University of Vermont Library Faculty

Guidelines for Evaluating the Impact of Scholarship and Creative Activities

Scholarship and creative activities must demonstrate continued excellence in, and significant contribution to, the field of librarianship. Contributions to the professional literature, bibliographic studies of a subject field, or research reports of library services and operations are evidence of scholarly achievement pursued independently of supervision or direction. Scholarly and creative activities also include but are not limited to:

- Producing reports that provide creative solutions to professional problems and issues
- writing for scholarly or professional publications
- editing journals or books
- presenting at professional conferences
- disseminating knowledge and innovative solutions to the professional community
- acquisition of external funding for programs or applied research
- writing standards that are adopted by the profession
- creating databases or other computer programs or systems

Continuing evidence of studies, investigations or scholarly contributions is expected. The University recognizes scholarship of engagement, that is, research/scholarly activity conducted in collaboration with, and/or for the benefit of, community stakeholders. Such research should be judged on its research rigor as well as its influence on the discipline or some community of people.

The following guidelines shall be used in judging the significance of the faculty member’s activities in this area:

1. impact of the work in the assigned area of responsibility
2. professional judgment of the value of the work by colleagues in his or her own and related fields
3. the quality of publications and presentations shall be considered more important than the quantity
4. scholarly and creative work that has been peer-reviewed shall be given more weight in the evaluation process
5. breadth, originality and accuracy of the work
6. pertinence of the activity in solving problems