



Imagining America Regional Meeting

September 11, 2009

Niagara University

- 1) What is the discussion of tenure and promotion on your campus, particularly in regards to public scholarship? What stage of planning or implementation has your institution reached?

The faculty at Niagara University is a collective bargaining faculty so the criteria for tenure and promotion are contained within the Agreement. In each type of research discussed public scholarship is included and recognized.

- 2) Who are the key individuals and groups that are talking about or working on promotion policies for engaged faculty members? What institutional domains do they represent (for example, department, chair and program, college, central administration, governance)? What, if any, off-campus networks are involved (such as national associations, community partners, foundations)?

Faculty and representatives from each of the groups mentioned above are involved in the discussions of the importance of public scholarship especially senior administration and community partners.

- 3) What is the role of the department chair in changing tenure/promotion policies? Are you finding ways to support the chairs charged with hiring, mentoring, and evaluating public scholars?

It is expected that department chairs, as faculty members are involved in the discussion of tenure and promotion criteria. Chairs serve on committees that prepare for contract negotiations and in hiring interviews stress the importance of community engagement in the academic life of the university. Chairs actively encourage faculty to pursue a research agenda that includes public scholarship.

- 4) What aspects of your campus efforts would you be willing to share at the Imagining America working meeting on September 11? How would this benefit other campuses?

I am willing to share whatever aspect you deem appropriate. Niagara University is Very involved in service-learning activities and the faculty are actively engaged in the community in numerous ways.