Scholarship!

Palmetto College Tenure and Promotion Workshop

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Read the Manual!
General Advice

• Write for an audience that doesn’t know your discipline.
• Write for an audience that doesn’t know you.
• Talk to people who have gone through the process before and who have evaluated files in the past.
• Don’t take a defensive tone.
"Activities submitted to fulfill this category of the qualifications for tenure and promotion should be appropriate to the individual and of demonstrable value to the local community, campus, or general educational community."
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- Appropriate to the individual
- Demonstrable value
• “Since pertinence of scholarship activities is influenced by the expertise and interests of the candidate, mission and needs of the local campus, and availability of support (all of which change over time), the candidate is obligated to justify the nature, extent and value of his or her scholarship. This justification should be in the form of a listing and narrative description of activities. The description should explain scholarly aspects and present a case for the importance of each activity. The candidate’s tenure and promotion file must contain documentation supporting both the fact and value of activities referenced in the narrative.”
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Nature

• What is it?
• What category of scholarship does it fall under?
• Where did it appear?
• When did it appear?
Extent

• What kind of work went into it?
• What was the process for producing it?
• How long did it take to produce?
• What is the end-product?
Value

• Who is the audience?
• What is the reach?
• What is the reputation of the publisher/journal/conference/etc.?
• Has it been cited?
• What other responses have you received?
“To meet the qualification of effective, a faculty member must demonstrate an ongoing interest and effort to continue learning on a formal and/or non-formal basis. The faculty member must present evidence of the outcomes of her or his scholarship, if not publication of research or creative/artistic work, then evidence of activities other than classroom teaching, associated with the development, dissemination or application of knowledge.”
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Categories of Effective Scholarship

• Dissemination of Knowledge
• Application of Knowledge
• Evaluation of Scholarship
• Professional Development
Don’t bury the lead!

• Organize your scholarship statement so that your most impressive work comes first.
• The most impressive work would most likely qualify as “Dissemination of Knowledge.”
• Make the status of the work clear.
Public Scholarship

• Usually qualifies as “Application of Knowledge”
• Public lectures, podcasts, blogs, op-eds
• Did you initiate it yourself? If so, what skills does it require?
• How were you chosen for this opportunity?
• What editorial process did your work go through?
• Who is the audience?
• How large is the audience?
Professional Development

• Vague and difficult to document
• Least impact on your evaluation
• Often belongs under “Teaching” rather than “Scholarship”
• Don’t use this for padding
Do I include scholarship from prior to the evaluation period?

• If you do, clearly identify it.

• Only do so if you have a good reason.
  • A published essay that is now a part of a book project.
  • A conference paper that has become a published essay.
  • A work that has established your reputation in the field and led to current opportunities.
  • A work that has received a lot of citations or other responses.
Now is not the time to be humble!