

Psychology Department Definition of Scholarship

The Department considers manuscripts that make it into print through the process of independent editorial peer reviewed evaluation have equal weight for the tenure and promotion process. These include manuscripts submitted to primary research journals, books, including textbooks, journals about the teaching of psychology, and journals which focus on the integration of knowledge or policy issues as opposed to primary research. Faculty could be co-authors with peers, or with students. Among co-authored publications, order of authorship is not important. Publication of feature articles, newspapers and newsletters, and co-authorship with students in undergraduate oriented research journals are not part of the peer reviewed examples above. As such they are, at best, tertiary in consideration of scholarship for tenure and promotion.

Presentation of papers or posters accepted for presentation through a peer reviewed process in regional and national organizations is considered important secondary activity which complements the publication criteria above.

The question of number of publications and presentations is not a simple one. Typically, presentations are more frequent than publications. However, number of publications is influenced by the nature and size of the manuscripts. Larger review and theoretical articles, as well as large empirical projects involving multiple experiments, etc. probably weigh more than a primary research publication of only a few pages. Given the nature and scope of research possibilities in psychology at the Mount, brief to medium size articles are most likely. The impact of published articles is another factor which would be difficult to access in a tenure decision situation, since impact takes time. However, in addition to impact in the traditional sense (i.e., citations, etc.), there is the pedagogical impact of influencing our undergraduate researchers to do better research by virtue of the faculty publishing research in a timely manner with or without student coauthors. Evidence of this would come primarily through anecdotes.