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EKU's Commitment to Scholarship

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EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY'S COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARSHIP

Preamble

Scholarship is one of the three historic missions of Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). The University's valuing of scholarship is reflected in the following official documents as well as an administrative structure that supports key scholarship activities. Understandings of types of scholarship at EKU generally reflect Boyer's (1990) venerable typology of the scholarships of discovery, integration, application, and teaching, with two caveats. The scholarship of teaching is currently referred to as the scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL) and now reflects an entire field of learning that was just emerging at the time Boyer published his milestone book, *Scholarship Reconsidered* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1990). Also, EKU values an additional form of scholarship: creative and performance works based in music, drama, and the arts.

The Relationship of Teaching to Scholarship

Part V of the *Faculty Handbook* emphasizes the importance of research in teaching: "The instructor is obligated to update continually the content of the course" (p. 41). The Faculty Workload Regulation Statement of the *Eastern Kentucky University Policy and Regulation Library* (Volume 4, Chapter 3, Section 3) elaborates, "In addition, faculty members have an obligation to engage in scholarly activity beyond that required for preparation of classes. Scholarly activity is defined as "research, artistic performance, or creative or technical achievement" (2010-2011 *Faculty Handbook*, IV, Responsibilities, p. 30; www.policies.eku.edu).

Scholarship Required for Tenure and Promotion

The *Eastern Kentucky University Policy and Regulation Library* also discusses

scholarly/creative activities in its Criteria for Tenure and Promotion:

4.2 Scholarly/Creative Activities—evidence of scholarly/creative activities relevant to the faculty member’s appointment as determined by the department criteria and which may include, for example, an active program of research, participation in professional development to enhance scholarly/creative activities, creative products or performances, publications, presentations, exhibitions, grant proposals/awards, professionally-related innovations, and other forms of scholarship of discovery, integration, application, or teaching. (*2010-2011 Faculty Handbook*, III, p. 29; Promotion and Tenure Policy 4.6.4P, p. 5, www.policies.eku.edu)

For Promotion to Assistant Professor

1.4 Demonstrated engagement in scholarly/creative activities relevant to the faculty member’s appointment. Examples of activities include an active program of research, participation in professional development, creative products or performances, publications, presentations, or other forms of scholarship of discovery, integration, application, or teaching. (*2010-2011 Faculty Handbook*, III, p. 29; Promotion and Tenure Policy 4.6.4P, p. 6, www.policies.eku.edu)

For Promotion to Associate Professor

1.5 Record of successful peer-reviewed scholarly/creative activities accomplished at state, regional, national, or international level. Examples of activities include creative products or performances, professionally related innovations, grant proposals/awards, publications, presentations, exhibitions, or other forms of scholarship of discovery, integration, application, or teaching. (*2010-2011 Faculty Handbook*, III, p. 29; Promotion and Tenure Policy 4.6.4P, p. 6, www.policies.eku.edu)

For Promotion to Professor

1.5 Sustained record of successful peer-reviewed scholarly/creative activities accomplished at state, regional, national or international level. Examples of activities include creative publications, presentations, exhibitions, or other forms of scholarship of discovery, integration, application, or teaching (*2010-2011 Faculty Handbook*, III, p. 29; Promotion and Tenure Policy 4.6.4P, p. 7, www.policies.eku.edu)

Scholarship in EKU’s Strategic Plan

The *Eastern Kentucky University Strategic Plan 2011* emphasizes the importance of scholarship:

- Strategic Direction 1.4: “Every college will develop and assess a strategic direction related to scholarship/research.”
- Strategic Direction 2.5: “Increase support for professional development, service, scholarly activity, and external funding pursuits in order to improve teaching, service and scholarship,” is to be achieved because “Financial support for university-level faculty development levels will increase” and “All Colleges will fully implement Digital Measures.”

Definition of Areas of Scholarship/Creative Endeavors

In *Scholarship Reconsidered* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1990), the book referenced by the aforementioned policies, Boyer and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, re-emphasizing that scholarship “is at the heart of what the profession is all about” (1), identify four basic types of separate but overlapping scholarship:

- 1. The Scholarship of Discovery**
- 2. The Scholarship of Integration**
- 3. The Scholarship of Application**
- 4. The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL).**

In addition, the University recognizes a fifth type of scholarship:

- 5. Creative Endeavor .**

