Academic and Community Audiences
6. Reflective Critique: Lessons Learning to Improve the Scholarship and Community Engagement
7. Leadership and Scholarly Contribution
8. Consistently Ethical Behavior: Socially Responsible

Tips for Successfully Navigating your Career



1. **Scholar know thyself.** Make time to reflect on the values, epistemic foundations and ultimate purposes of your work so you can articulate it to others.
2. **Learn the language and literature related to public/community-engaged scholarship** in your discipline and beyond.
3. **Document early and often.**
4. **Process is as important as results. Process is part of rigor.**
5. **Relationships are both process, outcome and impact.**
6. Recognize that **activity does not equal scholarship.** Scholarship is original work that breaks new ground or builds on prior work, is publicly disseminated and subjected to peer review. Time on task does not equate to scholarship. Scholarship is about products.
7. **Don't assume that people know your "awesomeness;"** you have to demonstrate the **evidence** of it.
8. **Self-advocate.** Educate others about what you need as a scholar.
9. **Actively seek allies, critical friends and mentors with knowledge of CES** in higher education in your department, discipline and beyond.
10. **Study the P/T guidelines** for tactics and strategy.



Learn more about engaged scholarship at IUPUI

- **Connect with the Public Scholarship Faculty Learning Community.** Contact co-chairs, Drs. **Ray Haberski** [haberski@iupui.edu] or **Katie Stanton-Nichols** [kstanton@iupui.edu].
- **Read** the [Public Scholarship Concept Paper](#).
- **Access faculty networks, coaching and mentoring.** Contact Dr. Mary Price, Director of Faculty Development, IUPUI Center for Service and Learning, price6@iupui.edu or 317-278-2662.