NEW BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT
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ENGAGING CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY
The Practice of Public Scholarship in the State and Land-Grant University System

Edited by Scott J. Peters, Nicholas R. Jordan, Margaret Adamek, and Theodore R. Alter

Colleges and universities are increasingly being called upon to deepen their engagement in the public work of addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges. How should they respond? Engaging Campus and Community examines the practice of public scholarship as a promising means for academic professionals and students to join with external partners in addressing our most pressing public problems. Based on four years of collaborative research by a team of scholars from six different institutions in the national state and land-grant university system, Engaging Campus and Community is the first—and only—qualitative study of public scholarship in American higher education. The book presents and analyzes eight in-depth case studies of public scholarship involving close community-university engagement in public work initiatives that address the economic, social, and environmental challenges of pursuing agricultural and food systems sustainability. The authors draw lessons from these cases that have broad relevance for the larger movement to renew higher education’s civic mission and work.

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Advance praise for Engaging Campus and Community:

“State and land-grant universities must play a leading role in America’s future that matches their historic contributions. This book shows how these universities can meet their fundamental obligation to strengthen democracy by partnering with citizens and their communities. Its provocative case studies and essays illuminate the great opportunities that public scholarship presents. And, if you worry about the resource base for these universities, it is precisely public scholarship and engagement—doing it and explaining it—that will bring the support we need to serve society in this new century.”

-C. Peter Magrath, President Emeritus, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC)

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“This is a wonderful work, in my judgment the single best treatment of the theory and practice of public scholarship.”

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“This timely and unique book is required reading for all educators, practitioners, policy makers, and citizens seeking an intellectually compelling and empirically tested vision for bringing to scale and sustaining university-community collaborations that promote positive human development, enhance the diverse sectors of our nation, foster civil society, and advance American democracy.”

-Richard M. Lerner, Bergstrom Chair in Applied Developmental Science, Tufts University

“In pages that exude conviction, passion, and energy—the very ingredients of any engagement effort worth pursuing—Scott Peters and his colleagues upshift the scholarship of engagement by enabling deep understanding of this work in its complexity. This thoughtfully prepared book is a must-read for participating intelligently in the engagement movement.”

-Frank Fear, Professor, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University

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