

***Dear Friends of University Public Service,
Outreach, and Engagement . . .***

I am pleased to welcome you to the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, formerly the *Journal of Public Service and Outreach*. Created in 1996, the *Journal of Public Service and Outreach* has provided readers with reflections on the contributions of outreach to our rapidly changing society. It has also fulfilled the mission of “fostering collaboration among members of scholarly and professional communities and the diverse publics they serve.”

It is interesting to note that the first issue of the *Journal* carried the last article written by the late Ernest Boyer, former president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The article is entitled “The Scholarship of Engagement” and it is still the most requested article of all those published in the ensuing years. He wrote:

Still, our outstanding universities and colleges remain, in my opinion, one of the greatest hopes for intellectual and civic progress in this country. I’m convinced that for this hope to be fulfilled, the academy must become a more vigorous partner in the search for answers to our most pressing social, civic, economic, and moral problems, and must reaffirm its historic commitment to what I call the scholarship of engagement.

Five years later, as we embark on a new era in higher education public service and outreach, the challenge is no less demanding. Indeed, our engagement is even more critical to the well-being of society.

With this issue the name of the *Journal* has been changed to the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement* in recognition of our responsibility to provide leadership in engaging higher education as partners with those we serve in searching for answers to pressing needs. The new title incorporates the term “engagement” for greater clarity and relevance. Since the release of the Kellogg reports on the Future of State and Land-Grant Universities, the term has captured the attention of many of us, because it implies an interaction and a give and take with the public rather than just a “give.” Also, the *Journal* is now being published as a joint effort between the University of Georgia’s Institute of Higher

Education and the Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. This is fitting as well because of the Institute's historic role in providing an interdisciplinary approach to problem identification, analysis, and resolution. It now also happens to be my academic home.

The *Journal* will continue to be built upon the premise that scholarship in service can promote the best of higher education engagement and that universities and colleges continue to remain as one of the greatest hopes for the progress of mankind.

As Vice President for Public Service and Outreach and Associate Provost at one of the nation's leading institutions for university public service, outreach, and engagement, it is indeed my pleasure to provide support and encouragement for the *Journal*. As we seek to improve society, we also seek to respond to your reflections on the *Journal*. We welcome your engagement with us as we recommit to providing this forum for an exchange of research, discussion, and debate.

Art Dunning
Vice President for Public Service and
Outreach and Associate Provost