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## Definition of scholarship

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- 1.1. The term “scholarship” is used in several different contexts within the University and more widely. Following the discussion at Research Board and Learning & Teaching Board, the following approach is recommended within the University of Leeds promotions procedures:
- 1.2. Within the “Teaching & Scholarship” pathway, and hence for the “Research and/or Scholarship” activity area within University of Leeds promotions procedures, we should recognise “teaching-related scholarship” defined as:  
  
*“the application of the most current knowledge of a discipline or professional specialism to broader activities and practice, communicated in ways which are validated by peers and influence others beyond the institution.”*
- 1.3. This is distinguished for the purposes of promotions exercises from “scholarship as research” which is potentially an important research activity in its own right in Arts & Humanities in the work of textual scholarship embodied in the production of scholarly critical editions. The RAE definition is relevant here:  
  
*“Research for the purposes of the RAE is to be understood as original investigation undertaken in order to gain knowledge and understanding. It includes (...) scholarship”.*
- 1.4. Scholarship for the RAE is defined as the creation, development and maintenance of the intellectual infrastructure of subjects and disciplines, in forms such as dictionaries, scholarly editions, catalogues and contributions to major research databases.
- 1.5. It is expected, therefore, that such activities and outputs would provide potential evidence under “research” rather than “scholarship” for the promotions exercise. In practice, not all dictionaries, catalogues or databases will constitute research.
- 1.6. A third area of contribution, research-related scholarship refers to activities which support and enhance academic and/or research activities and might include:
  - Research reviews – important contributions to the knowledge and understanding within the discipline in many subject areas though they do not in themselves constitute original and significant research.
  - Contributions to the scholarly infrastructure of the discipline such as:
    - membership of learned societies with related activity;
    - elected officer of learned societies with related activity;
    - membership of editorial board of important journal in the field;
    - editor of important journal in the field.
- 1.7. These are significant activities and contribute to esteem indicators and contribute to an individual’s overall impact and leadership upon their discipline. In terms of the promotions procedures, these would be taken as evidence under Academic Leadership.