

Community-Based vs Community-Engaged Research

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Abstract

No matter which universities they are at, faculty are often expected to show accomplishments in teaching, research, and service. Some universities may value research more than others, while others may require their faculty to have a balanced success in all three areas. Nowadays, many universities place a strong emphasis on community engagement. However, many faculty misinterpret this form of engagement as service. Many have also been misinformed that community-engaged research may not be highly valued by tenure and promotion review committees, so they should stay away from it. “Community-engaged scholarship is increasingly viewed as a valuable strategy for strengthening the quality and impact of academic research. This approach involves partnering with relevant groups or communities—those who are the focus of a research study or who may be directly affected by its findings—over the course of a research project. It represents a departure from the traditional top-down, ivory tower approach to research, in which the community is held at arm’s length and the scholar is considered the expert.” (Slack, 2022). The purpose of this presentation is to clearly define the differences between community-based research vs community-engaged research. The presenter will also share with participants on how they can use their community-engaged work to fulfill the expectations of teaching, research, and service.

Keywords: community-based, community-engaged, research, scholarship, tenure and promotion