



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

Joseph McNabb, PhD and Nancy Pawlyshyn, PhD
Faculty Fellows in Higher Education Administration

March 13, 2014

Faculty Professional Development Day



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 in to 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.’ ”



Boyer'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.
- [Rumsey, A. (July 2011, “New-model scholarly communication: Road map for change,” Scholarly Communication Institute 9. University of Virginia Library.)]
- 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!