

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Art and Design

Bradley R. Smith, associate professor of art, with tenure, School of Art and Design, is recommended for promotion to professor of art and design, with tenure, School of Art and Design.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1988	Duke University, Anatomy, Durham, NC
M.A.	1983	Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Medical Illustration, Baltimore, MD
B.S.	1980	University of Utah, Art and Biology, Salt Lake City, UT

Professional Record:

2004 – present	Associate Professor, with tenure, and Associate Dean, School of Art and Design, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
2003 – present	Research Associate Professor, Department of Radiology, Medical School, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
1999 – 2004	Associate Professor, without tenure, and Director, Biomedical Visualization Graduate Program, School of Art and Design, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
1999 – 2003	Senior Associate Research Scientist, Department of Radiology, Medical School, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
1992 – 1999	Assistant Research Professor, Department of Radiology, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC
1988 – 1992	Research Associate, Department of Radiology, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC

Evaluation Summary:

Teaching – Professor Smith is an insightful, creative teacher who encourages his students to develop a professional approach to the discipline of art and design. He effectively bridges the worlds of science and art, a rare attribute in these times, and seems at home as a teacher in both domains. Graduate and undergraduate students describe his teaching as engaging, informative, and sparking new interests for them. His courses are both organized and flexible, and he listens as he instructs. As associate dean for graduate education, he has implemented a new, trans-disciplinary MFA program and established joint graduate degree programs with the Ross School of Business and the School of Information. He is one of the most highly sought-after graduate student advisors in the School, and in 2009 was the recipient of the Rackham Master's Mentoring Award in recognition of his contributions to graduate education.

Creative Work/ Research – Professor Smith's creative work and research invite viewers to explore the moral, political, social, religious, and cultural status of the human embryo. Using advanced imaging technologies and data manipulation, he explores the consequences of depicting human embryos in a range of modes, from data depiction to decoration, utilizing visualization, illustration, and personal expression. His creative work has been exhibited

nationally and internationally; he is the author of numerous publications on magnetic resonance microscopy; and he is a sought-after lecturer on topics such as visualization, the intersections of art and science, and imaging and imagining the human embryo.

Significant Recent Work and Activities:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2009 | Exhibition, <i>Cells: The Universe Inside Us</i> , Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD |
| 2009 | Cover Image, <i>Neurosurgery</i> , January 2009 |
| 2008 | Invited Panelist, <i>Taipei Drift: International Workshop for Art Academics</i> , Taipei National University for the Arts, Taipei, Taiwan |
| 2008 | Human embryo time-lapse animation, <i>Espèces d'espèces</i> (Something about Species), Ex Nihilo Films, Science Television, France |
| 2008 | <i>Visualization as a Transgressive Practice</i> , Keynote address for the opening of the Integrated Science Research Institute, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI |
| 2005 – 2006 | Fellow, Committee on Institutional Cooperation Academic Leadership Program |

Service – Professor Smith is a tireless member of the University community, serving as member of numerous committees, as a mentor to graduate and undergraduate students, and as a senior administrator. His national and international contributions to his profession include serving as a nomination reviewer for MacArthur fellowships, overseeing the accreditation review of the Masters of Science in biomedical illustration program for the University of Toronto Medical School, and serving as a National Advisor Panel Member for the National Library of Medicine's Visible Human Project. He has served as a manuscript referee for the *Journal of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine*, a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Biomedical Communications*, secretary and board member of the Vesalius Trust, and as a board member of the Council on Education of the Association of Medical Illustrators.

External Reviewers

Reviewer A: "Dr. Smith has been, and remains, a world leader in magnetic resonance imaging of the human embryo and fetus. His medical illustration work is quite unique in its vision and he has provided 2- and 3-dimensional views of the early human body in ways that the scientific and medical communities previously had not been able to visualize."

Reviewer B: "His enormous energy, curiosity and capacity for prolific work as a teacher, as a professional and as a participant in service to the school are undoubtedly great assets to not only the University of Michigan's School of Art & Design, but also to the fields of art and medical art at large."

Reviewer C: "Brad's creative portfolio is unique and truly amazing. The concentration on the embryo as a focal point is both emotionally and visually engaging (and occasionally shocking). The amazing totems add depth and level of detail that suddenly allows one to appreciate the beauty of the internal pattern in addition to the external symmetry."

Reviewer D: “His work which reflects a strong understanding and insight into a variety of topics stands as an example of a true exploration of both mind and culture – one that challenges perceptions by altering context and meaning of scientific imagery...I cannot imagine a more enthusiastic and insightful contributor to your community of education. Professor Smith’s work reflects a nuanced shift in thinking – one that should be harnessed within your institution’s infrastructure to advance educational processes.”

Reviewer E: “Professor Smith possesses highly technical knowledge of anatomy, embryology, medical illustration and medical imaging – knowledge that is currently in great demand...He has a commendable interdisciplinary and international perspective: he is a citizen of the world.”

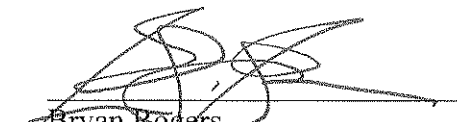
Reviewer F: “...I am impressed with the work that he has done to integrate biomedical science and art and design. Partly reflecting my own work on the public understanding of science, I have long thought that important creative work occurs at the intersection of fields and disciplines. In this case, Professor Smith has used his extensive understanding of anatomy and his skill in art and design to create a broad array of materials, including animations that could be very useful in facilitating both the public understanding of some of the scientific ideas and communication across disciplines.”

Reviewer G: “Professor Smith has established himself as a noteworthy teacher and he is clearly a creative and accomplished practitioner of the biomedical communication arts in his of advanced imaging techniques to depict biological specimens ‘in socially and culturally-aware contexts.’ I am particularly impressed with Professor Smith’s time-lapse and stereo animations of human embryos created from magnetic resonance imaging...”

Reviewer H: “His qualifications bridge fine art, medical illustration, basic science, anthropology, radiology, history, and philosophy. His teaching marries art and science in an original and dynamic manner. His work is a testament to the creative synergy that occurs when fine artists, medical artists and scientists work together and how this collaboration opens new areas of scientific discovery.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Bradley R. Smith is an exceptional educator, artist, scholar, and University citizen, with a deep commitment to interdisciplinary education. I strongly recommend him for promotion to professor of art and design, with tenure, School of Art and Design.



Bryan Rogers
Dean, School of Art and Design

May 2010