

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT SCHOLARLY/ARTISTIC WORK  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
SEPTEMBER 2016

The Department of Economics believes that its faculty should be active and engaged scholars, connected to their disciplines through their scholarship. Active scholarship is an integral and inseparable part of effective teaching, the primary mission of the College and its faculty. We recognize a range of activities as scholarship.

Scholarship in our disciplines includes, but is not limited to, disciplinary research and dissemination, interdisciplinary research and dissemination, applied scholarship, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Scholarship may involve individual research, research with students, research with other faculty, or research with community partners. (*Faculty Manual*, VII.C.2.)

However, whatever the form scholarship takes, its essential characteristics are that it

- a) is subjected to review by one's academic peers and that it
- b) uses the specialized knowledge, expertise, or training of our disciplines.

### ***Traditional Scholarship***

Traditional scholarship involves the production and dissemination of original research that advances knowledge. The forms of traditional scholarship the department values most highly are:

- articles in refereed journals;
- invited articles in scholarly publications such as chapters in books and encyclopedia entries;
- successful external grant proposals in support of research activities;
- books written for the profession, usually published by academic presses; and
- comments and replies in refereed journals.

While all of these forms of scholarship are highly valued, refereed journal articles are most highly valued by our disciplines. In order to secure tenure, a faculty member's scholarship must include contributions to at least one of the areas of traditional scholarship, above.

Other forms of traditional scholarship that are valued by the department include:

- papers presented at national or regional professional meetings,
- submitted external grant proposals in support of research activities,
- successful internal grants in support of research activities, and
- published working papers.

Contributions in these areas alone, though valued, are not sufficient for the award of tenure.

### ***Scholarship of Application and Scholarship of Teaching***

The scholarship of application is the application of disciplinary expertise with results that are shared with peers or professional audiences. It differs from traditional scholarship in that it need not advance knowledge but instead involve the practical application of knowledge to solve problems of individuals and of society. The scholarship of teaching is the application of

disciplinary expertise to pedagogy and curricular development that is shared with peers so that others may apply and evaluate it. These forms of scholarship are also recognized and valued by the department.

The forms of the scholarship of application and the scholarship of teaching the department values most highly are:

- articles in refereed journals,
- preparation scholarly books and textbooks, and
- successful external grant proposals in support of the teaching activities of the department.

While all of these forms of scholarship are highly valued, refereed journal articles are most highly valued by our disciplines.

Other forms of the scholarship of application and teaching the department values include:

- published reviews of books and articles and editorial assistance to publishers;
- submitted grant proposals written in support of the teaching activities of the department;
- participation at national, regional, or state professional association meetings as a discussant or session chair;
- preparation of workbooks and instructional manuals;
- preparation of case studies or computer-assisted learning devices for classroom use; and
- expert testimony related to the discipline before government commissions, legislative bodies, courts of law, or other bodies where the testimony may be challenged by other members of the profession.

Contributions in these areas alone, though valued, are not sufficient for the award of tenure.

### ***Significance of Specific Activities***

The ordering of the items within each category above does not indicate a preference, but the significance of any individual scholarly activity can be understood by the extent and nature of the peer review required for publication, participation, or presentation; the academic prestige of the publication or sponsoring institution (publisher, granting agency, etc.); any honors or awards received for the activity; other indicators of impact on the discipline or on public life; and/or the size of the budget supporting the activity.

### ***Scholarship Involving Collaboration with Peers***

The department values and encourages collaborative scholarship (e.g., co-authored research, collaborative grant proposals, etc.) between our faculty and peers at St. Olaf and elsewhere. A faculty member who wishes that such work be considered for tenure and promotion should be prepared to discuss the relative contributions of all the contributors.

### ***Scholarship Involving Student Collaborators***

While the department values scholarship that involves students directly as collaborators, we realize that some fields within our disciplines are highly technical and require knowledge and skills not usually obtained until graduate school. Accordingly, collaboration with students is highly valued but is not necessary for tenure or promotion in rank.

### ***Other Professional Activities***

Activities that do not directly employ one's professional expertise before a professional audience are considered “contributions of service and leadership within and beyond the institution.”  
(*Faculty Manual*, VII.C.3.)

### ***Expectations for Various Ranks***

The Department expects all candidates for tenure or promotion review to show sustained engagement with scholarship in their disciplines. As rank advances, growth as a scholar, balanced against increased evidence of service to the College and the profession, may manifest itself in increased engagement with other forms of scholarship in addition to original research.

At the time of the comprehensive review preceding the tenure review, a tenure-track faculty member should have at least two items that the department values most highly that are traditional scholarship, scholarship of application, or scholarship of teaching. These may be either published or accepted for publication. The faculty member should also show promise of future scholarship, usually with works in progress or with other scholarly contributions.

The Department of Economics believes that candidates for tenure and promotion to associate professor should exhibit excellence in teaching, contributions in professional activity as described in this document, and contributions to the department and the College. Candidates for tenure and promotion should be engaged in a research program that involves students or that clearly contributes to student learning.

A candidate for tenure and promotion to associate professor should have at least three items that the department values most highly under either traditional scholarship, scholarship of application, or scholarship of teaching that are either published or accepted for publication, or that are successful in the case of external grants. At least one of these three should be in traditional scholarship. The candidate should show promise of future scholarship through a coherent agenda of works under review, works in progress, or with other scholarly contributions.

A candidate for promotion to full professor should show evidence of excellence in teaching, sustained significant professional activity, and significant contributions to the department and the College. Candidates should have made significant contributions of scholarship in the areas above since their last promotion, such as publication of refereed articles, books, or textbooks; successful grant proposals; scholarly presentations; or other significant scholarly achievements. Some of these contributions should be in the areas the department values most highly.