Open Rank Faculty Position in Art & Design
Visual Narrative Cluster Hire

As part of the Chancellor's Faculty Excellence Program, NC State University seeks expressions of interest and nominations for an open rank, tenure-track faculty member in art & design to join the Visual Narrative cluster, one of four hires that will make up the Visual Narrative cluster. We seek innovative and transformative academic leaders whose scholarship will advance NC State's position as one of the premier universities of its kind.

About the Cluster

The Visual Narrative cluster seeks to advance this interdisciplinary agenda by integrating NC State's foundational strengths in the contributing disciplines with a core of new scholars focused on cutting-edge visualization and analytics research. In so doing, the cluster identifies path-breaking opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations between engineering and humanities disciplines, particularly those invigorated by the emergence of “digital humanities” at the intersections of computation, analytics, and interpretation. Moving beyond traditional emphases on text and data, the Visual Narrative proposal identifies a leading edge of development in the multimodal landscape of digital images, gaming, virtual environments, and visualization. These domains have all been identified by major funders and institutes as growth areas for digital media research. NC State University is well positioned to become a leader in these areas, with high-profile researchers and facilities already preparing the ground for a concentrated initiative.

The Visual Narrative cluster aims to push the shared frontiers of engineering and humanistic research to set a new agenda for advanced multimodal scholarship, opening research pathways in immersive experience, data visualization, image analytics, and computational media. Collectively, the cluster merges its research into new critical narratives about visuality and its digital transformations. It aims to broadly impact our notions of media through its interdisciplinary work and to prepare innovative applications of visual narrative for the emerging challenges of research and human communication in our mediated world.

About the Position

Successful candidates should show a willingness to engage in collaborative efforts with engineers, computer scientists and humanists as well as other artists. Strong collaborations with other faculty within the cluster and NCSU’s existing efforts are expected. We are seeking applicants with strong skills in game development, animation and interaction design. Applicants should have experience in collaboration, have ability to teach a full range of digital design and development processes, and encourage innovative design in traditional and emerging media within a broad-ranging multi-disciplinary program. Applicants must possess a strong technical grounding in design fundamentals, design process, and creative problem solving; knowledge of the game/animation industry; knowledge of the history and critical theory of game design. Experience in indie game development is a plus.

Applicants must have an M.F.A. in media arts or an equivalent degree with experience in the field of game design or user experience. The capacity to mentor doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows is expected. Priority will be given to candidates that have demonstrated abilities to form interdisciplinary collaborations that reach across academic units. Inclusiveness and diversity are
academic imperatives and thus, university goals. You will be required to attach a curriculum vitae, cover letter and teaching philosophy, artist statement, portfolio link, web address of work, web link to student work (20), list of courses taught with brief description and list of three references. A comprehensive review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. The target start date is August 2016, however, a mutually beneficial time may be negotiated. Applications and materials are accepted through our online system at https://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/60831.

Confidential inquiries and nominations should be directed to:
Search Committee Chair (visualnarrative@ncsu.edu)

Cluster Search Committee
Matthew Booker (History), cluster co-lead
Helen Burgess (English)
Paul Fyfe (English)
Pat Fitzgerald (Art and Design)
Hamid Krim (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
Susanna Lee (History)
Edgar Lobaton (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
Juliana Nfah-Abbenyi (English)
David Roberts (Computer Science)
Marc Russo (Art and Design)
Michael Young (Computer Science), cluster co-lead

Visual Narrative-related research and facilities at NCSU:

College of Design
NCSU Digital Games Research Center
The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program

The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program, launched in 2011, is recruiting some of the best and brightest minds to join NC State’s community of world-leading faculty at the forefront of this initiative. Guided by a strong strategic plan and an aggressive vision, new thematic clusters are adding over 75 new faculty members in 20 select fields to enhance the breadth and depth of NC State’s solution-driven research and innovation. The current 20 clusters have been selected on several important criteria:

- Ability to achieve national eminence in proposed topic
- Alignment with university strategic priorities
- Demonstration of real interdisciplinarity
- Potential to build on an existing university strength (or strength of the existing assets)
- Opportunity for faculty to engage in both research and teaching of proposed topic
- Ability to attract funding
- Commitment to share resources and physical infrastructure
- Inclusion of multiple colleges
- Demonstration of a balanced hiring plan with clear leadership
- Potential to attract diverse faculty

The Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program is managed through the Office of the Provost. Using a faculty initiated proposal process, twelve clusters were announced in February 2012 and eight in April 2015.

