



Intellectual Populism

Democracy, Inquiry, and the People

Paul Stob

In response to denunciations of populism as undemocratic and anti-intellectual, *Intellectual Populism* argues that populism has contributed to a distinct and democratic intellectual tradition in which ordinary people assume leading roles in the pursuit of knowledge. Focusing on the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, this book uses case studies of certain intellectual figures to trace the key rhetorical appeals that proved capable of resisting the status quo and building alternative communities of inquiry. Through these case studies, *Intellectual Populism* demonstrates how orators and advocates can channel the frustrations and energies of the American people toward productive, democratic, intellectual ends.

PAUL STOB is Associate Professor and Chair of Communication Studies at Vanderbilt University. His research explores the intersection of rhetoric, intellectual culture, and public advocacy in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era United States. He is the author of *William James and the Art of Popular Statement* and coeditor of *Thinking Together: Lecturing, Learning, and Difference in the Long Nineteenth Century*. In addition, he is a contributing author to *The Art of Public Speaking*, now in its thirteenth edition.

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