

## **GINA L. WENGER**

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### **RESEARCH**

My research focuses on contemporary issues in curriculum and pedagogy in Art Education with an emphasis on feminist pedagogy and critical theory. Current research focuses upon the teaching of documentary photographers via the Japanese American internment camps. Other research interests have focused upon art education instruction and assessment through the Visual Arts Process Diaries of New South Wales, Australia and in the use of art instruction in the “Indian schools” of the United States in the early twentieth century.

### **EDUCATION**

**PhD in Art Education**, The Pennsylvania State University, March, 2004.

Emphasis in Feminist Pedagogy.

Thesis Title: Assessment in Art Education: A Study of the Visual Arts Process Diary of New South Wales, Australia.

Dissertation Chair: Patricia Amburgy

**MA in Art Education**, Miami University, August 1995

**BS in Art Education**, Manchester College, May 1990

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor, **Art and Art Education**, Minnesota State University, Mankato, August 2002-Present.

Courses Taught: Art Methods for the Elementary School Art Methods for the Secondary School, Art Education Graduate Seminar, Teaching Art History and Appreciation, Art and Teaching the Exceptional Child, Current Issues in Art Education, and Foundations of Design. As a part of my professional responsibilities I oversaw undergraduate and graduate NCATE review for Art Education. I also wrote the NASAD and PEPER reports for Art Education. I've sat on the scheduling committee, budget committee, public relations committee and the social committees. Due to a need for additional assistance with the personnel committee, I was asked to sit in for the promotion and tenure review for two faculty members. With another faculty member, I led the Student Art League trip to Chicago in the Spring of 2003. During this trip we visited the Chicago Art Institute, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and we did a gallery walk in the warehouse district. I started the MSU Student Chapter of the National Art Education Association and have also taken undergraduate and graduate art education majors to the Art Educators of Minnesota

Conference and the National Art Education Association Convention. I advise and oversee all BS in Art Education and MAT candidates. I also serve as the content area committee members for MAT candidates.

## **OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Invited Lecture, **Graduate and Undergraduate Seminar** (Northern Illinois University). Art Education Program, School of Art.

I lectured on recent curricular changes happening in the 6-10 stages of the New South Wales, Australian art education syllabus. I compared those developments with research in the field of art education and arts assessment and discussed the possibilities of change in art education within the United States.

Invited Lecture, **Graduate Cohort in Art Education** (University of Minnesota). Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education.

I presented research on Assessment strategies that encourage the inclusion of language skills required by No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

External Reviewer, **Tenure and Promotion Committee** (University of Minnesota, Duluth). Department of Art and Design, School of Fine Arts.

I presently serve as an external reviewer for Dr. Alison Aune-Hinkel's tenure and promotion process. Reviewed her published work, her research history, student evaluations, artworks, and my own understanding of her as an art educator.

Arts and Humanities Representative, **Undergraduate Research Conference** (Minnesota State University, Mankato).

Served as the creative arts representative for the Undergraduate Research Conference grant evaluation criteria subcommittee and as a College of Arts and Humanities faculty member for the Undergraduate Research Conference committee.

Guest Lecturer, **Pre-Columbian Civilization** (Art History 416), Minnesota State University, Spring 2003.

Using my experience on archeological digs in Mexico and Guatemala, I spoke and showed slides of the processes involved in an archeological dig.

Grant Judge and Faculty Representative, **Undergraduate Research Conference** (Minnesota State University, Mankato).

I serve as one of the two faculty selected from the College of Arts and Humanities for the MSU, Mankato Undergraduate Research Conference. Along with assisting in the organization of this conference, I am the Arts representative for the assessment and awarding of research grant proposals.

Guest Instructor, **DreamsWork** (Art programs for adults with developmental and physical delays and limitations.) LifeWorks Program, Mankato, MN, Spring 2003 to present.

The DreamsWork program offers art lessons to adults who have some form of physical or developmental delay. I encourage my art education students to volunteer in this program as a part of their “service learning.” My instruction has ranged from short lessons in clay, paper making, print making, and painting, to longer sessions that focus on weaving and sculpture.

Guest Lecturer, **Batik Techniques** (Fibers 230/330), Minnesota State University, Spring 2003.

Because of my experience with Batik I was asked to present various techniques to the BFA fiber majors. I described and demonstrated tjaunting tools and dying processes as well as answered questions about materials and the history of the process.

