

## NFO on Scholarship

Scholarship is an essential part of your teaching.

- It keeps you energized and updated.
- It changes the lenses through which you view the material you teach.

Scholarship is not an essential part of your teaching.

- The two are and should be separate on some level, definitely in level of sophistication.
- Don't over-prepare for courses: respect the points of diminishing returns.
- Immediate rewards of teaching versus immediate punishment of scholarship.

Don't forget your dissertation.

- You did all that work and became an expert in *something*. Use it.

Forget your dissertation.

- Don't wear your dissertation like a albatross. If you are really excited about a new direction, follow it.

Your research belongs to the College.

- The work you do, when done well, reflects well on the College. It and its faculty should support you and your work.

Your research does not belong to the College.

- Scholarship is, for the scholarship, part of the key to his or her flourishing as a human being. It's *yours*. Don't let others take it away or try to control it.

Make sure you always have a research project going.

- Always be working on something. If you get to the point where you aren't actively working on something during the week, rebalance. Don't let other commitments or pressures pull you away from scholarship. *This is especially true during your first year.*
- Work schedule doesn't necessarily have to be rigid (though that works for some), but you ought to have one.
- Set deadlines for yourself, especially in the form of commitments to journals, conferences, etc. Warning: don't overload yourself with deadlines.

Make sure there are times when you don't have a research project going.

- Give yourself time to brainstorm, without anything "due" in writing.

Don't stress out about getting published.

- It's hard to write a good, long article in the Humanities, much less a book. Anything worth writing is going to be hard. Don't be too hard if you haven't pumped "it" out in the first year or two.

Stress out about getting published.

- Publish something. There are lots of things you can publish that are smaller and subject to less scrutiny. Reviews are not a bad way to start out, for example. Work up from there.