




Scholarship Statement: Sociology and Criminal Justice

Mount St. Mary's University

Sociology and Criminal Justice Statement

Meaningful scholarship is a basic expectation for tenure track faculty in the department. While pre-employment is recognized, we emphasize work done at the Mount when making tenure decisions. Sociological research methods are varied—ranging from quantitative research designs that employ sophisticated statistical modeling to interpretative research designs that are qualitative in nature—research that demonstrates scholarly growth and expertise must be subjected to the scrutiny of qualified peers. Further, while scholarly output such as conference presentations (which are strongly encouraged), book chapters, book reviews, and the like make contributions to the discipline, it is ordinarily expected that tenure track faculty will have at least two works accepted in peer reviewed publications by the time they apply for tenure. Monographs from reputable academic publishers may be considered the equivalent of publications. Peer review takes several forms including: internal review by a publisher, invited publications, traditional blind review (journal articles), and service to public policy makers or organizational leaders. Reports or manuscripts generated from the latter may be considered peer reviewed. Post-tenure, it is expected that the tenured professor will continue to conduct research whether they apply for full professor or not. Progress in this post-tenure research will be reported in the 5-year reviews, which are conducted for every tenured individual.

For promotion from associate professor to professor it is expected that the candidate will have demonstrated consistent excellence in teaching, in scholarly and professional activities, and in contributions to the well-being of the Mount community and mission of the University. In terms of scholarship, promotion to professor requires a record of research that is recognized and respected by relevant experts as significant contributions to the field. Two external, expert evaluators must provide their assessment of the applicant's scholarship.

Date	Signature
<u>3-1-16</u>	<u></u> Dean, School of Education and Human Services
<u>5-1-16</u>	<u></u> Vice President for Academic Affairs
<u>6-1-16</u>	<u></u> President

Science Department Scholarship Statement: Revised May 2014

Scholarship in Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry and Environmental Science first and foremost involves development of a **vibrant research program** that actively and vigorously engages undergraduates. Mentoring students is highly valued as a major component in training the next generation of researchers, teachers and medical professionals. It is important to note that this commitment, along with the special resource needs and time requirements intrinsic to research in the sciences can limit the pace of scholarly productivity in our department. Scholarship, as it is traditionally defined in our disciplines, should be primarily focused on research activities that result in new knowledge in our respective fields, leading to a **peer-reviewed product** most commonly in the form of a published, peer reviewed manuscript or funded grant which is peer-reviewed. Given the primary importance of teaching at the Mount, we also view the development of new teaching techniques or pedagogical innovations in STEM education that result in peer-reviewed products to be significant scholarship. It is expected that the majority of writing/research efforts will have taken place since arriving at the Mount.

In our department we fully recognize and embrace **science as a collaborative enterprise**. As a reflection of this practice, it is the norm for publications in the scientific disciplines to include multiple authors and publications with multiple authors are to fully count as publications for tenure and promotion.¹ Our department equally values external collaborative efforts and those which take place intra-departmentally.

At the Mount, we value an active intellectual life outside of the classroom as an important means of ensuring continued excellence inside the classroom. In addition to traditional peer-reviewed scholarship (as described in the first paragraph), in the Department of Science we value a variety of scholarly activities that advance our disciplines and promote an understanding of them. Some examples of these efforts include:

- **Publishing an invited review article or book.** *These articles are often nearly as essential to researchers as the work which those articles collect and summarize, and thus they are a valued form of scholarship.*
- **Scholarly presentations at professional meetings/conferences.** *These presentations may be on research results, pedagogical findings or they may be intended for a general audience. The latter are still considered valuable as they promote understanding of our subject. Most scholarly conferences will have a peer-review process to be accepted for presentation. All such types of presentations are considered scholarship in our discipline.*
- **Active service to discipline.** *This may include activities such as serving on a grant review panel, planning of professional meetings, reviewing a scholarly article, or presenting at a professional association meeting (such as Health professions or Council of Independent Colleges Department Chairs symposia).*
- **Writing a textbook or other discipline-specific book.** *These materials count as scholarship when they are original, used by others, and made widely available. These*

¹While multi-author publications are common in nearly every scientific discipline, there remains a wide variation in the meaning underlying author order. Some scientific disciplines simply list authors in alphabetical order. In some disciplines contribution is ranked, wherein first author placement indicates the greatest contribution of effort to the publication. There has been some recent effort to clarify the meaning underlying author order and contribution (Tscharntke et al., (2007) PLOS Biology. 5(1): 13-14). Publications with multiple authors are to fully count as publications for tenure and promotion.