

Perceptions of Annual Research Evaluations as Preparation for Future and Early Career Faculty

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ABSTRACT

Thousands of university faculty complete annual evaluations to determine their yearly productivity. These assessments often determine the ability of a faculty member to continue in their current position. Evaluations for early career tenure track professors can determine their career trajectories. This poster presents the preliminary results of a study designed to examine how departments assess faculty research productivity and to understand their perceptions of the processes utilized to evaluate them. Providing these results to doctoral students and new faculty can help prepare them for the annual review process.

Concerns emerged among the participants regarding the evaluation process. For instance, some participants noted that the quantity of publications was valued more than the quality, and there were no clear research quality standards. Another stated that some colleagues do little research and still receive positive evaluations.

Participants who were satisfied with their reviews felt the expectations were clearly outlined. Moreover, participants found satisfaction with the review process when different research methods were valued during the review process. Participants believed research with students should be equally important to solo or collaborative projects with other faculty. Furthermore, the participants appreciated it when their deans and chairs understood and celebrated their research.

Participants shared factors that affect their research productivity. Time to complete research was a frequent response. The participants also noted that support from research and teaching assistants saved them time. Funding to complete studies and research space was also instrumental in their success.

ALISE RESEARCH TAXONOMY TOPICS

publishing; research methods; continuing education; education programs/schools.

AUTHOR KEYWORDS

research productivity; LIS education; faculty annual evaluations; publishing; research.

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