

Civic Engagement at Research Universities

Research University Engaged Scholarship Toolkit

The Research University Civic Engagement Network (TRUCEN) works to advance civic engagement and engaged scholarship among research universities and to create resources and models for use across higher education. TRUCEN calls upon research university colleagues to embrace a bold vision for civic and community engagement and work to bring it about. As secretariat for the network, Campus Compact serves as a convener and as a disseminator of information and resources.

Online Toolkit

Visit Toolkit Website: <http://www.compact.org/initiatives/trucen/trucen-toolkit>

In 2008, the group convened at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, to focus on civic and community-engaged scholarship. At the meeting, the group agreed to organize itself formally as TRUCEN and open its membership to all Carnegie Foundation-defined “very high research institutions” that share its goals.

Meeting participants reviewed efforts to strengthen institutional rewards and incentives for engaged scholarship, to identify special challenges and opportunities presented by research universities, and to explore constructive steps to encourage engaged scholarship across research universities. The group also initiated design of a major online resource for advancing this work.

Developed by Timothy K. Stanton of Stanford University and Jeffrey P. Howard of the University of Michigan with assistance from a broad network of contributors, this online resource—The Research University Engaged Scholarship Toolkit—offers an annotated guide to the best information available on engaged scholarship, as well as models, exemplars, and original essays.

Ongoing TRUCEN meetings will continue to explore ways to advance civic and community engagement among research universities and other institutions of higher education and to generate additional models and resources to support this effort.

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