



BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

**Quality Assurance
2016/2017**

Policies & Procedures

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OVERVIEW OF BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

Burren College of Art, founded in 1994, is an internationally recognised, not-for-profit, independent college offering PhD, MFA, MA, Post Bac, Study Abroad and Residency opportunities to art students and artists from around the world. The College's Postgraduate programmes are accredited by the National University of Ireland, Galway and the MFA in Studio Art and Art & Ecology programmes are operated in association with the Royal College of Art in London and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The College is an International Affiliate of AICAD (Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design) in the United States and Canada. As a non-accredited International Affiliate of NASAD (National Association of Schools of Art and Design) BCA's undergraduate Summer School and Study Abroad programmes confirm to NASAD teaching requirements to align with their accreditation standards.

Founded in by Michael Greene and Mary Hawkes-Greene, Burren College of Art was designated as a third level college by the Department of Education in 1994. The College has grown rapidly to an institution of international standing since its founding. Michael Greene's vision in establishing the Burren College of Art was clear - the college would reconnect with the tradition of learning established by the Brehon and Bardic schools of the Burren in the 6th century; it would recruit artists internationally, grant degrees, re-energise the local community and achieve significant international standing. Burren College of Art is a registered charity (Reg No. 311567. Limited by Guarantee, CHY: 13235).

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART MISSION AND VALUES

To be a hothouse for artists, led by artists – reflective and challenging; remote and connected; at the confluence of cultures.

- *Respect for the individual;*
- *Commitment to excellence;*
- *Support for students and colleagues;*
- *Community spirit.*

Providing Time, Space and Inspiration for artists in the unique Burren landscape was the founding principle of the Burren College of Art. Liberation from rigid programming and opportunity for intense focus has helped the many artists who have studied at the college to find their artistic voice.

While reflection and introspection are essential to the creative process, the contemporary artist's unique insight is relevant only when it connects with and engages the wider world. The Burren, a microcosm of society, provides a rich context from which to connect with wider issues.

Creativity is the source of the Burren College of Art. Establishing the college was the innovative response of a highly creative individual. To date, the core of the Burren experience has been the education of artists, with ecology, law, archaeology, business,

leadership and other subjects as background elements. The vision of the College unites these disciplines and aims to connect creativity to all academic disciplines as a centre for creative learning.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OVERVIEW

Quality assurance at Burren College of Art exists to support the College's mission and academic achievements. The College's approach to ensuring continuous quality improvement is based on feedback from our students, strong academic leadership, high educational standards and thoroughness in management and administration. BCA's policy and procedures on quality assurance is publicly available on the BCA website:

www.burrencollege.ie

Burren College of Art is committed to implementing the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). The College has adopted the following ESG Standard as its policy on quality assurance:

“Institutions should have a policy for quality assurance that is made public and forms part of their strategic management. Internal stakeholders should develop and implement this policy through appropriate structures and process, while involving external stakeholders (ESG 2014)”.

Quality policies and procedures support and guide Burren College of Art's planning, implementation and review of activities, with the primary aim of continuously improving all of the College's operations, including the enhancement of the student experience. BCA has established policies and procedures that are clear and transparent to all stakeholders, including students, staff, and partnering institutions. These policies and procedures provide for a continuous cycle of evaluation and improvement of all BCA activities. Students, staff and our partnering institution, NUI Galway, are involved in quality assurance processes in relation to student support and feedback, assessment and examination regulations, and programme review. Burren College of Art's quality assurance policies and procedures conform to international best practice and include institutional self-evaluation followed by independent external review. Quality assurance facilitates continuous improvement of our activities through the implementation of action plans based on ongoing evaluation. Our approach to quality is aligned with the legislative requirements and guidance of our academic partner, NUI Galway and with Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI).

BCA has adopted the ESG's standards for internal quality assurance ensuring that:

- Burren College of Art's Quality Assurance Policy & Procedures is a formal and public document.
- Quality assurance is a core element of Burren College of Art's strategic management.
- Continuous improvement of Burren College of Art activities is promoted.
- All staff and faculty are directly involved in the provision and maintenance of quality assurance.

