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ABSTRACT: Injustice While Seeking Social Justice: Strategies for the Activist Scholar

This paper begins by exploring recent events on college and university campuses across the country involving the punishment of faculty related to their efforts to pursue social justice. We pay particular attention to gender, tenure status, social issue and university responses. At a time when more and more people are calling for public engagement by professors the punitive responses, constant surveillance and the limiting of academic freedom are contributing to a “culture of fear” leading many scholars to reconsider their activist efforts. We conclude with recommended strategies for the activist scholar, from graduate student through administrator, which will enable and promote social justice activism as a necessary and valued piece of the academic career.