

# Faculty Report Template

**Name:** Richard Burkett

**Faculty/Rank:** Professor

**Department:** School of Art, Design, & Art History

**College:** Professional Studies and Fine Arts

**Office phone:** 594-6201

**Other phone:** 619-286-1836 (please don't post on web)

**E mail address:** richard.Burkett@sdsu.edu

**Proposal title:** Ceramic Art Exchanges with Universities in Great Britain

**Country/ies visited:** Wales, Ireland, England, Turkey

**Institutions visited:** University of Wales Institute-Cardiff; National College of Art & Design, Dublin, Ireland; Camberwell College of Art-London Institute; Anadolu University, Eskeshihir, Turkey.

**Dates of travel:** March 28-May 5, 2005

**Number of student participants:** none – travel was part of sabbatical research

**Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded:** Ecuador, 2001  
(list titles, countries and dates):

**Have all required reports been submitted?** Yes

**Other funding for this activity available/applied for:**  
Personal funds.

**Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum):**

Great Britain has a very long history of supporting the ceramic arts. SDSU has few, if any, international exchange agreements with Art programs featuring strong ceramics instruction. I propose to investigate ceramics programs at several noted universities in the United Kingdom with the goal of finding one or two exceptional programs to target for exchange agreements. I will also visit universities with existing exchange programs in Art to better encourage SDSU student participation. Finding institutions that feature a fine arts approach to ceramics was the focus of this research and travel.

## Travel report:

### I. **Opening/overview of intentions/activity**

I planned to investigate the possibilities for a new international exchange between SDSU and the University of Wales Institute-Cardiff, focusing on art disciplines. One of my primary concerns is my particular academic discipline, artistic ceramics, as we have few exchange programs that focus on my discipline, and fewer still that take a contemporary art approach to ceramics. I had hoped to also visit two other universities in England and Scotland with which SDSU already has an exchange in place, and which also have ceramics programs within an art school context, but time limitations kept my visits to the universities listed below. I also had the opportunity to do a site visit at Camberwell College of Art, now a part of the London Institute. Once in Wales, it became possible to also visit the National College of Art (NCAD) in Dublin, Ireland and Anadolu University in Eskeshihir, Turkey, both of which have existing exchanges with SDSU. I looked carefully at the ceramics programs at these four institutions, as well as the strength of the overall art programs. I will break each of the following sections into four sub-sections covering these four institutions.

### II. **In preparation for the trip abroad**

#### *University of Wales Institute-Cardiff (UWIC)*

- collaborated with Michael Hose, senior faculty in ceramics to arrange my residency and discussions about a possible exchange
- e mail contacts: [MHose@uwic.ac.uk](mailto:MHose@uwic.ac.uk) (now retired)
- **Researched university statistics and compared to SDSU(e.g. number of students enrolled): Very similar to SDSU in size and diversity of programs. The art program is in a separate facility, and like most European art schools, enrolls students in narrow media-specific disciplines, making exchanges dependent on negotiations with media-area faculty necessary.**

#### *National College of Art & Design (NCAD), Dublin Ireland*

- collaborated with Derrick McGarry, senior faculty in metals at NCAD and an MFA graduate of SDSU School of Art, Design & Art History.
- e mail contacts: [mcgarryd@ncad.ie](mailto:mcgarryd@ncad.ie)
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#### *Camberwell College of Art–London Institute, London, England*

- collaborated with John Forde, senior faculty in ceramics, who I had met on a trip to England 10 years prior
- e mail contacts: [jfordeblueskies@mac.com](mailto:jfordeblueskies@mac.com)

- Camberwell is a noted art school in the London area, and offers a similar diversity of art media as SDSU.

*Anadolu University, Eskeshahir, Turkey*

- collaborated with Prof. Mark Siprut, SDSU and Zehra Cobanli, head of the ceramics program at Anadolu University
- e mail contacts: [zcobanli@anadolu.edu.tr](mailto:zcobanli@anadolu.edu.tr)
- Anadolu University has a very similar art program to that at SDSU, and we already have an exchange agreement in place. My intent was to look at the strength of the ceramics program.

### III. Upon arrival/specific activity

*University of Wales Institute-Cardiff (UWIC)*

- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?  
My initial contact was Michael Hose, senior faculty in ceramics. After arriving in Wales I met with Delyth Done, head of the undergraduate ceramics program (this position is now occupied by Duncan Ayscough) to discuss a possible exchange program between ceramics at SDSU and UWIC. Met with the Dean of the art school and the president of UWIC, and signed a letter of intent to set up an exchange between our two schools.

What particular major/minor is of interest? **Ceramics/Art**

Arranged exchanges with the Ceramics area at UWIC which took place in Spring 2007. Delyth Done left the program the next year and that, along with construction of new ceramics facilities at UWIC, has put the exchange on temporary hold.

The school of art at UWIC is one of the best in the UK, especially in the ceramics area, with the largest art library in Wales/West England. UWIC has a wide diversity of art media with strong programs in most, including painting, graphic design, sculpture, performance/video, textiles, and printmaking. The art program is in a separate facility, and like most European art schools, enrolls students in narrow media-specific disciplines, making exchanges dependent on negotiations with media-area faculty necessary. While this may be possible, it will have to be done on a semester-specific basis with the faculty of each particular discipline.