As a linked provider of NUI Galway, Burren College of Art is responsible for ensuring and maintaining standards for teaching and learning through the establishment of quality assurance procedures that include:

- Continuous evaluation of academic programmes
- Continuous evaluation of support areas
- External Examiner reporting
- Continuous student feedback on modules and programmes

QUALITY ASSURANCE PRINCIPLES

The ESG Standards and Guidelines (that can be accessed online at: http://www.enqa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/ESG_2015.pdf) encapsulate the quality assurance principles to which Burren College of Art adheres to. The following quality assurance principles inform our Quality Assurance Framework:

- Quality assurance is understood to be the responsibility of the whole College, including faculty, staff and management.
- Burren College of Art students are involved in quality assurance procedures.
- Where examples of good practice are identified, they are acknowledged, shared and implemented in a collegial manner.
- Review processes are driven at academic programme level and with regards to the College learning environment, with subsequent quality enhancement plans devised by the Dean in consultation with faculty and President.
- Student feedback questionnaires are issued centrally using a standardised format.
- Evaluation and actions for implementation are led by the President and Dean.
- External Examiner Reports receive written responses from the Dean and agreed actions are implemented where appropriate.

The Quality Assurance Principles and Framework are part of a structured system for the enhancement of learning and teaching at BCA. Quality Assurance procedures support and encourage innovation in teaching and learning by providing a structure to enable reflection and action on the development of procedures to the benefit of the College community.

QUALITY ASURANCE FRAMEWORK

Reviews should be undertaken of all areas of BCA activity, academic and non-academic, on a regular basis. Three different review measures make up the Quality Assurance Framework:

1. Continuous Self-Evaluation, consisting of internal biannual review based on mid and end of semester student feedback, forms the core of our assessment of teaching and learning methods.
2. Periodic Programme Review which consists of internal and external review of postgraduate programmes at BCA. External review is carried out by the current External Examiner.

3. NUI Galway QIC (Quality and Innovation Committee) review.

The review process for new and existing programmes takes place biannually in accordance with our Continuous Self-Evaluation Policy.

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART STAFF RESPONSIBLE FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE

The President of Burren College of Art has overall responsibility for ensuring the implementation of the College's quality assurance strategy and procedures. The Dean of Academic Affairs oversees academic quality assurance, and works closely with the President to implement the quality assurance strategy. Burren College of Art academic and administrative staff also hold responsibility for the day-to-day implementation and monitoring of quality policies and procedures.

QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Design and Approval of Programmes

"Institutions should have processes for the design and approval of their programmes. The programmes should be designed so that they meet the objectives set for them, including the intended learning outcomes. The qualification resulting from a programme should be clearly specified and communicated, and refer to the correct level of the national qualifications framework for higher education and, consequently, to the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area (ESG Standard)".

Postgraduate programmes at Burren College of Art are accredited by NUI Galway and meet the University criteria and standards for programme design and approval. New programmes or significant changes to programme design are submitted to the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies and go before the Academic Council for approval.

Burren College of Art does not offer a full undergraduate degree. Individual Study Abroad and Summer School programmes at the undergraduate level are specifically developed for the US market in accordance with AICAD (the Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design) teaching requirements and NASAD (National Association of Schools of Art and Design) accreditation standards. New courses are designed by faculty in consultation with the Dean of Academic Affairs and approved by the Dean in accordance with AICAD and NASAD standards. BCA credits are accepted directly by all AICAD colleges, over 20 universities and all of the liberal arts colleges that we partner with.

Student Feedback Arrangements

In line with our Continuous Self-Evaluation Policy section, all undergraduate students complete a *Mid Semester Questionnaire* and an *End of Semester Undergraduate Evaluation* along with end of term *Faculty Evaluation Form*. Postgraduate students complete a *Semester 1 Questionnaire for 1st Year Postgraduate Students* at the end of their first semester and a *Postgraduate End of Year Evaluation* at the end of each year. Feedback from these forms is collated into an *End of Semester Review and Action Plan* that is implemented

in order to improve the teaching and learning experience for students at BCA. In line with the college's student centred approach, mid-semester feedback may also result in minor modifications to the teaching and learning environment prior to the end of the semester.

