



The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy, The Center for Comparative and Global Studies in Education the Willower Fund, and the Holloway Fund endowments are pleased to present:

Markets, Mission, and the Public Good: the Future of Higher Education Through Equity in Primary and Secondary Schooling

Scott Thomas, Ph.D.

Professor of Education and Dean,
Claremont Graduate University

Thursday, September 25, 2014

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, 511 O'Brian Hall

Noon - Light lunch will be served

1pm — Lecture will begin

Abstract: In this talk I will argue that, across the 20th century, we aggressively built an education system designed to achieve a set of publicly understandable goals. But even before the end of the Cold War we found ourselves with an obligation that outpaced our willingness to sustain the significant commitments made to education as a vehicle for economic, political, and social vitality. The rationale enabling the large public post World War II investment in the infrastructure of today's education system is increasingly indefensible as we continue to recast our post WWII "nation building" stance into the individual earnings and career building stance defining the first half of this century. But there are limits to this shift and the demographic realities facing our schools and colleges now force a choice between contraction in the postsecondary sector or a deeper public investment in elementary and secondary schools to better ensure the academic qualifications of students from non-affluent backgrounds. In today's market parlance, this is the largest untapped market segment for institutions in the postsecondary sector -- but the barriers of inadequate preparation and affordability present steep challenges to the matriculation and success of these students. I will argue that these challenges are coincident with the latent public imperative of educational opportunity

About Dr. Scott Thomas

Scott L. Thomas is professor and dean of the School of Educational Studies at Claremont Graduate University. He earned a PhD from the University of California, Santa Barbara and has held faculty positions at the University of Georgia's Institute of Higher Education, the University of Arizona's Center for the Study of Higher Education, and the University of Hawaii at Mānoa (where he served as the founding director of the Hawaii Educational Policy Center). His research focuses on issues of student success and stratification of opportunity in higher education. Thomas is the editor in chief at the Journal of Higher Education, one of the premier journals in the field of higher education and he co-edits (with David Palfreyman and Ted Tapper of Oxford University) the book series International Studies in Higher Education (published by Taylor & Francis).

Registration is free! RSVP at <http://bit.ly/1uHmaEZ>

Questions? Contact Monica Washington at (716) 645-1350 or mcw22@buffalo.edu

