Community Engagement and Community Engaged Scholarship

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June, 2005
Traditional View of Scholarship

- Basic research is the most essential form of scholarly activity
- Scholars are academics who conduct research, publish, and then (perhaps) convey their knowledge to students
- Research is disciplinary, pure, homogeneous, expert-led, supply driven hierarchical, peer-reviewed, and university-based

– Gibbons, 2001 and Holland, 2005
Evolving View of Scholarship

- Applied, problem-centered, transdisciplinary, heterogeneous, demand driven, entrepreneurial, set within networks
- Work that connects the intellectual assets of the institution to public issues
- Engaged forms of teaching and research that result in fulfilling the institution’s core mission

– Gibbons, 2001 and Holland, 2005
Scholarship Reconsidered

- **Teaching**
  - Transmitting, transforming, extending knowledge

- **Discovery**
  - Pursuit of inquiry and new knowledge

- **Integration**
  - Connect across disciplines, synthesize

- **Application**
  - Application of knowledge that produces new understanding

- **Engagement**
  - Connect multiple dimensions of scholarship to understand and solve pressing social, civic, ethical problems

» Bover, 1990
Defining Terms

- Community Engagement
  - Application, through collaboration, of institutional resources to address and solve challenges facing communities

» CCPH, 2005
Defining Terms (cont’d)

- Scholarship
  - Teaching, discovery, integration, application, engagement with clear goals, adequate preparation, appropriate methods, significant results, effective presentation, reflective critique

» CCPH, 2005
Defining Terms (cont’d)

- **Community-engaged scholarship**
  - Scholarship that involves a mutually beneficial partnership between the institution/faculty and the community. It can be transdisciplinary and often integrates multiple forms of scholarship.

  » CCPH, 2005
Scholarship of Engagement

- Connects “the rich resources of the university to our most pressing social, civic and ethical problems, to our children, to our schools, to our teachers and to our cities...”

» Ernest Boyer, 1996
Scholarship Assessed

- Clear goals
- Adequate preparation
- Appropriate methods
- Outstanding results
- Effective communication
- Critical reflection

References

- Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions. Linking Scholarship and Communities: Report of the Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions. Seattle: CCPH, 2005