THE ART HISTORY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY
TENURE AND PROMOTION EXPECTATIONS

Approved by the Advisory Committee on January 23, 2015

The Art History Program is committed to maintaining the highest caliber of teaching, research, and service at the University and in the broader scholarly community in the United States and abroad. To this end, our faculty is dedicated to supporting our colleagues in reaching and sustaining excellence in all three canonical categories of evaluation for both tenure and promotion to Professor. While success in teaching and scholarship will carry the greatest weight, all three categories are important; strong performance in one area cannot be used to compensate for weakness in another.

Expectations for Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Teaching
Excellence in teaching may be demonstrated in different ways. These include but are not limited to strong quantitative and qualitative student teaching evaluations, testimony of colleagues who have co-taught or extensively observed the candidate’s teaching, collegial review of teaching materials (including course syllabi, assignments, etc.), and testimony of students who have worked closely with the candidate. We value the range of the candidate’s course offerings, in terms of topics, levels, and contributions to the curriculum in Art History and the larger University, including but not limited to cross-listed courses. Department faculty will be expected to read and assess the candidate’s full teaching dossier.

Scholarship
Scholarship is both the foundation of excellence at the University and the basis for the highest level of teaching. Therefore, the importance of scholarship to the tenure review cannot be overemphasized. The overall assessment will be based on the outside letters, as well as on the Department’s reading of the research dossier. This assessment should indicate that the level of the candidate’s scholarship is consistent with a high caliber of research and publication.

For promotion to Associate Professor, it is expected that the candidate produces a significant body of scholarship that normally takes the form of a book manuscript or substantial scholarly catalogue, or a published series of substantial and rigorous scholarly articles. Ideally, if a book or catalogue is submitted for consideration, it should be completed and accepted by the time of the tenure review. In evaluating intellectual strength and quality of a candidate’s scholarly dossier, the Department will consider aspects such as the caliber and/or selectivity of publishing venues, including scholarly journals, presses, and other peer-reviewed venues; testimony of experts in the candidate’s field, regarding both published and unpublished work; external financial support such as fellowships, subventions, or other support from institutions, foundations, and other sources; inclusion as a co-author or co-editor of articles, book chapters, scholarly
exhibition catalogues, or books in qualitatively esteemed venues; and awards, prizes, or other forms of recognition of completed or published scholarship. Ideally, the scholarship should be published or accepted for publication through a process of external peer review, but the judgments of outside referees and the Department’s own reading of the scholarship will also factor heavily in the assessment. Candidates for tenure should also demonstrate progress on a new or second major project in ways that promise new intellectual growth and continued productivity.

We recommend that the candidate be in regular communication with his or her mentor regarding the pace, quantity, and quality of publications.

Colleagueship
Excellence in colleagueship may include service in the program and the Department, in intellectual life, curricular planning, committee service, and other contributions. Institutional colleagueship similarly can include participation in activities of the larger University, committee service, or service to departments or programs to which the candidate’s work and teaching is related. External colleagueship may include service to scholarly organizations, pre-publication peer review of book or article manuscripts, or other demonstrated intellectual colleagueship for individual scholars or scholarly groups.

All candidates should consult the Faculty Handbook for policies and procedures bearing on tenure and promotion decisions.

Expectations for Promotion to Professor

Teaching
It is expected that the candidate’s teaching will continue to demonstrate excellence. Measures of continuing strength may include but would not be limited to sustained or improved levels of quantitative or qualitative student responses on teaching evaluations; sustained or enhanced range of courses offered, either in terms of level, or contributions to perceived curricular needs in Art History, the Department, or other departments or programs. Department faculty will be expected to read and assess the candidate’s full teaching dossier.

Scholarship
For promotion to Professor, it is expected that the candidate will have moved beyond the range of work included for the tenure review, ideally in terms of a major new project that has resulted in a completed book manuscript or other body of significant publication. As with the tenure review, important criteria include the quality of the peer-reviewed venue(s) for the post-tenure scholarship, evidence of external support or recognition, and the testimony of peers who are expert in the candidate’s area of post-tenure scholarship. Ideally, the scholarship should be published or accepted for publication through a process
of external peer review, but the judgments of outside referees and the Department’s own reading of the scholarship will also factor heavily in the assessment.

Colleagueship
Continuing excellence in colleagueship could include a mix of contributions within the Art History Program, the Department, and the University, together with evidence of external intellectual colleagueship in the candidate’s field(s). Contributions may include administrative or committee service, in or beyond Wesleyan, or service as a peer-reviewer, journal editor, or as a participant in scholarly communities.

All candidates should consult the Faculty Handbook for policies and procedures bearing on tenure and promotion decisions.