*National College of Art & Design (NCAD), Dublin Ireland*

- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?

My contact was Henry Pim, senior faculty in ceramics ([henrypim@hotmail.com](mailto:henrypim@hotmail.com)), and Derrick McGarry, senior faculty in metals and jewelry (and an SDSU MFA graduate). SDSU has an exchange agreement in place with NCAD.

- What particular major/minor is of interest? **Ceramics, however I met with other faculty and administrators to discuss the specifics of exchanges with NCAD, as SDSU had a graphic design student exchanging with NCAD. The difficulties of arranging exchanges are several, especially issues of limited housing, limited studio space (one-for-one exchanges seem necessary) and media-specific programs which limit students at NCAD to taking only courses in a particular discipline, as opposed to SDSU more open approach which allows art students to take courses in many media disciplines. Attempts to arrange an actual exchange in ceramics have been frustratingly difficult.**

*Camberwell College of Art–London Institute, London, England*

- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?  
**My contact was John Forde, senior faculty in ceramics**
- What particular major/minor is of interest? **Ceramics**
- **Toured facilities and discussed possibilities of exchange. This is a very good art school, with an excellent ceramics program located in London with all of its cultural opportunities. While both of Prof. Forde and I were interested in exchanges, at this point no exchange has been finalized with the Camberwell/London Institute, although representatives have visited SDSU and we have discussed possibilities..**

*Anadolu University, Eskeshahir, Turkey*

- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?  
**My contact was Professor Zehra Çobanlı, senior faculty in ceramics**
- What particular major/minor is of interest? **Ceramics**
- **Viewed art facilities, especially the ceramics and glass programs (my academic interest area) and confirmed that they are substantial and of good quality, but more focused on industrial design aspects of ceramics (moldmaking, decorative techniques and general technical skills) than the program here at SDSU. Additionally, I gave a lecture and had a great deal of interaction with the students and faculty.**

**IV. Conclusion, recommendation, and next step?**

*University of Wales Institute-Cardiff (UWIC)*

- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU?  
**UWIC has one of the best ceramic art programs in the UK. It is only about two hours from London by train, offering the many cultural possibilities and museums of London. The art school at UWIC is quite good overall, and similar in aesthetic direction to**

**SDSU's School. The two universities have similar size and diversity of majors offered.**

- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)?

**Yes. Update Note: With a major building project for new ceramics studios at UWIC and a change of faculty, there has been a delay in restarting the exchange after the initial exchange occurred.**

- How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students?

**We have interest in this exchange on both sides. UWIC offers a unique opportunity for us to have our students be able to study ceramics at a high quality international institution and do so more affordably than in London.**

- What students will benefit?

**Primarily undergraduate ceramics and art students, but the possibility exists for grad students to spend a semester abroad as well.**

- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)? **Coursework.**
- What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities?

**I will be promoting this program at SDSU in the School of Art, and working with both the students and faculty at UWIC to facilitate the exchange. Additionally, advising art students about the possibilities of attending this program through the School's international programs meetings every semester.**

**Update: An exchange agreement was put into place and we had our first exchange of two students from each school in Spring 2007. Due to changes at UWIC, this exchange is currently on hold, but I hope to restart it after the completion of a major building project at the UWIC art school.**

#### *National College of Art & Design (NCAD), Dublin Ireland*

- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU?

**We already have an exchange agreement in place.**

- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)?

**Good, but limited by difficulties in getting NCAD to participate.**

How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students?

**Dublin is a wonderful international city with many museums and cultural events.**

- What students will benefit?  
**Primarily undergraduate ceramics and art students.**
- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)? **Coursework.**

What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities?

**Advising art students about the possibilities of attending this program through the School's international programs meetings every semester. I was initially excited by the possibilities of an exchange with NCAD, but the reality of working out the details with the administration at NCAD has made this difficult.**

*Camberwell College of Art–London Institute, London, England*

- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU?  
**It has a high quality art and ceramics program located in London with its many cultural possibilities.**
- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)?  
**This program seems somewhat less likely to develop a regular exchange, but we may be able to send interested students under more general agreements between SDSU and the London Institute.**
- How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students?  
**At this point it seems less than likely that we'll have any type of regular exchange with Camberwell. Additionally the cost of living in London makes this exchange more difficult for our students.**
- What students will benefit?  
**Primarily undergraduate art students.**
- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)? **Coursework.**
- What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities?  
**Advising art students about the possibilities of attending this program through the School's international programs meetings every semester.**

*Anadolu University, Eskeshihir, Turkey*

- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU?  
**Turkey offers its fascinating and rich cultural mix at the edge of Europe and Asia. The art program at Anadolu University is quite good. SDSU already has an exchange agreement in place.**
- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)?  
**Yes, primarily in graphic design, but with possibilities for ceramics or other areas of art.**

- How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students?

**Anadolu University offers both strong academic courses in art and a location that offers cultural and historical sites not that far from the birthplaces of both Western and Muslim cultures. It is a fascinating mix, and quite affordable and friendly.**

- What students will benefit?

**Primarily undergraduate art students.**

- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)? **Coursework.**

What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities?

**Advising art students about the possibilities of attending this program through the School's international programs meetings every semester.**

## **V. Additional Information**

**All information should be sent to The Office of International Programs via e mail:**

**[oiip@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:oiip@mail.sdsu.edu)**