Key areas addressed by the questionnaires are as follows:

- Feedback on orientation week
- Feedback on course structure
- Feedback on sense of community
- Feedback on studio spaces and facilities
- Feedback on faculty led study trips
- Feedback on academic and administrative staff

Postgraduate evaluation questionnaires specifically address key programme areas, including the following:

- Feedback on key modules
- Feedback on facilities
- Feedback on faculty and staff
- Feedback on study trips
- Feedback on visiting artist/lecturer series (The Wednesday Session)
- Feedback on website
- Feedback on prospectus

Upon completion and review of the postgraduate evaluation questionnaires, the Dean meets the postgraduate students to discuss the programme and potential suggestions for improvement or modification. Postgraduate students are expected to be active participants in cultivating Burren College of Art's academic community, where their feedback contributes to the enhancement of the teaching and learning experience on campus.

See appendices for examples of student questionnaire forms.

Continuous Self-Evaluation Policy

"Institutions should monitor and periodically review their programmes of study to ensure that they achieve the objectives set for them and respond to the needs of students and society. These reviews should lead to continuous improvement of the programme. Any action planned or taken as a result should be communicated to all those concerned (ESG Standard)".

Burren College of Art employs a Continuous Self-Evaluation Policy that results in biannual review of academic programs, faculty, facilities and student support structures. As referred to, specifically tailored student questionnaires solicit feedback on all aspects of the academic programmes, facilities and the student experience. Structurally, the policy of continuous self-evaluation and biannual review exists as the college receives a new cohort of undergraduate study abroad students each semester. Reviews of the postgraduate programmes are carried out at the end of the first semester and at the end of the academic year. In addition, all students complete *Faculty Evaluation Forms*. At the end of each

semester the President, Dean and faculty review the completed student questionnaires. *Faculty Evaluation Forms* are reviewed by the President and Dean, who discusses them confidentially with the faculty member. The Dean collates the data from the student questionnaires and generates an *End of Semester Review and Action Plan* for implementation the following semester.

Periodic Programme Review

As an NUI Galway linked provider, BCA carries out a *Periodic Programme Review* every seven years in conjunction with University procedures. This consists of internal review of postgraduate programmes at BCA and external review by the currently appointed External Examiner, who interviews Dean, Faculty, Staff and Students. The External Examiner generates a report that is submitted to NUI Galway and BCA. Actionable items are identified in the report and the Dean responds to the External Examiner and NUI Galway.

Self Assessment and External Review

As a linked provider of NUI Galway, Burren College of Art will formally complete a process of self assessment in autumn 2016, which will be followed by external review by NUI Galway. The external review will provide evaluative feedback on the College's principles, mission, values and programme of postgraduate study.

STUDENT CENTRED LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

"Institutions should ensure that the programmes are delivered in a way that encourages students to take an active role in creating the learning process, and that the assessment of students reflects this approach (ESG Standard)".

Burren College of Art is committed to the delivery of an alternative and innovative model of education. Our student centred approach is underscored by our low Student to Staff Ratio, and the intensive experience of one-to-one mentoring that students receive. In addition, it is highlighted by the frequency of opportunities for students to provide feedback on the BCA learning experience.

Student Assessment

Undergraduate and postgraduate students are assessed by the College's Internal Examination Board, which is comprised of Dean and faculty. Postgraduate assessment is conducted by internal examiners who are the Dean and faculty teaching on the programme. In the final examination they are joined by an External Examiner, an independent academic appointed by the University to assure critical distance and objectivity in the examination process. The role of the External Examiner is to assure critical distance in examinations so that results are comparable with similar programmes in other institutions.

Advisory evaluation takes place at the middle of each semester with written feedback being given to students. Assessment takes place at the end of each semester and these are the results that are recorded on each student's transcript. The Academic Handbook (see Appendices) contains the book of modules for each taught postgraduate programme,

including the module learning outcomes. The rubric for assessing each module is also contained in the handbook.

Tutorial Records

All postgraduate students complete a Tutorial Record in conjunction with the faculty member with whom they have had a tutorial. This record is completed jointly by student and faculty member with additional feedback and recommendations added by the faculty member. The student retains the original and copies of the Tutorial Record are held by the Dean.

