



# Community-Engaged Scholarship for Health Collaborative

## Overview

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), the Collaborative is a group of 8 health professional schools that aims to build capacity within their institutions, as well as their peers nationally, for community-based participatory research, service-learning, and other forms of community-engaged scholarship.

The Collaborative was formed in 2004 as a response to the recommendations of many prominent national organizations and initiatives that have called upon health professional schools to be more engaged in their communities, including the Institute of Medicine, the Pew Health Professions Commission and the Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions. All of these groups advance community-academic partnerships as an essential strategy for improving health professional education, increasing health workforce diversity and eliminating health disparities. Unfortunately, community engagement often conflicts with how faculty are recognized and rewarded. A commonly cited barrier to sustaining faculty involvement in communities is the failure of university promotion and tenure systems to adequately recognize or reward faculty members for linking scholarship with communities. By developing a more supportive academic environment for community-engaged scholarship, the ability of academic institutions and community partners to collaborate in educating future health professions, generating community-relevant knowledge and building healthier communities will be significantly advanced.

The Collaborative schools (listed below) have identified review, promotion and tenure issues as significant impediments to sustaining and expanding community-engaged scholarship. Each school has formed a team of faculty, administrators, and community partners to lead a change process informed by Kotter's model of organizational change that is designed to build institutional capacity for community-engaged scholarship. The teams are supported in their campus change efforts through ongoing opportunities for training, technical assistance and information-sharing. Collaborative teams meet annually to share experiences and lessons learned, address shared challenges, and plan for the year ahead.

Collaborative teams are also involved in these Collaborative-wide activities:

- *Peer Review Work Group* – This workgroup is developing a set of materials for community-engaged scholars and faculty review, promotion, and tenure committees that provide guidance for developing and reviewing the work of community-engaged scholars. (Workgroup Chair: Cathy Jordan, University of Minnesota)
- *Faculty Development Work Group* – This workgroup is devising new models for developing community-engaged faculty and equipping them with the competencies they need to be successful. (Workgroup Chair: Lynn Blanchard, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill)
- *Evaluation and Improvement* - The Collaborative’s evaluation team has developed a number of tools for assessing institutional capacity for community engagement and community-engaged scholarship. Collaborative teams complete a self-assessment annually that measures these capacities at both university- and school-wide levels. Evaluation results are used to track progress and foster improvements over time in Collaborative schools and across the Collaborative as a whole. (Evaluation team leader: Sherril Gelmon, Portland State University)
- *Discipline-Focused Change Efforts* – Collaborative members have been engaging their peer institutions nationally in conversations and actions around community-engaged scholarship. For example, Collaborative presentations and workshops have been featured at the annual conferences of the Association of Schools of Public Health, the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

### Participating Schools

Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy

Case Western University School of Nursing

Indiana University School of Dentistry

Loma Linda University School of Public Health

University of Cincinnati College of Allied Health Sciences

University of Colorado at Denver Health Sciences Center, School of Pharmacy

University of Minnesota Academic Health Center

University of North Carolina School of Dentistry

## For More Information

Report of the Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions  
<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/kellogg3.html>

Community-Engaged Scholarship for Health Collaborative  
<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/healthcollab.html>

Overview of the Community-Engaged Scholarship for Health Collaborative (Powerpoint)  
<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/pastpresentations.html> (November 4-8, 2006)

Community-Engaged Scholarship Listserv  
Sign up information at:  
<http://mailman1.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/comm-engagedscholarship>

Kotter's Model of Organizational Change  
<http://www.leadertoleader.org/knowledgecenter/L2L/fall98/kotter.html>

## About Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) is a nonprofit organization that promotes health (broadly defined) through partnerships between communities and higher educational institutions. Founded in 1996, we are a growing network of over 1,300 communities and campuses across North America and increasingly the world that are collaborating to promote health through service-learning, community-based participatory research, broad-based coalitions and other partnership strategies. What ties CCPH members together is their commitment to social justice and their passion for the power of partnerships to transform communities and academe. CCPH advances its mission by disseminating information, providing training and technical assistance, conducting research and evaluations, developing and influencing policies, and building coalitions. Learn more about CCPH at [www.ccpb.info](http://www.ccpb.info).