

St. Olaf College Department of Kinesiology
Statement of Significant Scholarly and Artistic Work
2026

Introduction

The American Kinesiology Association (AKA) defines Kinesiology as an academic discipline which involves the study of physical activity and its impact on health, society, and quality of life. It includes, but is not limited to, such areas of study as exercise science, sports management, athletic training and sports medicine, socio-cultural analyses of sports, sport and exercise psychology, fitness leadership, physical education-teacher education, and pre-professional training for physical therapy, occupational therapy, medicine and other health related fields.

Types of Scholarly Work: Engagement and Dissemination

Given the broad spectrum of sub-disciplines that encompass Kinesiology, the department supports multiple ways of demonstrating professional engagement and scholarship within the faculty member's area(s) of expertise. Scholarly work in Kinesiology primarily consists of: 1) original research, 2) work that integrates/synthesizes knowledge into a larger context, 3) applied scholarship to inform both academic and practitioner audiences, and 4) the scholarship of teaching and pedagogy.

The department encourages faculty members to engage in a range of scholarly and professional work resulting in the dissemination of scholarly work in four primary categories:

1. Publications
2. Presentations
3. Grant Development
4. Professional Advancement and Outreach

Dissemination of Scholarly Work

1. Publications
 - a. Publication of scholarly work in professional journals, academic textbooks/textbook chapters, conference symposia/abstracts, or other professional/academic collections
 - b. Role of editor, senior editor, associate editor, or guest editor for a professional journal, academic textbook, or similar professional publication
2. Presentations
 - a. Abstract/paper/poster presentations at professional meetings
 - b. Invited lecturer/panelist/presenter for colloquium/symposium/tutorial at professional meetings
3. Grant Development and Administration
 - a. Internal and external grant submissions and acquisitions
4. Professional Advancement and Outreach
 - a. Acquisition/maintenance of professional certifications and licenses relevant to kinesiology
 - b. Fellowship status with professional organization(s)
 - c. Presentations at non-professional meetings for general audiences
 - d. Publications in non-refereed journals for general audiences

Determination of significance of scholarly work

Scholarly/professional work, in order to be designated significant, will be recognized, evaluated, and/or judged by peers who represent the academic community, the professional community, or both. Collaborative work is valued and co-authored publications do not carry less weight. Scholarly work that creates opportunities for student research, such as the CURI program and directed undergraduate research (DUR), are highly valued by the department. Presentations and publications that involve students are also valued highly. In general, greater value is given to the following:

- Publications in professional journals and academic textbooks
- National/international professional conference presentations from established professional organizations
- Successful grant acquisitions

Expectations for Accomplishments

It is expected that the level of scholarship, leadership, and responsibility of an individual faculty member will increase with experience and rank. Faculty may conduct various kinds of scholarship at different stages of their careers and are encouraged to pursue a broad range of scholarly activities.

Assistant Professor

By the time of the comprehensive review preceding the tenure review (typically in the fourth year of the probationary period) the candidate should have a minimum of three scholarly activities from categories 1, 2, and/or 3 with at least one publication of scholarly work from category 1.

Associate Professor with Tenure

At the time of consideration for tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor the candidate will have a minimum of five scholarly activities from categories 1, 2, and/or 3 with at least two publications of scholarly work from category 1.

Professor

At the time of consideration for tenure and promotion to the rank of professor, the candidate should show evidence of excellence in teaching, sustained significant professional activity, and significant contributions to the department and the College. Candidates should have made significant contributions of scholarship in the areas above since their last promotion, such as publication of refereed articles, books, or textbooks; successful grant proposals; scholarly presentations; or other significant scholarly achievements in areas valued by the department.