

Evidence of Scholarly Achievement

Introduction

Before defining scholarship in broad terms, let us ask "What is the relevance and value of scholarship to an institution such as ours?" For Lawrence Tech, scholarship will enhance the educational experience of our students and build our reputation as a provider of higher education. This has ramifications to student recruitment, student enrollment and corporate and community relationships. A first rate educational experience and name recognition of an institution bestows an honor and prestige on external relationships and ultimately benefits Lawrence Tech both professionally and financially. For our faculty, scholarship enhances the opportunity for personal growth and development by focusing their passion and interest and helps to define their responsibilities as educators.

Defining Scholarship

Scholarship entails systematic inquiry into a subject, attainment of a level of expertise, and communication of that expertise to others. This implies that a faculty member stays current within their area of specialized knowledge, brings new knowledge to their peer group and ultimately to the student body of the university. Scholarship activity does not always imply a scientific discovery or a technological breakthrough. Existing knowledge can also be integrated, explained, extended, interpreted and new insights gained and conceptualized. However, scholarship should result in a tangible product for external peer-reviewed dissemination. External peer-reviewed dissemination is the litmus test for scholarship as the advancement of knowledge is only achieved when it is shared. Advancement of knowledge is what ties scholarship and teaching together as an integral part of the life of a university.

To summarize, scholarship is required: "To increase the expertise of the faculty member which broaden the frontiers of knowledge for others." It can be achieved individually or collaboratively with colleagues and others, including students.

Scholarship is often interpreted as restricted to the faculty member's area of expertise. However, the scholarship of teaching and learning and activities that contribute to a better understanding of teaching and learning are also highly valued.

At Lawrence Tech scholarship activities fall into three categories, "Basic Research," "Applied Research," and "Creative Work," each of which carries equal importance in the evaluation of faculty performance. Peer-reviewed research within at least one of these categories is considered essential for consideration in tenure and promotion and externally disseminated work of all types is strongly encouraged in the awarding of merit increases.

Basic Research

The essence of basic research is the generation and dissemination of new knowledge, historically thought of in terms of primary academic research and pursued with the intent of extending the boundaries of a discipline. Basic research is most often funded by external sources or by sources in the University, although the work may be philosophical, historical or theoretical and unfunded or delayed funding (i.e. material for a book publication). The following are demonstrations of basic research scholarly work:

1. Publish in scholarly journals, conference proceedings, book chapters, or original abstracts in refereed journals
2. Publish books or monographs subject to a peer-review process
3. Publish textbooks, laboratory manuals, reference material, software or instructional materials by an independent third party subject to a peer-review process
4. Edit for major journals including state and regional journals
5. Present papers at professional meetings such as international or national conferences which are the result of invitation or refereed selection
6. Receive awards and/or recognition for basic research by peer or refereed sources
7. Present at other institutions as an invited speaker in a lecture series, symposium, or conference

Applied Research

The essence of applied research is the use of existing knowledge and techniques to produce work that is significantly new and is applied to solve problems. Applied research includes innovative applications of theory to practice as well as scholarship of teaching and learning. While some basic research is often needed to complete an applied research project, it may not be required and may not produce results that have enough significance to be published as basic research. Demonstrations of applied research scholarship include but are not limited to:

1. Secure and execute applied research contracts or grants with potentially proprietary results
2. Secure and execute grants with appropriately disseminated results
3. Publish textbooks, laboratory manuals, reference material, software or instructional materials by an independent third party subject to a peer-review process
4. Edit for major journals including state and regional journals
5. Present workshops at professional meetings such as international and national conferences which are the result of invitation or refereed selection
6. Receive a patent
7. Generate intellectual property that is licensed by a reputable and recognized third party
8. Develop and disseminate new and creative programs of study, new coursework or pedagogy which require scholarly activities that relate to the practice of teaching and are disseminated through a peer-review process

9. Consult, present, or engage in other professional service when that service draws upon the scholarly expertise of the faculty member and results in a problem-solving solution for students and/or other faculty
10. Receive awards and/or recognition for applied research by peer or refereed sources

Creative Work

Creative Work evolves from original thought or imagination. The essence of creative work is the production and presentation of artistic, expressive, and/or investigative material that inspires, entertains, instructs a targeted audience, and may result in profound reflection and positive change. This work must be subject to judgment by peer and refereed sources through juried presentations, performances, exhibition, publication or display. Demonstrations of creative work include but are not limited to:

1. Publish professional literary work
2. Publish textbooks, laboratory manuals, reference material, software or instructional materials by an independent third party
3. Participate in competitions with placed standing or other significant recognition which may include first, second or third place, honorable mention, or inclusion in competition publication without standing
4. Solo or group juried/peer reviewed show or exhibition
5. Receive awards and/or recognition for creative activity by external peer or refereed sources
6. Produce original performances, displays or presentations that are peer-reviewed and externally disseminated
7. Invent a creative game, product, or concept that is commercially produced or widely distributed
8. Present at other institutions as an invited speaker or peer selected from national and regional conferences to present creative work