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Importance of Book Publishing at GSU

Submitted by: Karl Peace

1/14/2016

Question:

Why has GSU de-emphasized the importance of book publishing?

Rationale:

For many years, GSU recognized faculty who published books - which suggests that GSU accorded academic importance to publishing books. This practice stopped about 5 years ago, and seemingly GSU no longer believes that publishing of books by GSU Faculty accrues no academic importance. Why?

In contrast, the Courts accord credibility of expert witnesses proportionate to the number of books published by the witness..

Response:

Senate Minutes 2/15/2016: One from Karl Peace asked about the place of publishing books at Georgia Southern these days. In Dr. Grube's day the Spring Faculty Meeting honored people who had published books in the previous year. According to Dr. Bartels, there are a couple of problems with that: 1) Lack of clarity re: what constitutes a book as opposed to say a manual, as opposed to say a book chapter. 2) People in Performance and Creative Arts tended to be left out of the honors. Currently, though, people who do publish books are honored by the Library and at the Alumni Building, and the Alumni Magazine recently had an article in terms of new books published. The RFI question was unclear, but may also have been asking how books count towards promotion/tenure, but that might be dependent on specific disciplines, so if that's the question it needs to be clarified and resubmitted.