Toward a definition of the Teacher/Scholar at Peninsula College….

Tom Keegan

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Peninsula College is a comprehensive community college serving the citizens of Clallam and Jefferson Counties. As a comprehensive community college, we offer instructional programs in the areas of transfer, professional/technical, basic skills and continuing education. We are a teaching institution; therefore, the center of our mission is the teaching/learning process.

Working with the College faculty, the administration seeks an environment that values and encourages intellectual thought as an integral part of the teaching/learning process. The College administration is committed to the promotion of the teacher-scholar concept as one strategy to achieve this end.

While “teaching” (or teacher) is generally understood by most, “scholarship” (or scholar) requires a brief description. Peninsula College utilizes the work of Boyer to identify the following four areas of scholarship: Discovery, Integration, Application, and Pedagogy. These areas are best described as follows:

Discovery—Research intended to further the quest for new knowledge.
Integration—The application of knowledge in a new or different way.
Application—The sharing or application of disciplinary expertise in one’s “community.”
Pedagogy—The investigation and application of effective teaching/learning strategies.

It is essential that the results of one’s scholarly work be shared with others. The process of peer review not only brings increased quality and credibility, it brings additional value to the scholarly work. This review may take many forms, such as conference presentations and publications/articles, as well as campus and community presentations.

The College supports scholarly work in the following ways:

- Sabbaticals
- Summer stipends
- Research grants
- Seminar courses
- Release time
- Travel
- University employment opportunities
- Individual professional development funds
- Student-faculty projects
- Professional/conference presentations

The teacher-scholar model at Peninsula College keeps teaching and learning at the center of the College’s mission while providing opportunities for faculty members to engage in scholarly work. While the four areas of scholarship contribute to individual and community enrichment, the ultimate value of this work is a high-quality learning environment for students.