

POSITION STATEMENT ON VALUES CONCERNING SCHOLARSHIP OF FACULTY IN THE IU SOE, IUPUI

As a younger and forward-looking university, IUPUI has articulated a distinctive public mission oriented by twelve foundational value emphases: (1) *civic engagement*; (2) *collaboration*; (3) *diversity, equity, and inclusion*; (4) *economic development of Indiana*; (5) *entrepreneurial work and innovation*; (6) *interdisciplinary work and publication*; (7) *international work and publication*; (8) *principles of undergraduate learning (PULs)*; (9) *research and creative activity in the urban environment*; (10) *service*; (11) *translational research*¹; and (12) *undergraduate research, international, service learning and work-related experiential learning (or RISE)*. Consistent with scholarly tradition, peer evaluation forms the basis for both ongoing review and assessment of the overall record of research and creative activity. The university states in its promotion and tenure guidelines that additional care is demanded to assess scholarship that advances its distinctive mission. To offer guidance in the preparation and review of candidate dossiers, the IU School of Education at IUPUI developed this statement of values guiding our scholarly contributions to that public mission.

The scholarship of faculty in the IU School of Education at IUPUI rests on the shared premise that an academy situated in a state institution must always seek to balance the individual interests of faculty to produce knowledge and creative activity in their respective fields with the public interest state institutions are charged to serve. Our intention for this document, therefore, is to formalize our shared commitment to this starting premise in support of our faculty as they pursue merit review, promotion, and tenure. Our public mission of advocacy, discovery, dialogue, and critical examination of education in our urban community and beyond calls for scholarly activity that extends across the boundaries of any one prescribed or privileged form of writing or type of dissemination outlet. We honor multiple kinds of scholarship and dissemination, valuing diversity of thought and knowledge.

Depending on our purposes, we may choose

- To report the results of experimental studies in traditional format
- To disseminate work that seeks to understand and interpret experience
- To propose theoretical models or conceptual frameworks
- To advocate for or critique specific ideals or assumptions

We value journals or dissemination methods that are available to

- Those working within communities in which we live and work
- Colleagues in our respective specializations
- Scholars in other fields who might be inspired by our ideas
- Practitioners, scholars, intellectuals and others who live in communities throughout the world

We recognize that important scholarly contributions may not fit within and may challenge traditional hierarchies of writing formats or journals. For this reason, we take care in assessing scholarly products based on their match with the purpose of the writer and how that writer is seeking to balance individual and public interests. Our responsibility as scholars is to a) use our academic freedom to articulate a rationale for the scholarly work we do; b) articulate and choose appropriate forms of expression to achieve our vision; and c) document the impact of our work on the publics we serve. Our choice of format and dissemination vehicles may thus be different, but justified in terms of how our purposes fit our shared commitment to a community of scholars with public responsibilities, rather than any pre-established orthodoxy.

¹ Denotes research that can be translated and applied to the needs of the local and global community.

In evaluating the quality of our work, we are guided by a broad range of criteria rather than a narrow set of standards. In our work, we value

- Integrity: Clarity of purpose and methods; trustworthiness of process, findings, and conclusions
- Ability to promote change: Inspiration of positive change or new conceptions
- Ethical conduct: Fair and respectful treatment of participants and collaborators and reciprocity of benefit
- Reflective critique: Serious self-examination of work and positionality
- Transferability: Rich description of conditions of research and findings to enable readers to judge applicability to a given situation
- Utility: Work that can be (or is) applied to specific settings to inform those working in them
- Collaboration: Joint work between scholars, practitioners, and inter-institutional partnerships
- Breadth of reach and impact: Work that can affect and be read (or otherwise accessed) and appreciated by many from diverse audiences, both academic and practical

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