Defining Scholarship: Boyer’s 4 Models and The new digital scholarship: A Faculty Conversation

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Boyer poses some interesting issues...

- “Faculty reward systems do not match the full range of academic functions.”

- Work life for faculty has changed to encompass a range of “competing obligations”

- “Can we define scholarship in ways that reflect new realities?”

- Does scholarship take into account the application of new knowledge to real problems?

- “What does it mean to be a scholar?”
The Scholarship of Discovery

• Search for new knowledge
• Traditional definition of scholarship
• Discovery of new information and new models
• Sharing discoveries through scholarly publication

“..the commitment to knowledge for its own sake, to freedom of inquiry”
The Scholarship of Integration

• Integration of knowledge from different sources

• Presents overview of findings in a resource topic

• Bringing findings together from different disciplines to discover convergence.

• Identify trends and see knowledge in new ways.

“Bringing insight to bear on original research” with “interpretive, integrative, interdisciplinary” approaches.
The Scholarship of Application

• Discovering of ways that new knowledge can be used to solve real world problems.

• “New intellectual problems can arise out of the very act of application.”

“Higher education must serve the interests of the larger community with the application of knowledge to real world problems.”
The Scholarship of Teaching

• Involves the search for innovative approaches and best practices to develop skills and disseminate knowledge.

• Informal/formal. Teaching, advising, mentoring

• “Knowing and learning are communal tasks.”

• “Faculty, as scholars, are also learners.”

“Aristotle said: ‘Teaching is the highest form of understanding.’”
Boyер’s Conclusion

• “Need for a more inclusive view of what it means to be a scholar—a recognition that knowledge is acquired through research, through synthesis, through practice and through teaching.”

“The richness of faculty should be celebrated.”
Application of Boyer’s models

- Value to labeling/identifying intellectual endeavors in the 4 categories.
- Value to identifying intersections / how they contribute to the dynamic of faculty life.
Examples of scholarship of teaching

• Development of new or substantially revised courses, curricula
• Innovative teaching materials/strategies
• Educational research projects resulting in findings disseminated at professional conferences and/or in peer-reviewed publications
• Projects funded by external or internal grants to support instructional activities
• Production of videos for instruction
• Technical, procedural or practical innovations made clinically or professionally
• Publication of textbooks or teaching materials.
Examples of application

• Consulting activities in field or industry that directly relate to the intellectual work of the faculty member

• Support or development of community activities in the field or industry that link with academic discipline

• Formal development and /or oversight of practica/partnerships on behalf of the University that connect students with the field/industry

• The application of theory in the field to real world problems.

• Development of centers for study or service

• Media contributions (newspaper, magazine, etc.)
Examples of integration

- Professional development workshops
- Literature reviews
- Presentations of research at conferences
- Non-academic publications that address discipline-related concerns
- Meta-analysis (contrasting or combining results from different studies)
Examples of discovery

- Internally or externally funded research projects
- Research projects
- Working papers
- Peer-reviewed journal articles
- Book chapters and/or books
- Creative activity: Compositions, presentations, performances, exhibits and projects.
What is digital scholarship?

• The use of digital evidence, methods of inquiry, research, publication and preservation to achieve scholarly and research goals.


• An open model for scholarly communication.
Examples of digital scholarship

- Blogs / commentaries as communication in virtual spaces
- Open Education Resources
- Data visualization and manipulation
- Metadata generation
- Digital publishing
Closing

Resources and bibliography will be posted on Faculty Central.

Thank you for engaging in the conversation!