



Art | 2016-2017 Assessment Report

1. Please give a brief overview of the assessment data you collected this year.
 - We collected written artists' statements from the 18 graduating seniors who opted to do the Senior Exhibiton (this is not a required activity.)
 - The faculty ranked the statements on a scale of 1-5, using criteria: Were the Student's expressed intentions born out in the work? (Gauging the student's ability to reformulate an intention expressed visually in verbal form.) Was the statement coherent, i.e. did it exhibit good grammar, syntax and spelling? (Assessing the the student's writing at the level of a college degree-holder.) Was there evidence of intellectual engagement born out in the statement?
 - The rankings were collected and the information discussed. Some observations were: Faculty currently rank students working in CRAFT MEDIA (Ceramics, Textiles and Metals) lower in their statements than those working in FINE ART MEDIA (painting, printmaking, photo and sculpture/installation.)
 - The student who did the most traditional craft work (silver rings with set stones) had a statement that ranked lowest. This could indicate a greater "art world" attitude that currently favors conceptual messages over technical expertise. Plus we have no full-time metalsmith and none of us knows what we're looking at in set stones (whether or not a stone is set correctly or whether the rings were well-made would only be in the wheelhouse of a metalsmith.)

2. How will you use what you've learned from the data that was collected?
 - We will compile data for three more years to see if trends emerge (because this is year 2 of similar collection)
 - We will work on gathering examples of CRAFT MEDIA statements so all faculty have a better understanding of what artists' statement from craft professionals look like. Last year, I asked all faculty to contribute to a file of statements, only one faculty member complied, Prof. Deetz in Painting. Since I take over as Senior Show Advisor next year I will continue to try to collect sample statements for both faculty and student comparison.
 - We will stress to students who attend art exhibitions for class or on their own to pay more attention to the artists' statements posted, and continue to require statements for students at the 400-level now that those studio courses are approved as "Capstone Experiences."