



## Resources for Education and Research in a Democratic Context: Connecting Higher Education to Communities Through Community-Based Research\*

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*\*Community-Based Research (or CBR) is used here as it relates to popular education, participatory research, action research and service-learning in their various efforts to be collaborative, engaged and grounded in civil society.*

### **Community-Based Research Organizations and Websites**

The Catalyst Centre, Ontario. <http://www.catalystcentre.ca/resource-library/> A community-based popular education project, with helpful resources and links. Features popular education projects from Environmental Studies, York University.

Center for Popular Education and Participatory Research, student-initiated project at University of CA, Berkeley, School of Education. <http://cpepr.wordpress.com/> Features projects such as “Environmental Justice, Chemistry and Participatory Research.”

Community-Campus Partnerships for Health: Transforming Communities and Higher Education. <http://depts.washington.edu/ccph/index.html> Based at the University of Washington, this is one of the most well developed organizational networks for exploring community collaborations around health (broadly defined) and support for community-based participatory research. Involves 1600 campuses and communities in North America. Resources on conferences, research, evaluation, funding, student scholarships, publications, ethics, partnership strategies. Community Partner Listserv.

Higher Education Network for Community Engagement (HENCE). <http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/organisations/detail/evidencenet/hence> A resource for literature, research, practice, policy and advocacy, linking campus to community. Access to Wingspread Journal 2007 on “Beyond the Ivory Tower” as well as Campus Compact and National Service-Learning Clearinghouse.

Living Knowledge: The International Science Shop Network: Building Partnerships for Public Access to Research. <http://www.livingknowledge.org/livingknowledge/> Building on the Dutch Science Shops, this network provides models and resources for campus/community connections. Based in the European Community, with an international perspective and reach, Living Knowledge builds independent, participatory research support for citizens and civil society. Ex., “Transnational Research Cooperation: Sustainable Water Management and Land Use.”

The Highlander Research and Education Center: <http://highlandercenter.org/>

In New Market, Tennessee, Highlander is one of the most significant and enduring centers of popular education, participatory research, and community-based work. This website provides profiles of Highlander, links to others in the popular education/community research network, newsletters, and publications. Collaborations with higher education are selective, purposeful, and constructed through mutual benefits instead of traditional service relations. Key features: environmental justice, human rights, economic justice, youth leadership, cultural self-determination and multilingual capacity-building.

The Loka Institute: [www.loka.org](http://www.loka.org) Loka is considered one of the nerve centers of CBR, linking up advocates and participants internationally. The broad framework of democracy in science and public policy attracts a wide range of adherents from community activists to students and teachers to higher education administrators. Essential is the negotiation of just, equitable collaborations between communities and researchers in the academy. The website is an important portal to news, exchanges, literature, and links. The research and network sections provide background & links on participatory research, citizen panels, scenario workshops.

The Policy Research Action Group: [www.luc.edu/curl/prag](http://www.luc.edu/curl/prag)

Based at Loyola University in Chicago, this is one of the most well developed collaborative projects, involving many campuses and communities, within an international network of interest. Projects have strong educational and research impacts, and there is a premium placed on assessment, accountability, and sustainable benefits. Focal areas: art, health, economic justice, globalization, immigrant rights, urban sustainability. Valuable publications and links.

Popular Education News. [www.popednews.org](http://www.popednews.org) Based in Minneapolis, this community-based network provides a very helpful Annotated Bibliography of materials on popular education, CBR, and community collaborative work.

## **Community-Based Research: Selected Texts**

Center for Public Integrity. 2000. *Citizen Muckraking: How to Investigate and Right Wrongs in Your Community*. Monroe, ME: Common Courage Press. A great toolbox for students and teachers wanting to consider all possible research and documentation capacities in the community. Drawing upon the traditions of muckraking journalists (“investigative journalism in the public interest”), the Center ([www.publicintegrity.org](http://www.publicintegrity.org)) works to enhance citizens’ knowledge about and application of public and corporate records.

Irwin, A. 1995. *Citizen Science: A Study of People, Expertise, and Sustainable Development*. NY: Routledge. This is an analytic treatise on the urgent need for the democratization of scientific knowledge. It presents case material in the context of science/policy frameworks; it also provides a well-articulated rationale for how education/research is contextualized and can be made accountable through citizen challenges.

Murphy, Danny, Madeleine Scammell, and Richard Sclove. 1997. *Doing Community-Based Research: A Reader*. Loka Institute. This is a significant orientation to doing research in, with, and for communities. It represents a range of academic disciplines and community

perspectives, focusing on the meeting ground of “laypeople” and “expert.” The concerns include “good science” in the community, feminist perspectives, and grassroots AIDS research as models for other issues, among others. [www.loka.org](http://www.loka.org)

Park, Peter, Mary Brydon-Miller, Budd Hall, and Ted Jackson. 1993. *Voices of Change: Participatory Research in the United States and Canada*. Westport, CT: Bergin & Garvey. This is a valuable resource for examining the theoretical and practical positions and debates. It includes important case material, a student reflection, and a profile of “professionalization” of participatory research.

Sclove, Richard, Madeleine Scammell, and Breena Holland. 1998. *Community-Based Research in the United States: An Introductory Reconnaissance* “Organizational Case Studies and Comparison with the Dutch Science Shops and the Mainstream American Research System.” Building on the *CBR Reader*, this provides helpful case profiles and “findings” regarding strengths and weaknesses of current efforts. Includes CBR directory and literature. [www.loka.org](http://www.loka.org)

Williams, Lee. 1996. “An Annotated Bibliography for Participatory and Collaborative Field Research Methods.” Community Partnership Center, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. A rich collection with sections on applied research, ethnography, feminist approaches, and evaluation. Tools and techniques, from oral histories to surveys to visuals, are identified. Case materials are also included, as well as much needed consideration of ethical challenges.