

Definition of a Teacher-Scholar for the Regional Campuses

At the Regional Campus Summit in August, Regional Chancellors identified several initiatives to reaffirm the regional missions of Learner-Focused and Community-Engaged. The guiding question for Learner-Focused is:

- “Excellence in teaching is an expectation for all faculty members. If we want to distinguish ourselves as learner-focused, what does that look like and how can we support and reward the teacher-scholars whose good work makes it possible? “

They identified one of the collaborative initiatives as “defining and supporting a teacher-scholar model that realizes the learner-focused regional campus mission.” Their charge includes:

- “The Directors of Teaching & Learning Centers are asked to lead a discussion on each campus of an adaptable definition of the teacher-scholar, which can, then, be discussed collaboratively for possible adoption across our campuses. Based on a common understanding of the teacher-scholar, the discussion can continue, to identify professional development activities that are grounded in the teacher-scholar model and are designed to deepen the commitment to teaching excellence for our diverse, variably-prepared student populations by the end of the 2017-18 academic year. “

Draft questions to guide group discussion:

- The term teacher-scholar is being used more frequently at universities across the country. The precise meaning differs tremendously. Most commonly, the term teacher-scholar places teaching first. Scholarship and creative efforts enrich teaching and are viewed as essential to high-quality teaching.
 - How would you define the term teacher-scholar?
 - Does placing the word teacher before the word scholar impact faculty evaluation for promotion or tenure?
 - What impact might the teacher-scholar model have on school or university accreditation?
 - What forms of scholarship or creative works would you include under a teacher-scholar framework?
 - What do you think is meant by the phrase, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning?
 - What professional development activities would assist you in your development as a teacher-scholar?

Open sessions at UCET, Tues., Sept. 26, 9-11 and 3-5p (drop in)

Qualtrix survey, open week of Sept. 25, posted in Titan and UCET newsletter

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