The Scholarship Project

A double-edged context

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The Double-Edged nature of College HE
(Lea 2016)

• College HE in context – or, localism and the problem of falling between two sector stools;

• Scholarship as a troublesome word – or, the problem of producing second class research;

• The nature of higher vocational knowledge – or, the danger of sitting on the wrong side of academic-vocational divide
The problems as continua...

- HE  College HE  FE
- Research  Scholarship  CPD
- Academic  Phronesis  Vocational
College HE in context

• College HE is significant because of its numbers; its localism; and its FE heritage...

• But is WP the same as social mobility and is FE just too corporate for an HE culture?
Scholarship as a troublesome word

• Very few academics actually conduct groundbreaking research, and most teachers want to do a lot more than engage in staff development...

• But scholarship is not always a welcome word, and may easily become associated with second-class research
The nature of higher vocational knowledge

- Everyone seems to be intuitively Aristotelian about the value of practical wisdom...

- While at the same time being ambivalently Platonic in accepting the value of propositional knowledge and the positional status of certain universities
The Scholarship Project Context

*Exploring how scholarship can:*

- avowedly enhance student learning (Elton 2001);
- widen notions of `going public’ (Kreber 2013);
- enhance `community engagement’ (Boyer 1996);
- reinvigorate the `public intellectual’ (Jacoby 1987);
- help put `knowledge to work’ (Evans et al 2010);
- help resist the pull of `genericism’ (Bernstein 2000)
References


