



Linking Scholarship and Communities: The Commission on Community-Engaged Scholarship in the Health Professions

**Bureau of Health Professions
1st All-Grantee Meeting
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www.ccph.info



Community Engagement

An Essential Strategy

Health professional education

Health workforce diversity

Research relevance and translation into practice

Access to health care

Eliminating health disparities

Health and economic vitality of communities

Faculty roles are changing but the Review, Promotion and Tenure (RPT) system has not kept pace...



Challenges of Community-Engaged Scholars

“If we want faculty to be involved in communities, but reward them for other activities, we are our own worst enemy.”

“Research support and manuscript generation is the name of the game...community-based anything takes time, length, and breadth.”

“Without leadership from the top, inclusion in mission statements and budget priorities, and faculty incentives, community efforts cannot succeed.”



Scholarship in the Health Professions

“Many untenured faculty find they must choose between doing the work that would contribute to career advancement and doing the work of the institution in linking with communities and educating students.”

Ron Richards, Building Partnerships: Educating Health Professionals for the Communities they Serve, 1996

“Applied scholarly research, teaching and service need clearly-articulated scholarship criteria. More appropriate and inclusive forms of documentation and peer review standards should be established. Sustained recognition and support for the applied interdisciplinary scholarship of academic public health practice should be institutionalized both within each school and the university.”

Association of Schools of Public Health, 1999



Scholarship in the Health Professions

“Publication in peer-reviewed journals is the typical end point in the mind of many researchers. For a results-oriented philanthropy, this is not enough.”

*James R Knickman and Steven A. Schroeder
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2000*

“Participatory approach at the front-end of the research pipeline is the best assurance of relevance and utilization of the research at the other end of the pipeline.”

*Lawrence Green,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*



Scholarship in the Health Professions

“Federal funders of research and academic institutions should recognize and reward faculty scholarship related to public health practice research”

“Academic institutions should develop criteria for recognizing and rewarding faculty scholarship related to service activities that strengthen public health practice”

“Schools of public health should “provide increased academic recognition and reward for policy-related activities.”

Institute of Medicine, 2002



Current Reality

- A frequently cited barrier is the risk associated with trying to achieve promotion and tenure
- Often viewed as service and perceived as an inferior activity, rather than being acknowledged as genuine scholarship
- Most academic institutions confer tenure and promote faculty based primarily on the quantity and caliber of peer-reviewed publications



Current Reality

“A university’s values are most clearly described by its promotion and tenure policy and by the criteria used to evaluate faculty members”

Conrad Weiser et/ al.

Scholarship Unbound for the 21st Century, 2000



Commission's Charge

To provide national leadership for creating a more supportive culture and reward system for health professional faculty involved in community-engaged scholarship (CES)

To develop and disseminate a set of tools that faculty and health professional schools can use to advance CES



Commission Members

Alex Allen, Isles, Inc., Trenton, NJ

Larry Green, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA

Barbara Brandt, University of Minnesota Academic Health Center

Jessie Gruman, Center for the Advancement of Health, DC

Marshall Chin, University of Chicago School of Medicine, IL

Susan Gust, Phillips Neighborhood Healthy Housing Collaborative,
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Eugenia Eng, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill



Commission Members

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Elmer Freeman, Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, Inc, Boston, MA

Pat Wahl, University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine, Seattle, WA

Charles Glassick, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Spartanburg, SC

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Working Definitions

Commission Report, 2005

Community engagement is the application of institutional resources to address and solve challenges facing communities through collaboration with these communities

Scholarship is teaching, discovery, integration, application and engagement that has clear goals, adequate preparation, appropriate methods, significant results, effective presentation, and reflective critique that is rigorous and peer-reviewed

Community-engaged scholarship is scholarship that involves the faculty member in a mutually beneficial partnership with the community



Challenges in Current RPT System

- Time involved in developing partnerships
- Collaborative and interdisciplinary nature
- Expectations of funding agencies
- Funding and journal hierarchy
- Diverse dissemination pathways and products
- Diverse measures of quality, productivity and impact
- Lack of peer review
- Limited opportunities for involvement of community partners



Commission Recommendations

For health professional schools:

Adopt and promote a definition of scholarship that includes and values CES

Adopt RPT policies that reflect this new definition of scholarship

Ensure that community partners are meaningfully involved in the RPT process



Commission Recommendations

For health professional schools:

Educate and prepare RPT committee

Invest in faculty recruitment and retention

Advocate for increased extramural support

Take a leadership role on campus



Commission Recommendations

*For national associations of health
professional schools:*

Adopt and promote a definition of
scholarship that explicitly includes CES

Support member schools that recognize
and reward CES

Advocate for increased extramural support

A Venn diagram consisting of two overlapping circles. The left circle is purple and contains a white graduation cap icon. The right circle is teal and contains a white building icon. The background of the entire graphic is a light teal color.

Commission Recommendations

Recognizing that many products of CES are not currently peer-reviewed, a national board should be established to facilitate a peer review process

Recommendations to Results

Kotter, J.P. (1996) "Leading Change."
Harvard Business Review



- Establish a need for change and a sense of urgency
- Form a powerful coalition and equip it with resources
- Create a clear vision and plan for achieving and evaluating achievement of that vision
- Communicate the vision
- Empower others for broad-based action
- Plan for and create short-term wins
- Consolidate gains and produce more change
- Anchor new changes in the culture

Recommendations to Results



Community-Engaged Scholarship for Health Collaborative

Ten health professional schools

Seek to recognize and reward community engagement

Campus teams of key stakeholders: faculty, community partners, academic administrators

Collaborative funded by FIPSE, 2004-2007

Facilitated by CCPH

<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/healthcollab.html>



Collaborative 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 School of Pharmacy

University of Massachusetts Worcester School of Nursing

University of Minnesota Academic Health Center

University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Dentistry

Vanderbilt University School of Medicine



Collaborative Two Major Goals

Increase capacity for community-engaged scholarship (CES) in participating schools

Increase capacity for CES in health professional schools nationally



Commission Resources

Linking Scholarship and Communities

The Commission's February 2005 report includes detailed recommendations for action by health professional schools and their national associations that can support community-engaged scholarship and cites promising practices that illustrate their implementation.

www.ccph.info



Commission Resources

Community-Engaged Scholarship Toolkit

The goal of this on-line toolkit is to provide health professional faculty with a set of tools to carefully plan and document their community-engaged scholarship and produce strong portfolios for RPT.

www.communityengagedscholarship.info



Collaborative Resources

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Community-Engaged Scholarship

Provides definitions and information about relevant articles, initiatives, and resources related to the efforts of academic institutions to promote and reward community-engaged scholarship.

www.ccph.info

Additional CCPH Resources

www.ccph.info



Community-Engaged Scholarship

<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/scholarship.html>

Commission

<http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/kellogg3.html>

Community-Engaged Scholarship Listserv

<https://mailman1.u.washington.edu/mailman/listinfo/comm-engagedscholarship>



For More Information

www.ccph.info

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