

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES AND SECHOLARSHIP ENRICHMENT “CASE” PROGRAM

Adopted by College of Liberal Arts, January, 2005
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Purpose of the program

The “Creative Activity and Scholarship Enrich (CASE) Program” recognizes that university professors are committed to the goals of creating new knowledge and forms as well as to disseminating already-known information. These processes are interrelated, and they mutually inform and support one another. Tuition from instructional activity is obviously critical to maintaining a viable university. Also critical to the viability of a university is the presence of a faculty that is continuously engaged with current issues and ideas in their disciplines. A faculty that is productively engaged in research and creative activities will be more likely to

- Engage students, both undergraduate and graduate, in the processes, thereby improving students’ active learning.
- Collaborate with colleagues from all over the world
- Improve the external reputation of the university
- Obtain externally funded grants and contracts
- Obtain approval for new degree programs

As Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi moves to achieve a higher scholarship profile, it is important to recognize that faculty in all programs, not just graduate programs, should be productively engaged in research and creative activities. In order to ensure this productive engagement, faculty need support in the form of load reassignment.

Program Implementation

1. All tenure line faculty members are required by contract to carry a 12-credit-hour teaching load per semester. Faculty members accepted into the CASE Program will receive a 3-hour load reassignment each semester (fall and spring) for a two-year period.
2. Faculty will apply for this program by developing a brief (3-page maximum) prospectus that must include the following:
 - A statement on the objectives and importance of the project
 - Placement of the project within an existing body of work
 - Description of theory and methods to be used.
 - Planned products of the work

3. The proposed project must be approved by the department chair and dean.
4. At the conclusion of the two-year period, faculty will prepare a brief (2-page maximum) report detailing the products from the project and plans for further work.

Conditions and Requirements

1. Acceptance into this program is based on a demonstrable pattern of continuous quality productivity in scholarly and creative activities. We will use the universally accepted standard of the work being scrutinized through objective and vigorous external peer review. While there are a variety of peer reviewed venues, the most desirable products are funded grants; journal articles; competitive shows, performance and exhibitions; books; and book chapters. Presentations of articles at professional meetings are important but should be viewed as an initial step toward eventual publication.
2. New tenure line faculty will automatically receive a 3-credit hour research/creative activity reassignment for fall and spring semesters of their first year.
3. Existing tenure line faculty who wish to participate in this program, but who lack a recent record of scholarly/creative accomplishments, may receive an initial one-year of support if their proposed product is accepted. These faculty members must include in their prospectus a personal statement about their plans for incorporating research and scholarly activities into their professional work.
4. In order to receive reassigned time for research and scholarly activity, the faculty member must also have a continuous record of meritorious teaching and service.
5. In order to receive reassigned time for research and scholarly activity, the faculty member cannot receive overload except for fractional amounts of less than three credits that result from individualized activity such as independent studies. Exceptions to this rule must receive the dean's approval, and will be made only under highly unusual circumstances.
6. It is necessary for some faculty to assume occasionally an administrative assignment such as department chair, program coordinator, graduate director, etc. A faculty member should not assume these positions at the expense of his/her scholarly and creative program. Accordingly, faculty members with administrative reassigned time are also eligible to apply for scholarly/creative reassigned time.

7. Application for reassigned time occurs in the fall semester preceding the two-year cycle. Department chairs must receive the application by October 15, and the dean must receive the application and the chair's recommendation by November 1. Faculty will be notified by December 1. All approvals are contingent on submission of the final report, with satisfactory products, by the following May 15.
8. Appeals on negative decisions may be made to the university provost.