

CVPA Creative Scholarly Activity Statement

Faculty are expected to maintain a program of scholarly activity that is in accordance with the guidelines as written in the College's bylaws, meets departmental or program criteria, and supports both the role of the arts at Winthrop, and the mission of the university. The College of Visual and Performing Arts views scholarly activity to include creative endeavors and is more broadly defined to include research, scholarship, and creative or professional practice.

Peer review is a valuable measure of creative scholarly ability. Established scholars and creative or professional practitioners should be widely recognized among the leaders in their disciplines or fields, regionally, nationally, and/or internationally. Every candidate for promotion and tenure should have produced scholarship and/or creative work that is viewed as exemplary and accomplished by colleagues. Although departments and programs will differ as to the quantity of work expected, and the form it takes, quality – that the creative scholarly work presented in the portfolio meets or exceeds the College and University standards of excellence - carries more significance than quantity.

Candidates must demonstrate that they are pursuing an active scholarly, creative, or professional agenda—one that shows strong promise of yielding answers to fundamental questions, problems, or challenges in their discipline or field. Because CVPA houses professional creative disciplines, departments and programs must make the case to the university that the portfolio presented (which may contain different types of evidence than is found in the traditional academic portfolio) is exemplary and accomplished. In other words, while the evidence may differ for a candidate in a professional versus a creative discipline, standards of excellence applied for tenure or promotion remain the same. The customary academic measure provided by publications and papers may be augmented or replaced by other considerations, such as professional achievements, professional performances, completed design projects, and/or creative works of art.

Evidentiary Sources of such work for tenure and/or promotion portfolios and annual reports include:

1. As provided by each academic unit within the College, clarified by faculty within the unit, and consistent with college and university policies, procedures, and guidelines;
2. As referenced in Winthrop University's Roles document, Section I: Faculty Roles at Winthrop, B: Scholarly Activity; and
3. Special Cases. (See CVPA Bylaws, Appendix B & C for details; these activities may be considered scholarly and creative only when an individual is reassigned and the activities have been pre-arranged with Department Chair and Dean.)

This CVPA Creative Scholarly Activity Statement recognizes that in a university environment characterized by academic freedom and individual autonomy, it is the responsibility of each faculty member to establish and maintain a program of creative scholarly activity. Accordingly, faculty are expected to maintain a program of creative scholarly activity that is consonant with departmental guidelines, the mission of Winthrop University, and the role of the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Consideration of creative scholarly activity will be part of all judgments related to promotion, tenure, and the awarding of merit salary increases.