Due largely to various socio-political trends in recent decades, constitutional academic freedom doctrine has proven inadequate as applied to public university faculty scholarship. Unlike the prevailing analytical framework which lumps scholarship with unrelated speech forms, this article argues that scholarship is a special form of speech that uniquely contributes to the marketplace of ideas. Accordingly, the approach expands the *Pickering-Connick* doctrine's limited concept of "matters of public concern," thus meaningfully enhancing constitutional protection for scholarly expression.