STUDENT ACCESS, TRANSFER AND PROGRESSION

“Institutions should consistently apply pre-defined and published regulations covering all phases of the student ‘life-cycle’ e.g. student admission, progression, recognition and certification (ESG Standard)”.

Burren College of Art is committed to providing clear and transparent procedures for student access, transfer and progression based on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. The procedures are outlined as follows:

Student Access

Applicants for the MFA/MA/PG Dip and the Higher Diploma in Fine Art are required to submit the following materials:

- A completed application form
- A copy of a recent essay on art or a critical review of an exhibition
- A portfolio comprising a minimum of 10 works
- A written statement of approx. 500 words stating what they seek to attain through study on the programme
- A résumé providing details of education, employment history, exhibitions and publications
- Official certificate or transcript for all degree awards received
- Two letters of recommendation
- A copy of Birth Certificate
- Application fee

Applicants for the PhD in Studio Art should have a masters degree in fine art (MFA). Applicants with an MFA degree may apply directly for the PhD programme.

Applicants who do not have an MFA may apply for the MFA with the possibility of progression to PhD. To apply for the MFA applicants must hold a Bachelors degree with Honours in Fine Art (First class or 2:1, or a GPA of 3.50 or above). Enrolled MFA students have two options at the end of Year One:

- Research for three more years leading to the award of the PhD
- Research for one more year leading to the award of the MFA

Formal applications for the PhD are in two stages:

Stage 1 - Applicants submit:

- Application form
- Outline research proposal (Maximum of 2,000 words)
- Portfolio (min 10 jpeg images on CD or video on DVD)
- 2 Letters of recommendation
- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Application fee

All eligible applicants are then interviewed.

Stage 2 - Shortlisted applicants submit a revised research proposal for discussion and further revision until it is suitable for registration, at which time the applicant is admitted with effect from either September or January.

English Language Requirements for non-native speakers of English

Applicants in this category are required to have competence in English, which is the language of tuition. They are required to supply an IELTS unless their primary degree has been taken through English, certification of which must be supplied.

Student Funding & Scholarships

Burren College of Art offers the following scholarships:

Michael Greene Scholarship Award

This Trust provides means-based scholarships to facilitate participation in the College's postgraduate programmes. A number of awards to the value of €4,400 are allocated in the form of a housing scholarship. Selection is made by a committee comprising of President, Dean and Director of Admissions, and is based on portfolio assessment and financial need.

Anne Madden Scholarship

Established in 2015, by renowned artist Anne Madden this €5000 scholarship is awarded to an incoming international (non-EU) postgraduate student, whose application shows compelling ability and clarity of intention in choosing the Burren as an influential location for their work. This scholarship is available to all international (non-EU) full-time Masters of Fine Art students and is renewable for two years. Selection is made by a committee comprising of President, Dean and Director of Admissions.

Marie Cavanagh Scholarship

Established in 2015, by Tom Cavanagh in honor of his wife, Marie Cavanagh. Awarded to an incoming international (non-EU) postgraduate student with a focus on painting or drawing, who has displayed exceptional ability and has financial need. The scholarship is renewable for two years. Recipients must be enrolled full time and in good academic standing. This scholarship is available to all international (non-EU) full-time Masters of Fine Art students. Selection is made by a committee comprising of President, Dean, Painting & Drawing Faculty and Director of Admissions.

Student Transfer, Progression and Exit Pathways

A student who has registered for the Postgraduate Diploma in Studio Art and successfully completed all modules may apply for progression to either the MA in Studio Art or the MFA in Studio Art. If the average grade of these modules is 60% or above, the student may be deemed eligible to proceed to a programme leading to the award of either the MA or MFA in Studio Art.

A student who has registered for the MA in Studio Art and successfully completed all modules may, by the end of the second semester, apply for progression to the MFA in Studio Art. If the average grade of these modules is 60% or above, the student may be deemed eligible to proceed to a programme leading to the award of the MFA in Studio Art.

Conversely, students registered for the MFA (120 ECTS) programmes are eligible to transfer to the MA (90 ECTS) upon successful completion of all modules, either completing the MA in the summer semester or the following spring semester. Students registered for the MFA or MA are also eligible to graduate with a PG DIP (60 ECTS) upon successful completion of all modules in the first year of either programme.

