

PES RESEARCH GROUP Aspirations and Decisions of Publicly Engaged Scholars

Prototype 4 – Program Coordinator to Engaged Scholar/Administrator

SELINDA

After graduating college, I accepted an offer for coordinator of service learning. I loved my job, but envied the faculty members who taught their students using service learning as a form of pedagogy. Thus, I began to pursue my PhD part-time and use public need to inform my scholarship. I now teach community-based classes because I believe in the pedagogy of public scholarship. I am still untenured. Other than that, I have my dream job and would not change a thing.

My name is Selinda. After graduating college, I accepted an offer for coordinator of service learning. I helped faculty members integrate service learning into their curriculum. While I loved my job, I envied the faculty members who taught their students using service learning as a form of pedagogy. To open up a student's mind to such rich learning, provide them with both theory and practical experiences, and watch them have their "aha" moments seemed like a dream job. I never planned to get my PhD, but learned that I wanted to teach. Thus, I began to pursue my PhD part-time and use public need to inform my scholarship.

While working on my dissertation, I received a promotion to assistant director of the service-learning center on campus. Thus, I am grateful to have that title, as well as teach community-based sociology. Public scholarship informs my teaching. I teach community-based classes because I believe in the pedagogy of public scholarship. My teaching, my administrative position, and my own research embody this idea. Like others, there is not enough time in the day and I am still untenured. Other than that, though, I have my dream job and would not change a thing.