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Winthrop University

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Burmeister Named Acting Chair for Department of Art and Design

ROCK HILL, S.C. - Alice Burmeister, an associate professor of art history, will serve as acting chair of Winthrop’s Department of Art and Design for the next academic year. She will replace Jerry Walden, who is returning to the classroom to teach full-time after 11 years serving as chair. Current plans are to conduct a national search for a permanent chair during the 2006-07 academic year.

Don Rogers, interim dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, said Burmeister is an ideal selection to guide the department. "Dr. Burmeister is a logical choice for the interim position in light of her leadership and organizational skills," Rogers said. "She has earned the respect of her colleagues in the department."

A native of Ann Arbor, Mich., Burmeister has taken on a couple of administrative assignments since her arrival at Winthrop in 1997. She spent a year as interim chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance in 2004-05 and spent the spring of 2004 as acting assistant dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Burmeister specializes in the arts of Africa, Oceania and the Americas. She was the recipient of the Outstanding Junior Professor and Faculty Student Life award, both in 2000. She has been awarded more than 12 research grants and fellowships, including a West African Research Association grant in 1999 and a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation grant in 1995-96.

Burmeister earned a B.A. from Smith College and a master’s and doctorate in art history from Indiana University.

Quick Facts

- For the next academic year, Alice Burmeister, art history, will be acting chair of the Department of Art and Design.
- Burmeister, associate professor of art history, came to Winthrop in 1997.