MFA/MA students in their first year of study may apply for progression to PhD. If accepted onto the PhD from the MFA/MA, students complete three more years Full-Time study or equivalent leading to the award of the PhD.

Student Certification

Burren College of Art's postgraduate programmes are accredited by NUI Galway. On successful completion of their programme they are awarded a degree parchment by the National University of Ireland Galway. The conferring ceremony takes place at Burren College of Art and is attended by the President of the University, Academic Secretary, Registrar and Dean of the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies.

Protection of Enrolled Learners

In the event that Burren College of Art were to cease operation, the College will undertake all reasonable measures to ensure that registered students are enabled to complete their programme of study and that applicants for programmes are facilitated and directed to alternative equivalent programmes. The College is committed to ensuring that student records are protected and maintained as required and to provide transcripts of results and other relevant student information that may be legitimately requested from time to time, in compliance with data protection legislation.

CREATIVE DIFFERENCE MODULES

Creative Difference

In partnership with NUI Galway Burren College of Art delivers a number of Creative Difference modules, founded on the principles of knowledge transfer from creative processes into other fields of study. Burren College of Art's development of a research based MFA and a practice based PhD led to a module dealing explicitly with creative process. A postgraduate module in Creative Difference based on the MFA/PhD module but

aimed at non artists was developed and implemented on the Executive MBA programme at NUI Galway and taken up by other postgraduate programmes at the University. It's provision is currently funded by the University.

The module has been designed to obtain the optimum benefit of BCA's specialist studio facilities, its faculty of artists and other professionals, and its location within the landscape of the Burren. In a Challenge Project participants identify and engage creatively with a challenge (opportunity, problem or issue) of personal, academic or professional significance to them. Participants write a reflective report that is assessed by the module team with written feedback being provided.

Mode of Assessment

Assessment is by evaluation of participants' reports on their Challenge Project. Normally these are marked Pass or Fail so as to encourage experiment, risk and diversity and to avoid the possibility of students being led by the perceived need for grades instead of by their own imagination and creative potential. Grades are required for one group and this has been mitigated by use of broad band grades rather than percentages.

Creative Difference Quality Assurance

Quality assurance reporting on the module *Introduction to Creative Difference* takes place through the boards of study of the three programmes of which it is a part. In the case of two taught programmes it is overseen by the External Examiners for those programmes. In the case of the PhD students it is overseen by the NUI Galway Board of Graduate Studies.

Formal student feedback is collected by the relevant programme leaders by questionnaire. There are variations in the format of the questionnaire that are owned by the programmes. The feedback is sent to the module leader who consults with other members of the module team and prepares a response for the programme leaders. The module leader attends the programmes' boards of studies in two instances (Clinical Education and PhDs), and meets informally with each of the programme leaders as appropriate. Typically the module team makes minor modifications to the operation of the module in the light of the student feedback and subsequently reviews their effects.

Informal student feedback is invited during the taught programme and is discussed by the students and course team as a group. This is then reviewed by the module team at the close of the last taught session on each occasion. Further feedback is gained from the project reports that all students generate following the last taught session. As students are required to discuss the benefits and impact on them of the Challenge Project a picture of the effectiveness of the module emerges, and this indirect feedback may be the most revealing being variously affirming and constructively critical.

TEACHING STAFF

"Institutions should assure themselves of the competence of their teachers. They should apply fair and transparent processes for the recruitment and development of the staff (ESG Standard)".

