

The Provost's Forums on the Public University and the Social Good

Thursday, April 16, 2015

How Disruptive Can We Be? Intended and Unintended Effects of Changing Academic Practices

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Alessandro Duranti is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Dean of Social Sciences at UCLA. His research projects have focused on the role of verbal and visual communication in political arenas, everyday life, and music performance and rehearsals. Dean Duranti will review a number of projects and initiatives at UCLA that have to some extent disrupted traditional views of collaboration in research and teaching; how to engage a non-academic audience; the separation between basic and applied research; the goals of graduate education; and the role played by alumni and donors in helping students along their career

paths. In each of these areas, Dean Duranti will use examples of success and failure to assess some intended and unintended effects of experimentation. The goal of his presentation is to stimulate a productive conversation with faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends of the UC system about the best ways to face a number of pressing challenges—including a rapidly changing job market, institutional competition from private universities, and current political realities in California.

Lecture:

3–4:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Student Community
Center

Reception:

4:30–5:30 p.m.
Multipurpose Room
Student Community
Center

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