Brown University Faculty Programs

Kerrissa Heffernan

he Engaged Scholars initiative works to celebrate, support, and strengthen the experiences of faculty and students who seek to integrate teaching, research, and practice with a goal of advancing scholarship and producing a public benefit.

The 22 faculty members from 17 disciplines who compose the Engaged Scholars community meet regularly to discuss their work as well as how engaged scholarship supports the university's mission of creating knowledge and "producing graduates committed to a life of usefulness and purpose". These faculty exemplars are informing and shaping public discourse on a range of issues. Moreover, this community of scholars is promoting rigorous scholarship and innovation across its members' disciplines.

The initiative seeks to advance goals on a number of levels:

- Providing resources and support for individual faculty teaching and research.
- Developing and supporting a community of scholars at Brown engaged with this work.
- Recognizing and expanding engaged scholarship across campus.
- Contributing to the national practice of engaged scholarship.

Two examples of Brown's Engaged Scholars include Phil Brown, professor of sociology, and Amy Remensnyder, associate professor of history.

Engaged Scholar Phil Brown, Professor, Sociology

Professor Phil Brown has merged his scholarship—research, teaching, and mentorship—with outreach and community engagement. As an outgrowth of his and his students' work with the Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island, he has launched an after-school/evening Community Environmental College for teenagers and adults, to provide free classes in the community on a wide range of environmental health and justice issues. Professor Brown has incorporated students from a range of courses, including his

first-year seminar, Environment and Society, as well as five faculty colleagues from diverse disciplines in the project.

Engaged Scholar Amy Remensnyder, Associate Professor, History

Professor Amy Remensnyder recently published *Why History Matters*, a collection of writings by noted medieval scholars on the relevance of history to contemporary concerns. Remensnyder also leads the Brown Education Link Lecture Series (BELLS) program, a faculty-student collaboration, which brings Brown professors to the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institution as part of an ongoing seminar series for inmates.

For more information, contact

Kerrissa Heffernan Director Faculty Engagement, Royce Fellowship, and the Royce Fellowship for Sport and Society kerrissa_heffernan@brown.edu (401) 863-1529