

Department of Youth Development

Tips and Ideas for Writing Your Statement of Professional Contributions and Scholarship

Writing your Statement of Professional Contributions and Scholarship is a personal journey. It is unique to you. The focus is on thoughtful reflection and intensive analysis of your career contributions. It is more than just a summary of what is in your plans and reports.

Think about how your career contributions have addressed the UW-Extension Assessment of Scholarship (Articles of Faculty Governance Appendix I.B, section VI or I.C section V). Reflect on and analyze how you have met these criteria. Consider the situation in which you work, the impacts of your work and implications for the audience intended as well as to the discipline of youth development. Communicate that you have an in-depth understanding of scholarship and that you have incorporated that understanding into your programming.

As you reflect you might think about...

- What or who is different, better off or changed because you have been the University Wisconsin Extension Educator for the past years?
- What is your educational philosophy or guiding principles?
- What is the basis or foundation of your programming?
- What is the commitment, passion and zeal you bring to your programming?
- What is the big picture and the common theme(s) that are pervasive in your programming?
- How have you intentionally brought about impact?
- How has the unintentional been woven into your programming?
- Why does what you do matter?
- What evidence do you have to demonstrate that what you do makes a difference in the lives of others?

As you are thinking about writing, seek out colleagues to share and discuss your programming and scholarship. This scholarly activity may deepen your reflection and may help you set new outcomes.