Burren College of Art operates established staff recruitment procedures in line with sectoral and national practice and in accordance with the requirements of relevant legislation and procedures. Academic staff hold an MFA/MA or PhD and are required to have active, ongoing research profiles as evidenced by exhibition, publication, performance and critical review. Applicants for teaching positions undergo a screening process, led by the Dean of Academic Affairs, to ensure that they have a full knowledge and understanding of their field of study to the appropriate academic level. When hired, candidates undergo a probationary period of one year in which their performance is assessed by the Dean and President. Burren College of Art is an Equal Opportunity employer, details of which can be found in the College's Employee Handbook.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Burren College of Art is committed to the ongoing professional development of its academic staff. This activity falls into the following broad categories:

- Discipline-specific initiatives that encourage staff to initiate or participate in seminars, symposia, exhibitions or events related to their area of practice
- Support for travel for exhibition or conference presentations
- Opportunities to propose, design and teach new academic course offerings
- College-wide professional development days

LEARNING RESOURCES AND STUDENT SUPPORT

"Institutions should have appropriate funding for learning and teaching activities and ensure that adequate and readily accessible learning resources and student support are provided (ESG Standard)".

The College website contains up to date information on all course offerings, student life and student support services. All students receive a copy of the Student Handbook (see appendices) that outlines in detail the experience of international study abroad at Burren College of Art. The handbook contains information on accommodation, amenities and travel logistics alongside the College's policies and procedures relating to student life. College staff work closely with students to coordinate travel and accommodation arrangements. As BCA is located in a rural context, a College bus transports students to and from accommodation daily. All students receive a detailed orientation to the college and our academic structure during the first week of each semester. Postgraduate students also receive an Academic Handbook (see appendices) that outlines the structure of postgraduate study at the College and contains the relevant book of modules for each programme. The Dean and faculty meet with each cohort of postgraduates to review the handbook and each module descriptor as it relates to the specific semester. Postgraduate students are fully registered as students of NUI Galway, with access to the University student services and supports, the library and online learning opportunities. Pastoral support for all students is available through weekly

all-student meetings and through the college Counselling Service. In addition, postgraduate students can avail of the NUI Galway counselling service.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

“Institutions should ensure that they collect, analyse and use relevant information for the effective management of their programmes and other activities (ESG Standard)”.

The collection and analysis of information plays a key role in facilitating the management and ongoing improvement of all college operations. Biannual *End of Semester Review and Action Plans* generated by the Dean are provided for the College President, faculty and the relevant administrative staff. In addition, an *Annual Report* encompassing the full range of the College’s operations is generated by the President and distributed to all staff and stakeholders.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

“Institutions should publish information about their activities, including programmes, which is clear, accurate, objective, up-to-date and readily available (ESG Standard)”.

Burren College of Art publishes up-to-date information for prospective applicants and current students on our website: www.burrencollege.ie. The College takes all reasonable care to ensure this information is clear, accurate and objective.

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1** Mid-Semester Questionnaire
- Appendix 2** End of Semester Undergraduate Evaluation
- Appendix 3** Semester 1 Questionnaire for 1st Year Graduate Students
- Appendix 4** Postgraduate End of Year Evaluation
- Appendix 5** Faculty Evaluation Form
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- Appendix 7** Academic Handbook (Available on Request)

Appendix 1

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

MID-SEMESTER QUESTIONNAIRE

The College continually tries to improve the quality of the students' experience while here. Please assist us by completing the following questionnaire. You should not provide your name if you wish your response to remain anonymous. However, if you wish us to respond to you directly your name would be necessary.

- Name (optional) _____
- How did you first hear about the BCA? _____
- What were your perceptions of the BCA before you arrived?

- How has your experience matched up to your earlier perceptions?

- What do you most wish to gain from your time at the BCA?

- Overall, how do you rate your time so far at the BCA?

Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor	
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- Please comment on the reasons for your rating:

- Please comment on the following aspects of the BCA:

Sense of community

Course structure

Studio space

Faculty

Administration staff

Library

Computer facility

3D Lab/Workshop Facilities

Field trips

Other

- Please comment on the Orientation Week
- Please comment on the faculty-led trips (Dublin, London/Berlin)
- What is the most significant aspect of the BCA for you?
- We welcome any further observations. Please comment below.

Appendix 2

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

End of Semester Undergraduate Evaluation

Dear Student,

Each semester we ask all students to evaluate their learning experience to assure the quality of our courses and to look for ways we can enhance the education the College provides. We do this by asking you to complete two questionnaires: one general questionnaire and one concerning those faculty who have taught you

It is your choice whether you include your name in your response, or whether it is anonymous, but remember we are unable to respond directly to anonymous responses.

