

Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ACADEMY OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP INDUCTS 31  
NEW MEMBERS**

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The Academy of Community Engagement Scholarship (ACES) is pleased to announce the names of thirty-one exceptional scholars and leaders who have been elected to membership in the Academy in 2024. Each of the new members has a track record of accomplishments related to the production and advancement of scholarship that serves the public good. Such scholarship is characterized by mutually beneficial collaboration between institutions of higher education and communities of place, practice, interest, action, or circumstance that results in the co-creation of new knowledge. Inductees include:

**Maria Avila**

Associate Professor  
California State University - Dominguez Hills

**Nancy Bales**

Executive Director  
Gray Community Foundation

**Kwesi Brookins**

Professor and Vice Provost for University Outreach and Engagement  
Michigan State University

**Robert Brown**

Associate Director, Center for Community and Economic Development  
Michigan State University

**Julie Brown**

Vice President of Advanced Learning  
Institute for Advanced Learning and Research

**Monica Canca**

Program Officer  
The Learning Trust

**Rena Cotsones**

Vice President and Chief Engagement Officer  
Northern Illinois University

**Daniela Gargantini**

Professor, Catholic University of Córdoba  
Researcher, National Scientific and Technical Research Council of Argentina

**Stephen Gavazzi**

Professor and Director, Center for Human Resource Research  
Ohio State University

**Alžbeta Gregorová**

Associate Professor  
Matej Bel University

**Mona Hanna**

C.S. Mott Endowed Professor and Associate Dean for of Public Health  
Michigan State University

**Cornel Hart**

Programme Coordinator, Community Development Programme  
University of the Western Cape

**Iheoma U. Iruka**

Research Professor and Founding Director, Equity Research Action Coalition  
University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

**Cheryl Kickett-Tucker**

Professor and Convenor of First Nations and Educational Research  
Curtin University

**Nico Larco**

Professor and Director of the Urbanism Next Center  
University of Oregon

**Darren Lortan**

Acting Senior Director for Engagement  
Durban University of Technology

**Jeneile Luebke**

Assistant Professor  
University of Wisconsin - Madison

**Edina Malkic**

Executive Director  
Interactive Open Schools

**Jennifer Martinez-Medina**

Assistant Professor  
Willamette University

**Ruth McCausland**

Associate Professor  
University of New South Wales

**Marisol Morales**

Assistant Vice President and Executive Director, Carnegie Elective Classifications  
American Council on Education

**Ruben Parra-Cardona**

Roger and Carol Nooe Endowed Chair of Social Work  
University of Tennessee

**Craig Pope**

County Commissioner  
Polk County, Oregon

**Susan Renoe**

Assistant Professor and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Development and  
Strategic Partnerships  
University of Missouri

**Michael Rios**

Professor and Vice Provost for Public Scholarship  
University of California - Davis

**Tonya S. Roberson**

Director of Community Engagement, Program Development, and Academic Support,  
College of Health and Human Services  
Governors State University

**Karen M. Rose**

Professor and Dean, College of Nursing  
Ohio State University

**Niels Rygaard**

Chief Executive Officer  
Fairstart Foundation

**Marc Schlossberg**

Professor and Co-Director Sustainable Cities Institute  
University of Oregon

**Jeff Sherman-Duncan**

Associate Vice Provost for Partnerships  
Oregon State University

**Manuela Whitford**

Chief Executive Officer

Friends with Dignity

Founded in 2013, ACES is an organization of leading community engagement scholars and practitioners who are recognized for advancing scholarship that serves the public good. ACES highlights scholarship that has direct societal impact on complex societal needs and issues. ACES provides a non-partisan, transdisciplinary, research and practice-based voice for community engagement scholarship through its cultivation of partnerships with national and international associations, groups, and initiatives that promote high quality community engagement scholarship.

Through its members, ACES leverages the learning, discovery, and engagement capacity of higher education institutions and communities to influence private and public leaders to solve societal problems and recommend innovations needed by society. Communities, institutions, and their representatives benefit from ACES through its broader promotion of scholarship that directly impacts communities and addresses society's most intractable issues.

ACES works to expand access to local, national, and global partnerships for funding opportunities on issues that lead to informed public policy on community engagement scholarship. It also offers a forum for publishing best practices on community engagement scholarship and international workshops and think tank opportunities focused on addressing societal issues by linking scholarship and community engagement. Learn more about the Academy at: <https://academyofces.org>.