- Bioinformatics
- Carbon Electronics
- Data-driven Science
- Digital Transformation of Education
- Emerging Plant Disease and Global Food Security
- Environmental Health Science
- Forensic Sciences
- Genetic Engineering and Society
- Geospatial Analytics
- Global Environmental Change and Human Well-Being
- Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Innovation + Design
- Leadership in Public Science
- Microbiomes and Complex Microbial Communities
- Modeling the Living Embryo
- Personalized Medicine Sustainable
- Sustainable Energy Systems and Policy
- Synthetic and Systems Biology
- Translational Regenerative Medicine
- Visual Narrative

To date, forty-one (41) new faculty have been hired via the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program. In addition to bringing outstanding new faculty to campus and moving NC State toward national eminence, the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program has seeded and nurtured an expanding culture of interdisciplinarity on campus. We invite you to explore more information about the Chancellor’s Faculty Excellence Program and this cluster at http://ncsu.edu/workthatmatters.
About NC State University

NC State was founded with a purpose: to create economic, societal and intellectual prosperity for the people of North Carolina and the country. We began as a land-grant institution teaching the agricultural and mechanical arts. Today, we’re a pre-eminent research enterprise that excels in science, technology, engineering, math, design, the humanities and social sciences, textiles and veterinary medicine.

NC State students, faculty and staff take problems in hand and work with industry, government and nonprofit partners to solve them. Our 34,000-plus high-performing students apply what they learn in the real world by conducting research, working in internships and co-ops, and performing acts of world-changing service. That experiential education ensures they leave here ready to lead the workforce, confident in the knowledge that NC State consistently rates as one of the best values in higher education.

Each year, NC State adds $6.5 billion to the statewide economy, equivalent to creating more than 90,000 new jobs. That represents significant return on investment for the citizens of North Carolina in the form of research advances, innovative technologies, successful companies, skilled graduates and new jobs waiting for them.

Our 9,000 faculty and staff are world leaders in their fields, bridging the divides between academic disciplines and training high-caliber students to meet tomorrow’s challenges. Together, they forge powerful partnerships with government, industry, nonprofits and academia to remake our world for the better.

NC State is leading efforts to curb nuclear proliferation, develop a smart electric grid, create self-powered health monitors, help farmers confront climate change and build a new American manufacturing sector. Our award-winning Centennial Campus is home to more than 70 public and private partners — as well as the innovative Hunt Library, which Time magazine has dubbed “the library of the future.”
Raleigh and the Community

It all happens in one of the fastest-growing urban centers in America. A top spot for young professionals and families, Raleigh is nationally recognized as a city on the rise:

- No. 1 among the best places for business and careers (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 1 among U.S. cities attracting the most families (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 2 among America’s 15 best cities for young professionals (Forbes, 2014)
- No. 3 among the best midsize U.S. metro areas for college students (American Institute for Economic Research, 2014)
- Recently selected as a Google Fiber expansion city

With Durham and Chapel Hill, Raleigh anchors the Research Triangle, a national hotspot for high-tech enterprise. The top companies in the region — including IBM, Cisco Systems, SAS Institute, Biogen Idec and GlaxoSmithKline — are among the country’s best employers. They also lead the way in hiring new NC State graduates.

More than 125 years after its creation, NC State continues to make its founding purpose a reality. Every day, our career-ready graduates and world-leading faculty make the fruits of learning and discovery available to people across the state, throughout the nation and around the world.

For More Information:

NC State University at https://www.ncsu.edu/
NC State: Think and Do at https://www.ncsu.edu/think-and-do
NC State’s Strategic Plan at http://info.ncsu.edu/strategic-planning/overview/pathway-to-the-future/
NC State’s Commitment to Diversity at http://oied.ncsu.edu/diversity/chancellors-statement-on-diversity/

NC State University is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as an individual with a disability, or status as a protected veteran. Individuals with disabilities requiring disability-related accommodations in the application and interview process, please call 919.515.3148. We welcome the opportunity to work with candidates to identify suitable employment opportunities for spouses or partners.