

## **Faculty Mentoring Faculty**

### **Discussion Questions for Mentors and Mentees: Scholarly Activity**

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#### **Questions for a mentor to consider as they approach mentoring, and/or to ask their mentee directly:**

1. How might you help direct the mentee's path and find common ground between you two after hearing your mentee's definition of "scholarly activity"?
2. Have you explained to your mentee that their department's scholarly activity criteria are often used as a "checklist" when committees are evaluating their tenure materials? (Committee members may interpret criteria differently.)
3. Have you helped your mentor understand what the MOA says about scholarly activity?
4. Have you currently completed scholarly activities that will spur new ideas for your research?
5. Are you aware that library liaisons have extensive scholarly resources to help with ALL facets of your research endeavor?
6. Have you thought about developing a research network across campus?
7. Have you recently reconnected to a network of scholars within your research area?
8. Have you considered completing scholarly activities that "return the favor" to individuals who have helped YOU in the past?
9. Have you considered challenging yourself with more "in depth" or time-consuming scholarly activities because it will help you to continue to grow?
10. Have you fashioned your research writing in such a way that you are projecting the type of image you want as a scholar?
11. Have you shared with your mentee how you have been able to balance a rigorous teaching schedule with scholarly events?
12. Have you ever considered getting input from different disciplines because they can provide a unique and valuable "outside perspective" of your research?

#### **Questions for a mentee to ask themselves, and/or their mentor:**

1. How do you define "scholarly activity?"
2. What is your department's criteria for scholarly activity?
3. Have you read and do you understand the MOA in terms of scholarly activity?
4. Do I know who your library liaison is, and how that person can be an excellent resource for helping you with scholarly activities?
5. What types of activities have you participated in to help you generate ideas for your research? (i.e., review articles, etc.)
6. How willing or able are you to engage with other individuals across the campus community who are interested in the same research area or interests as you?
7. What specific research groups have you joined and/or what non-scholarly events have you participated in (such as a TILTed Tech event on scholarship, an SEC event, etc.) to help you build

an expected or unexpected network of scholars you might access regarding your research interests?

8. Have you “dug deep” into various research streams that are available to you to get a deeper and more complete understanding of your research area?
9. Have you committed yourself to completing “well-researched” scholarly activities to build a better promotion/tenure file?
10. Have you considered that when you are setting your research goal you need to make sure to balance extra-scholarly activities with ones that will directly help you with your own research line?
11. How do you balance a rigorous teaching schedule with scholarly events and manage your time effectively?
12. Have you thought about receiving a variety of input about your research from different disciplines rather than from just your own discipline?

**Ten Questions to ask Yourself when Writing a Scholarly Manuscript:**

These questions are designed for mentees to ask themselves, as they review their own manuscripts; as well as for mentors to use when reviewing manuscripts from their mentees.

1. Is my manuscript well written?
2. Did I tell my readers a) what I was going to say b) then tell them what I wanted to say, and c) summarize what I told them?
3. Was the theory in my paper appropriate?
4. Was my hypothesis clear and well written?
5. Was the methodology sound?
6. Was the cited research recent?
7. Were the resources reputable?
8. Was the discussion meaningful?
9. Was the contribution worthwhile?
10. Did the manuscript lead the reader to where I wanted to take them?