Teaching Assistant, **Foundations of Art Education for the Elementary Educator** (Art Education 303), The Pennsylvania State University, 1999–May 2002. Supervisor: Brent Wilson

Although this position is a “teaching assistantship,” my responsibilities are to be the sole instructor for two sets of classes each semester. I develop and present my own curriculum, based on my years as a public school art educator. My students range from sophomore to junior college elementary education majors.

Guest Lecturer, **Research in Art Education** (Music Education 594), The Pennsylvania State University, Fall 2001.

I spoke on current trends in research in the field of Art Education, and specifically on my own research to a group of graduate research students in the Music Education program at Penn State. I was invited because many of the issues I discuss cross disciplines.

Instructor, **Hirshhorn Explorers** (Early Child Summer Art Experiences), The Smithsonian Associates, Smithsonian Institution, Summer 2000.

The Smithsonian Associates is a summer arts program offered by the Smithsonian Institute. During this program students can enroll in classes that utilize the broad

spectrum of educational facilities offered at the Smithsonian. In this course, I taught a course for children between the ages of 6 and 10 years. The course was designed to help young children explore the world of contemporary sculpture through daily visits to the Hirshhorn Museum as well as several other Smithsonian Museums and Galleries. Students also created sculptures based upon cubism and abstract expressionism out of wire, wood, paper collage, paper mache, and found objects. At the end of the course the students presented their work in an “opening.”

Teaching Assistant, **Art Experiences** (Art Education 489), The Pennsylvania State University, Summer 2000 Supervisor: Jane Gooding-Brown.

Under the supervision of Dr. Jane Gooding-Brown, I assisted with course development and instruction of A ED 489. This course was designed to give Art Education undergraduates classroom experiences prior to their student teaching experience. During this course I was responsible for observing and critiquing students as they presented lessons in area K-12 schools. I also took responsibility for the “Museum and the Schools” and “Assessment Strategies” lessons for this course.

Guest Lecturer, **Integrating the Arts into the Secondary Classroom** (Curriculum & Instruction 295), The Pennsylvania State University, Fall 2000.

Instructor, **Integrating Technology in the Classroom**, (Summer Teacher Workshop), Indiana Summer Institute for Technology (ISIT), Indiana Department of Education, Summer 1999.

As a part of the ISIT team, I represented the integration of technology into arts education. During the ISIT workshops groups of faculty and administrators from around the state of Indiana attended week long training session on not only how to use technology but on how to integrate that technology into a variety of disciplines and school programs. The main focus of this project was to move technology out of the stereotypical applications and help teachers be creative and experimental in their use of technology in the classroom. Although my focus was on the arts, I was largely responsible for illustrating how technology could enhance administrative goals.

Teacher, **Visual Art**, South Central Jr/Sr High School, South Harrison Community Schools, Corydon, Indiana, Fall 1990–Summer 1999.

Over the course of nine years I was the sole visual art instructor for a rural school in Southern Indiana for Grades 7 through 12. My responsibilities were to teach all seventh and eighth graders in split shifts over each year. I also offered high school students courses in Introduction to Art, Advanced Art, Ceramics, Photography, Drawing, Sculpture, 2-D Design, and 3-D Design. My responsibilities also included seven years as the Yearbook advisor where my students produced all of their own photography and created the cover design utilizing graphic design skills. I was also

the Drama Advisor for four years, producing one play and one musical every year. As a part of my art instruction, my students designed and constructed all sets and costumes for productions as well as all make-up artistry. Other roles included periodic terms as the seventh, eighth, tenth, and eleventh grade Class Sponsor. I was involved in several extracurricular projects including the development of an after school Arts Club and Girl's Track. One of the activities that I am most proud of was a program where I took students interested in the arts to Chicago twice a year for a field trip to the Chicago Institute of Art, the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, the Field Museum of Natural History, the Shedd Aquarium, and on a walking architectural and historical tour of Chicago.

Lecturer, **Authentic Assessment in the Arts**, (Indiana SCASS Committee), Indiana Department of Education, Office of the Fine Arts, Spring 1998–Summer 1999.

As a part of the SCASS committee I was one of a six-member team of Assessment Trainers for the state of Indiana. My training was the result of a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. As a member of this team I took part in presenting assessment strategies that are directly representative to leaning in the arts. Presentations ranged from groups of twenty to fifty in all regions of Indiana.

Program Assessor, **Arts Departments and Programs**, North Central Accreditation Association, Indiana Division. Spring 1997 and Fall 1998, Team Leader: Gregg Ulm.

