

## Community College Moments

The upcoming volume of *The Community College Moment* will address the relationship between higher education and civic engagement. The Truman Commission of 1947 made the case for the central role of higher education in democratic society. At the first meeting of the commission in 1946, John Steelman argued that “We face national decisions that are as important as any that have confronted us since the federal union was formed. These decisions are made in a democracy by the people, and not by a Government apart from the people. Their choices are governed in large part by their opportunities for education aimed at producing effective citizens”. Not only did the Truman Commission lay the conceptual groundwork for a community college system open to all “without regard to economic status, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, or ancestry,” it imagined an educational curriculum that explicitly helped students to develop “ethical principles consistent with democratic ideals”. With this in mind, to what extent are community colleges — and we as educators — fostering civil and social engagement? To what extent should or can we? We encourage you to think about the relative importance of civic awareness and engagement in your role as an educator. Which models of education and modes of communication produce and/or deter such engagement in ourselves and in our students? What challenges do we as educators and citizens face when we work towards these goals? We invite submissions that consider such questions in their various contexts. For more information on submissions and this year’s theme, please go to <https://www.lanecc.edu/ccmoment/submission-information> . If you have questions, please contact us at [moment@lanecc.edu](mailto:moment@lanecc.edu).