

William J. O'Brien

Academic Years

Fall 2010- Spring 2015

Outline Summarizing Contributions in the Five Criteria:

1. Teaching effectiveness

- Regular and repeat enrollment in classes
- Knowledge of student's direction in working methods and processes
- Regular student class attendance and participation
- Integration and revision of current departmental curriculum
- Class structure is both individually and group centered
- Improvement in overall quality of student work as evidenced in BFA/MFA show exhibits

2. Professional involvement

- Active exhibition record, both in museum and galleries internationally
- Maintain strong relationships with museum curators, and collectors within the city and across the country
- Public lectures and talks at both museums and public institutions
- Collaborative projects and essays with Art Historians and Curators

3. Appropriateness of content of teaching in relation to curriculum, department needs, and School philosophy

- Incorporating both traditional and non-traditional approaches to the language of ceramics and its relationship to both craft and contemporary art dialogue
- Integration of historical and critical language within both conceptual and process driven methodologies of instruction
- Emphasis on content and materiality in class instruction and critical discussions
- Integration of multi-disciplinary approaches to making, exhibiting, and producing art
- Discussion and evaluation of the current role of ceramics, both conceptually, but also historically in its position within the material history of craft-based mediums
- Emphasis on a healthy language of both process and conceptual strategies to using clay as a sculptural material

3. Service to the School

- Member of the Exhibitions and Events Committee for 9 semesters
- Grad Admissions Reviews for Ceramics Department
- Served on Hiring Committee for Ceramics Department
- Assisting with the integration of the Sophomore Seminar
- Recruitment of new students and visiting artists within the school and Ceramics department
- Assisting with New Student Orientations both departmental and for the School at Large
- Assisting with the revision of new course related curriculum for Ceramics Department and also for SAIC school wide assessment.
- Involved with updating, evaluating and assisting the chairperson of the department with departmental, budget, equipment updating, etc.
- Participation in public talks and studio visits coordinated by SAIC (Expo Chicago, Etc)

4. Evidence of outside recognition

- Solo and Group exhibitions at the Renaissance Society, Chicago, IL, Witte De With Museum, Netherlands, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, Brussels, Lisa Cooley Gallery, New York, Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago, Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, Almine Rech Gallery, Paris ACME Gallery, Los Angeles, Luce Gallery, Italy, Taka Iishii Gallery, Tokyo
- Recipient of a Louis Comfort Tiffany Grant, 2012
- Work acquired in Private and Public Collections, recently, The Art Institute of Chicago, Cleveland Clinic, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Miami Art Museum, Hammer Museum