**Community-Engaged Scholarship Forum**

**March 2, 2021 • 1:30-2pm**

**Doswell Presentation**

**Civic Learning:** To me civic learning is exemplifying and teaching others (college students/community members) how to be involved in the conduct of their community’s business, welfare of its citizens, and social and legal norms to maintain a successfully functioning community environment. At a university it is employing the following as we educate our students for their responsible performance of duties in their education for their future profession.

**Civic Learning + Engagement:** As a Health Professional or Health Professional student this entails practicing health principles in the care of ourselves, our families, and neighborhoods by such things as knowing, teaching, and under-standing our governing laws, performing civic duties such as voting, volunteering, and participating in community activities such as the Covid vaccine administration going on right now. Civic engagement also includes noting when things which can be a health hazard are broken in the neighborhoods we serve such as fences, playground equipment, missing stop and crossing signs, stores and restaurants that have food safety or cleanliness issues, fail to have staff and patrons masking, food preparers failing to glove and unsanitary bathrooms.

Civic learning + engagement also involves volunteering in programs to help the elderly, the very young children needing childcare, teaching handwashing, notifying agencies when traffic is not picked up or dangerous objects (such as needles) are found on the street, participating in jury duty, keeping the public informed of health issues vis classes and workshops. Health issues such as unclean water, how to garden, and make health education pamphlets available to citizens. Encouraging the public to listen to the news on health and offering to teach them how to parse truth from falsehood or inaccuracies is also important. Being engaged with a community’s formal and informal leaders is extremely important to aid in identifying abandoned housing, stray and sick pets on the street or without homes, dangerous street crossings for children and the elderly and when food is needed by neighbors or in certain parts of the community. All of these areas should be a part of teaching civic learning to our health professional students and other students at a major university.