

**St. Olaf College**  
**The Department of Art and Art History**  
**Statement on Significant Professional Activity**  
**October 2004**

Professional activity is considered an essential part of the lives of faculty in the Department of Art and Art History. We acknowledge that creative and scholarly work is important sustenance in and of itself. An active professional life ensures our continued vitality and excellence as teachers, contributes to our ongoing development of the Art and Art History program, and enriches the life of the arts and scholarly communities as well as the broader communities with which we are engaged.

Two professional tracks, Studio Art and Art History, exist within the department. Because professional activity has different demands in each sphere, these two tracks are treated separately in this statement.

**A. Professional Activity in Studio Art**

A wide variety of activities will fulfill the department's expectations. Faculty members may concentrate on a single activity or be involved in a combination of various activities. We acknowledge that some activities have more weight than others; however, the most important consideration is the quality of the work that studio art faculty produce. The choice of professional activity may change at different points in the course of a faculty member's career. Expectations will be greater when considering promotion to higher rank.

**Making and Exhibiting Art**

- Creating a body of new work.
- Exhibiting a significant body of work in major exhibitions. Solo and two person shows or screenings.
- Creating art for commissions.
- Participation in group exhibitions. Three or more person shows, juried and invited exhibitions, juried screenings and juried web-based venues.
- Collaborations, interdisciplinary and inter-media art work.
- Art work acquired for collections.
- Art work included in publications, reviews, and critical essays.

**Honors, Grants, and Fellowships**

- International, national, regional, and state grants and fellowships based on completed bodies of work.
- Juried art residencies and workshops.
- St. Olaf faculty development grants and other peer-reviewed internal grants.

**Contributing to the Understanding of Art**

- Curating exhibitions for St. Olaf or other arts institutions and venues.
- Writing for exhibition catalogs.
- Teaching workshops and master classes.

- Scholarly articles, review essays.
- Invited lectures, visiting artist talks, gallery talks.
- Paper delivered at professional meetings.
- Panel participation at professional meetings.
- Conference planning.
- Work that integrates visual art with other disciplines.
- Learning new skills and content in a professional setting such as workshops and residencies.
- Research, writing, and dissemination of work on pedagogy.

### **Facilitating Art in the Community**

- Leadership and participation in arts organizations.
- Serving on review panels, juries, and accreditation teams.
- Curating exhibitions for community organizations.
- Public lectures and talks for community organizations, general audiences.
- Consulting with organizations on art-related issues.

### **B. Professional Activity in Art History**

The department recognizes that qualitative differences exist among things listed below and those differences should inform evaluative process. Some categories are more important than others and various combinations of categories can have the same weight as a more important individual category. Peer review activity and works published on academic presses or in academic journals are more significant achievements than other kinds of publications or presentations. Books are weightier than articles. Expectations will be higher when considering a person for promotion to higher rank.

### **Scholarship**

This category incorporates the different concepts of scholarship outlined in Ernst Boyer's *Scholarship Reconsidered*: scholarship of discovery, integration, application and teaching. The categories below reflect these three types of scholarship.

#### Discovery

- Scholarly books: monographs, translations, or edited works.
- Scholarly articles, including review essays.
- Curating exhibitions and writing or contributing to exhibition catalogs.
- Invited lectures to scholarly audiences.
- Papers delivered at international professional meetings
- Papers delivered at national professional meetings.
- Papers delivered at regional or local professional meetings.
- Creation of electronic resources related to visual culture and teaching about visual culture.
- Editorial work for journals or electronic discussion lists.
- Scholarly book reviews.

- Written work ready for submission to publication.
- Panel participation as moderator or discussant at conventions.
- Work in professional organizations or for conference planning.
- Consultation on publications or within a scholar's professional sphere.

#### Integration

- Books, articles, editorship and contributions to transdisciplinary anthologies.
- Contributing to and editing scholarly journals that bridge disciplines.
- Electronic publications and materials intended for an array of disciplines and/or interdisciplinary fields.
- Conference activity: developing conferences, organizing sessions, delivering papers that are interdisciplinary in character.
- Involvement in professional organizations that are interdisciplinary in character.
- The creation and administration of integrative and/or interdisciplinary studies centers and projects beyond the confines of St. Olaf College.

#### Application

- Books popularizing art history or art historical topics.
- Articles on art historical topics in popular journals.
- Exhibitions curated for institutions other than museums or galleries.
- Service on community-based arts, humanities, etc. organizations or formal consultation in conjunction with these groups, or electronic resources created for them.
- Public lectures on art and art historical topics for general audiences at major, subject-related venues (e.g., the Minneapolis Institute of Arts).

#### Teaching

- Published scholarship on pedagogy.
- Manuscripts and materials about pedagogy ready for publication.
- Invited lectures about pedagogy to scholarly audiences.
- Creation of electronic resources related to teaching visual culture.
- Editorial work for journals or electronic discussion lists on professional issues of pedagogy.
- Scholarly book reviews on material about pedagogy.
- Panel participation as moderator or discussant at conventions in sessions focused on pedagogy.
- Work in professional organizations or conference planning focused on pedagogy.
- Consultations done on a textbook or electronic information systems.

#### **Honors, grants and awards**

- International, national and professional grants.

- Regional and state grants.
- Professional organization awards.
- Peer-reviewed internal grants and awards.