



Policy

Policy Name	Scholarly Activity		
Policy #	IP 5.0	Category	Instruction and Programming
Policy Owner	Vice President Academic	Effective Date	July 1, 2018
Policy Lead	Director, Academic Excellence	Next Review Date	July 1, 2023
Approved by	NAIT Executive Committee	Approval Date	June 8, 2018

1.0 Policy Statement

To be the most relevant and responsive post-secondary institution in Canada, NAIT must offer leading edge, hands-on education that prepares students for success in their chosen industry. To achieve this, NAIT instructors must engage in the exploration of two fields of practice to maintain currency and a level of expertise:

1. the subject matter in which the instructor is teaching
2. teaching and learning

Scholarly activity, as defined within a polytechnic context, asks that the explorations of instructors are shared back with the community through appropriate forms of *polytechnic peer review*, whether industry, teaching or research based.

The notion of peer review is foundational to post-secondary scholarly activity. Scholarly peer review is the process of subjecting scholarly work to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the field being studied. The frame around *polytechnic peer review* can differ from other post-secondary institutions and should align with where polytechnic expertise resides.

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to all NAIT instructors engaged in scholarly activity as part of their planned and approved workload assignment.

3.0 Definitions

Term	Definition
Expertise	Expert skill and knowledge in a particular field, and the ability to demonstrate mastery and currency of practice in a particular field
Polytechnic Peer Review	The sharing of scholarly activity with industry, teaching or research peers with the aim of sharing knowledge and/or gathering feedback on the value and validity of the scholarly activity
Scholarly Activity	Any activity that involves the intentional investigation, integration and dissemination of knowledge that is subject to polytechnic peer review. Scholarly activity intends to inform professional practice, contribute to the state of practice within a field, and/or impact the broader external environment

4.0 Guiding Principles

- 4.1 NAIT instructors will engage in good teaching practices which includes the continuous development of expertise in the subject matter in which the instructor is teaching and the field of practice of teaching and learning.
- 4.2 Scholarly activity goes beyond good teaching practice and includes sharing knowledge through polytechnic peer review.
- 4.3 NAIT instructors teaching in degree programs will engage in appropriate forms of scholarly activity enabled through workload assignments.
- 4.4 NAIT has various mechanisms to support scholarly activity.
- 4.5 Scholarly activity is documented as part of NAIT's performance enhancement process.
- 4.6 To support reporting requirements of Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) NAIT instructors, whose teaching assignments relate to degree programs, formally report on their scholarly activity on an annual basis.

5.0 Other Related Documents

- NAIT Faculty Performance Enhancement Plan and supporting documentation
- NASA Collective Agreement
- Campus Alberta Quality Council Handbook: Quality Assessment and Quality Assurance, February 2017 revision
- Documents related to Human Resource Training and Development programs and benefits

Document History

Date	Action/ Change
October 9, 2018	IP 5.0 Approved by Board of Governors
September 17, 2018	IP 5.0 Approved by Academic Council
June 8, 2018	IP 5.0 Approved by Executive Committee
January 2, 2008	AR 3.0 in effect