



NATIONAL FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF LIBERAL EDUCATION

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The National Forum on the Future of Liberal Education is a three-year program designed to identify and prepare a core national group of emerging academic leaders to guide the future of the liberal arts. In twice-yearly seminars in New York City with leading thinkers in higher education, government, media, and public policy, thirty Fellows will take part in intensive conversations on topics ranging from new research on learning to the viability of contemporary assumptions about the shape and structure of American higher education. Ultimately, Fellows will carry these conversations back to their home universities, to policy circles, and to the broader society. The Forum will provide a high-profile and stimulating environment where the aim of improving liberal education is at the center of the agenda.

The National Forum Fellows represent the next generation of top scholars, drawn from leading public and private research universities. We seek extraordinarily talented junior faculty across the disciplines in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, who are likely to move into top teaching and administrative positions, whether as master teachers or as deans and provosts. Our hope is that the Forum will enrich the perspectives of these scholars at an important moment in their own careers, so that when they arrive at positions of academic and institutional leadership, they will be ready to address the challenges facing liberal education in the United States today.

The Forum has four aims:

- To come to a clearer understanding of the current state of affairs in higher education, including the role of performance measures, market forces, institutional leadership, issues of access and equity, public opinion, and national politics.
- To introduce these faculty members to—and engage them in—innovative new research on learning and pedagogy.
- To stimulate lively discussion of liberal education at the university level and develop well-grounded rationales for its intellectual and social value.
- To address collectively how we might better articulate these goals both within our universities and beyond them in the realm of academic governance and public policy.

The National Forum on the Future of Liberal Education is funded by the Teagle Foundation. Peter T. Struck, Associate Professor of Classics at the University of Pennsylvania, and Sarah E. Igo, Associate Professor of History, Sociology, and Political Science at Vanderbilt University, serve as co-directors of the Forum.