

Shifting Architectures of Knowledge through Community-University Engagement and the Future of Higher Education

Topic:

The years since the 2009 UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education have seen significant growth in what might be seen as a movement of community-university engagement. Beginning with practical student engagement models like service learning, community engagement in higher education began to explore new frontiers of diversity of knowledge systems after the 2014 GUNI World Report entitled “Knowledge, Engagement & Higher Education: Contributions to Social Change”. Respectful inclusion of multiple knowledge systems through community engagement by students, teachers, researchers and the academic community as a whole has been further spurred by responses to the pandemic and increasing climate impacts. As a consequence, it is being increasingly recognised that the new architecture of knowledge involving research, teaching and learning and active collaboration in community is a critical element in any roadmap towards reconstruction of a fairer world, including the goals of COP 26. This event brings together some of the key global leaders in the CUE movement to engage with a global virtual community on what we have learned from practice in diverse settings and what challenges lie ahead.

Theme: This activity relates to the WHEC theme of Governance, Knowledge Production and Futures of Higher Education

Time: 90 minutes

Design: A hybrid event with 4-5 in-person story-tellers interacting with a global community of practitioners of CUE from across the world, identifying practices that work and those that need to be institutionalised.

Support needed:

Technical support to create a hybrid event

Persons involved:

Led in person by Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Co-chair UNESCO Chair in CBR/SR, New Delhi, India and Dr. Thomas Farnell, architect of the TEFCE European Framework for Community Engagement in Higher Education, with Prof Irma Flores, Head of Colombia K4C Hub, University of the Andes, Bogota, Bolivia; Vice-Chancellor George Openjuru, Gulu University, Uganda; Dr. Diksha Rajput, Deputy Secretary at University Grants Commission, New Delhi; Prof Lesley Wood, NorthWest University, South Africa; and Dr. Paul Manners, Director, National Coordinating Council for Public Engagement in Higher Education, UK.

Outcomes:

A written report of the session will be disseminated via webinars through the TEFCE Network and the UNESCO Chair in CBR/SR

Contact persons:

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