

Position: Chair, Department of Visual Arts

Date of Appointment: August 15, 2017

Rank: Associate Professor or Professor, Tenure Track, Twelve-month appointment

Salary and Benefits: Competitive and commensurate with experience
Excellent medical, retirement, and insurance benefits

Qualifications: M.F.A. in Studio Art or a Ph. D in Art History (or an equivalent terminal degree in an Art-related field). The Department of Visual Arts is looking for a strong leader who can be a passionate advocate for the faculty, staff, and students of the Visual Arts Department, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the University of South Alabama. The candidate will need to provide excellent oversight of accreditation and certification processes, implement assessment plans and interpret assessment data, promote collegiality, oversee a complex budget, and oversee facilities management. The candidate will be goal-oriented with strong leadership skills and vision for the future of a growing department. The ideal candidate will have a strong research record, exhibition record, and/or record of creative activity, show evidence of effective administrative vision, strong interpersonal skills, excellence in teaching and service, and leadership in the areas of recruitment and curriculum development for a growing department. The chair will be expected to build on the department's current strengths, to provide vision and creative leadership, to advance the department's education and creative missions, and to foster each of its B.A., B.F.A., and M.F.A. programs.

Responsibilities: Administrative duties of the department chair. Teach courses in her or his field of expertise. Contribute to the scholarly advancement of the field through research and/or creative activities. Serve on college and university committees.

The Institution: Located in a metropolitan area of 500,000, the University of South Alabama offers educational opportunities for the residents of Mobile and the surrounding northern Gulf Coast region. With over 16,000 students, USA is one of the fastest growing universities in Alabama and offers many diverse and nationally recognized programs.

The Department of Visual Arts is a unit of the College of Arts and Sciences and is made up of thirteen full-time and twelve part-time faculty members. It has become one of the most dynamic programs in the region, offering traditional studio art and art history courses as well as courses in new media, including animation and graphic design. In addition, the department offers the only glass program in the Gulf Coast Region. The Department of Visual Arts' broadly conceived curriculum serves its students by awarding B.A., B.F.A., and M.F.A. degrees. Students working towards a B.F.A. can choose a concentration in Animation, Art History, Ceramics, Glass, Graphic Design, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, or Sculpture. Students working towards a B.A. can choose a concentration in either Art History or general Studio Art and have the opportunity to choose a supporting minor in an alternate area of study. The department's new M.F.A in Creative Technologies and Practice is a cross-disciplinary, terminal degree program appealing to artists who are interested in a variety of media technologies. The program emphasizes interdisciplinary practice, whereby the student combines multiple concentrations within the visual arts with technology serving to inform or facilitate the creative process.

Application: Send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, a personal statement of administrative vision, official transcripts (sent directly from universities attended), a portfolio for studio applicants or writing sample (article or book chapter) for art history applicants, and at least three original letters of recommendation (sent directly by the referees) to:

Dr. Greg L. Gruner, Chair
Department of Visual Arts Chair Search Committee
501 University Blvd., N.
VAB 172
University of South Alabama
Mobile, AL 36688-0002

Deadline: Review of applications will begin January 16, 2017 and continue until the position is filled.

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