As a team member for the North Central Accreditation Association I was one of six people who traveled to a high school and participated in a four day intensive study of the school and it's programs. Each school assessed presented the team with its Performance-Based Accreditation study of their school. This study was to be conducted by the school over a five year period and its purpose was to call attention to the schools strengths and areas of concern. Upon the North Central team visit, the team assesses if the study is accurate and analyzes if the focus of the school is in the best interests of the students and community. Each team consists of state educators from a variety of K-12, higher education, and state administrative roles.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Wenger, G. (2002). *The Visual Process Diary of New South Wales, Australia. Research at Penn State*, Winter 2001.

Wenger, G. L. (2003). Angel DeCora: Native American Art Educator, 1871-1919. In K. Grauer, R. Irwin, & E. Zimmerman (Eds.), *Women Art Educators V*. Reston, VA: National Art Education Association.

Wenger, G. (2006). David Hockney Photo Collage. SchoolArts 106 (3). Denton, TX: Davis Publications (36-7).

Wenger, G. (TBA). Documentary Photography: Three Photographer's Standpoints on the Japanese American Internment. *Journal of Art Education*, Reston, VA: National Art Education Association.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

"Consuming a Book on Consumption," Material Culture Symposium, The Pennsylvania State University, December 1999.

"The Carlisle Indian Industrial School: Art for Assimilation," History of Art Education Symposium, The Pennsylvania State University, October 2000.

"Research in Your Own Back Yard," The Pennsylvania Art Education Association Conference, Allentown, PA, October 2000.

"Authentic Assessment in the Arts," The Pennsylvania Art Education Association Conference, Allentown, PA, October 2000.

"The Visual Arts Process Diary," The National Art Education Association Convention, New York, NY, March 2001.

"Assessment in the Arts," The National Art Education Association Convention, New York, NY, March 2001.

"Art + Narrative + Text: Alternative Texts in Pedagogy, Research, and Art Making," The Curriculum and Pedagogy in Arts Based Research Conference, Victoria, BC, Canada, October 2001.

"The Visual Arts Process Diary: A Study of Student Process," The Pennsylvania Art Education Association Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2001.

"The Visual Arts Process Diary: Research and Assessment," The National Art Education Association Convention, Miami Beach, FL, March 2002.

"Art + Narrative + Text: Alternative Texts in Pedagogy, Research, and Art Making," National Art Education Association Convention, Miami Beach, FL, March 2002.

"Pandora's Box – Feminist Pedagogy," National Art Education Association Convention, Minneapolis, MN, April 2003.

“Student Reflections on Assessment,” National Art Education Association Convention, Minneapolis, MN, April 2003.

“Angel DeCora: Native American Art Educator,” Guest speaker by *WAE V* Editors, National Art Education Association Convention, Minneapolis, MN, April 2003.

“Current Issues in Art Education: ‘Tattoos are Clip Art,’” National Art Education Association Convention, Denver, CO, April 2004.

“DreamsWork: A Preservice Teachers in the Community,” National Art Education Association Convention, Denver, CO, April 2004.

“Visual Diaries in the Secondary Art Classroom,” Art Educators of Minnesota Conference, Minneapolis, MN, November 2004.

“Student Responses to Art Journals,” National Art Education Association Convention, Boston, MA, March 2005.

“The Documentary Photographers of Manzanar,” National Art Education Association Convention, Chicago, IL, March 2006.

“Harlem Renaissance: Integrated Art Education,” National Art Education Association Convention, Chicago, IL, March 2006.

“How do you quantify creativity? Reflections on C.P. Snow’s *Two Cultures* Conflict,” Oxford Round Table, Oxford, England, July 2006.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Douglas R. Moore Lectureship, 2006-2007  
Presidential Teaching Scholar Fellowship 2006  
Faculty Research Grant, Minnesota State University, 2005-2006  
Faculty Improvement Grant, Minnesota State University, 2002-2003  
National Endowment for the Arts Grant for Assessment in Art Education  
Clyde M. McGearry Award for Art Education  
Fulbright Teacher Exchange  
Newcomer-Mertz Scholarship in Art Education  
Hartsough-Phillips Scholarship in Peace Studies

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Art Education Minnesota (AEM)  
Curriculum and Pedagogy in Arts Based Research

National Art Education Association (NAEA)  
Women's Caucus for the National Art Education Association  
Caucus on Social Theory and Art Education (CSTAE)  
International Art Education Association (INSEA)  
American Educational Research Association (AERA)