

Department of Theater
Statement of Significant Scholarly and Artistic Work
2018

Introduction

The Theater Department recognizes the three areas of teaching, significant scholarly and artistic work, and service as requirements for tenure and promotion. This document specifies the expectations of the significant scholarly and artistic work category. For the Theater Department, research, scholarship and creative activity are fundamental components of significant scholarly and artistic work. Teaching is the basis for all work undertaken by individuals in the department and significant scholarly and artistic work should be consistent with the faculty member's area(s) of expertise. *The Theater Department also affirms the college's expectation that faculty members contribute to their respective scholarly or artistic fields, as outlined in the Faculty manual (Sect. 4.VII.C.2.)*

The Theater Department takes an expansive view of what constitutes significant scholarly and artistic work, acknowledging that the field is interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary. The range of specialization and sub-specialization is broad, the understanding of scholarly and artistic work is similarly broad and can include areas of specialization such as film and media. Given the range of scholarly and artistic work, the department acknowledges the need to consider each candidate's individual situation, including their contributions to interdisciplinary fields.

Types of scholarly and artistic work

1. Engagement in scholarly or artistic work

- a. "Making theater," such as
 - Directing productions
 - Acting in productions
 - Designing costumes, lighting, scenery, sound or video for productions
 - Creating costumes, lighting, scenery, sound or video productions, or
 - Dramaturgical work
 - Playwriting or writing for performance
- b. Engaging in research
 - Peer-reviewed publication (e.g., books, articles, chapters, editions, papers)
 - Peer-reviewed public presentations (e.g., conference papers, lectures)
- c. Advancing the profession
 - Judging live, broadcast or recorded performances (e.g., competitions, festivals)
 - Engaging in educational research (e.g., new learning styles, multicultural influences, interdisciplinary projects)
- d. Grant seeking and grant awards

- e. Other activities, such as editing, *scholarly and artistic contributions to interdisciplinary research including research in film, screenwriting, media and performance studies*, contributing to non peer-reviewed journals, etc., that demonstrate professional activity but do not substitute for peer-reviewed scholarly activity

2. Dissemination of scholarly or artistic work

- a. "Making theater " inside and outside the St. Olaf Theater (see above, item 1.a)
- b. Disseminating theater research and scholarship made public through:
 - Publication of books
 - Articles in peer-reviewed journals
 - Public presentations (e.g., conference papers, presentations, poster sessions, workshops, guest artist residencies, lectures, master classes)
- c. Advancing the teaching of theater
 - Peer-reviewed publication of new material (curricula, instructional materials) or presentation of curricular and instructional materials at conferences or workshops.
 - Peer-reviewed publishing or presenting educational research in areas such as educational philosophy or multicultural approaches

Candidates should engage in multiple types of activities to ensure diversity of scholarly and artistic work.

Determination of significance

Peers, representing the academic and professional theater communities and serving as external evaluators, will be asked to assess levels of significance based upon criteria of quality, substance and scope. The reputation or influence of supporting agencies (e.g., performance companies, publishers, journals) will be an important consideration, as will any awards or honors received for the activity.

Performance and production activities conducted by the faculty for the St. Olaf Theater result in publicly engaged performances that the audience views not as "educational theater" but as clear representations of the faculty member's "creative activity." When adjudicated by an external member of the academic or professional theater community, these productions and performances are reviewed as significant scholarly and artistic work.

Grant proposals may exhibit substantial intellectual and artistic merit even when they are not funded. Grant awards are evidence of recognition of value by others in the artistic community. The significance of such awards is based on the reputation and scope (from local to national) of the granting institution.

Expectations for accomplishment

1. Assistant Professor in the fourth year (or its equivalent)

- Performances and presentations of creative or scholarly work on-campus or at the local or state level
- Adjudicated success in performances and/or creative scholarly work
- Judging local or state competitions
- Publication of research/scholarship in print or online journals, professional periodicals, or other publications

- Service to professional organizations at the local, state or regional level

2. Associate Professor with Tenure *Examples of scholarly and artistic activity expected for tenure and the promotion to the rank of Associate Professor*

- Performances and presentations of creative or scholarly work on-campus or at the state or regional level
- Adjudicated success in performance and/or creative scholarly work in higher profile settings (state or regional)
- Peer-reviewed publication of research/scholarship in print or online journals
- Peer-reviewed publication of pedagogical materials

Typically, candidates will exhibit engagement in one of the following ways:

- Committee or organization service to professional groups (e.g., organizer or panelist for a conference, symposium and/or competition)
- Submission of grant proposals

3. Professor

- Invited performances and presentations of creative or scholarly work at a national/international level
- Evidence of national profile/recognition
- Commissions for creative work
- Competitive success in performance or creative/scholarly work in higher profile settings (state/regional/national/international), including grant awards
- Judging state/regional/national/international theater
- Peer-reviewed or invited publication of research/scholarship/creative activity in nationally/internationally significant print or online journals
- Service on peer-review panels
- Publication of significant (peer-reviewed) pedagogical material, scholarly monographs
- Leadership service to professional organizations (e.g., committee chair, conference coordinator, board of directors member, officer)
- Documented scholarly or creative excellence at a sustained level beyond the requirements for promotion to Associate Professor