We will not review your responses until the end of the semester after the assessment and grading of your work has been completed and we will together look for learning points that we can use to improve the educational experience we provide to future students.

Kind regards,

Conor McGrady
Dean of Academic Affairs

End of Semester Undergraduate Evaluation

Name (optional): _____ Date: _____

1) You have now been here for a full semester. Please summarize the benefits you have experienced.

2) Please tell us what you think of the sense of community at the college and any ideas you may have for how it may be further improved.

3) Please tell us what you think of the taught programme and any ideas you may have for how it may be further improved.

4) What have you most liked about being here?

5) What have you least liked about being here?

6) Would you recommend Burren College of Art to a friend?

7) If you went to London/Berlin, how do you rate the trip?

8) Please comment on the Wednesday Session and other events.

9) Which Visiting Artists' presentations' and studio visits were the most beneficial, and why?

10) Please make any additional comments you might have.

Have a safe journey wherever your destination.

Appendix 3

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

SEMESTER ONE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR 1ST YEAR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The College continually tries to improve the quality of the students' experience while here. Please assist us by completing the following questionnaire. You should not provide your name if you wish your response to remain anonymous. However, if you wish us to respond to you directly your name would be necessary.

- Name (optional) _____
- How did you first hear about the BCA? _____
- What were your perceptions of the BCA before you arrived?

- How has your experience matched up to your earlier perceptions?

- What do you most wish to gain from your time at the BCA?

- Overall, how do you rate your time so far at the BCA?

Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor	
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- Please comment on the reasons for your rating:

- Please comment on the following aspects of the BCA:

Sense of community

Course structure

Studio space

Faculty

Administration/staff

Library

Computer facility

3D Lab/Workshop Facilities

Other

- Please comment on the Orientation Week:
- Please comment on the organized trips to local events (eg. Tulca):
- Please comment on the faculty-led trips (Dublin, London):
- Please comment on the visiting artists for the Wednesday Session. Which have been most beneficial, and why?
- What is the most significant aspect of the BCA for you?
- We welcome any further observations. Please comment below.

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART

Post Graduate End of Year Evaluation

Dear Student,

We regularly ask students to evaluate many aspects of their learning experience. We do this to assure that our quality measures up to our standards, and to look for ways to further improve the education and experiences the College provides.

To this end we ask for your assistance by completing this questionnaire. It should take you about fifteen minutes. Research has shown that in questionnaires of this kind the initial response is the most reliable.

Mary, faculty and I will review your responses after the assessment and examination of your work, and together we will look for learning points.

We are also asking you to provide evaluative feedback to faculty on a separate form. Your responses are confidential between you and them, and your comments will not be seen by anyone else.

Thanks in advance for your response.

Kind regards,

Conor McGrady
Dean of Academic Affairs

End of Year Evaluation: Post Graduate 2015-2016

Name (optional) _____

Admissions

How did you originally come to know of Burren College of Art?

What most influenced you in applying here?

Were you satisfied with the way your application was dealt with?

The MFA/POST BAC Programme

Please comment on the benefits of the following parts of the programme:

Studio Research

Historical & Critical Studies

Professional Studies

The programme of tutorials (frequency and duration)

The Dublin Trips

The London Trip

The Berlin Trip

The Project Room Series (1st Years)

The Wednesday Sessions

The Facilities

Please give your views of any key issues relating to:

The Studios

The Workshops/facilities

The Library

The BCA Website (including any advice on updating it)

The BCA Prospectus (including any advice on updating it)

Faculty

Please give your views of any key issues relating to faculty

Administration Staff

Please give your views of any key issues relating to the Administration staff

General Issues

If you could change one thing about the college what would it be?

What was the best aspect of being at the Burren College of Art?

And the worst?

Please summarize the benefits you have experienced on the MFA and add any further comments.

Appendix 5

Burren College of Art

Faculty Evaluation Form Academic Year 2015-2016

Name of Student (Optional): _____

Name of Faculty Member and Classes attended: _____

General comment/feedback on this class: _____

What was the best thing about this class? _____

How could this class be improved? _____

Please indicate which Faculty member and class you refer in this evaluation. Please fill out a second form or use additional space to give feedback on other classes/faculty.