

MINUTES

School of Art - BFA Studio Committee
February 28, 2018 – 9:00-10:00am
Room 409 ARTlab

Present: D. Rey (Chair), O. Botar, M. Neufeld, H. Nicolson, C. Bakun (recorder)

Regrets: S. Alward

Absent: H. Kalberg

1) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M. Neufeld **MOVED**, seconded by O. Botar, **THAT** the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 3, 2018

O. Botar **MOVED**, seconded by M. Neufeld, **THAT** the minutes be approved with revisions.

CARRIED

3) BUSINESS ARISING

a) BFA Studio Program Discussion w/Students – debrief

As a result of this discussion, this committee will continue to discuss the BFA Studio curriculum and how it is working for students specifically 6 credit versus 3 credit hour courses. The students expressed a desire for more contact time with instructors. As part of the discussion, the impact on the budget must also be considered. Secondly, there doesn't appear to be a straightforward progression of skills in some areas (such as photography, video, and sculpture) from 1st to 2nd to 3rd or 4th year. Second year courses should be introductions to mediums with a progression to more advanced versions of the topic. Perhaps these intro courses would be the most suited to being 6 credit hours as there is substantial content to cover. This topic will be added to the work plan for the Fall 2018.

4) NEW BUSINESS

a) Removal of FAAH 3202 (Contemporary Art History) as a requirement for all School of Art students

This item is being brought forward from the BFA Art History committee. It follows up on one of the recommendations of the External Undergraduate Review with a view to strengthening all areas of the art history program, as this requirement tends to stream most students into only one part of the program due to the prerequisite requirements. The committee's discussion focused on the question of the importance for every studio student to be exposed to contemporary art. If this course is no longer a requirement, one suggestion was to have ART Now be a combination of visiting speakers and lectures that would guarantee content of either contemporary art history or contemporary art practices. If the removal of this requirement is approved, the discussion of mandatory contemporary art content should be added to the BFA work plan for the Fall 2018.

b) Writing About Art course revision from FAAH to a FA course

This item is being brought forward from the BFA Art History committee in order to ensure that this course works for both studio and art history students and is not counted as an art history credit, thereby potentially strengthening the art history program. To do this we require some input and information:

- How many students are using the Writing About Art course as the 'w' requirement rather than their 'art history' requirement.
- How many students are taking other 'w' courses.
- How many non-school of art students are taking the course.

This item was discussed with the committee as it pertains to the studio curriculum. Most students take this course as their written requirement. The BFA Art History committee will continue the discussion at their meeting.

c) Committee work plan

i) Digital essentials course

Follow-up will be required once this course is up and running over 2-3 years to see how well-prepared students are when they arrive in design, digital photo, and video courses in their 2nd year.

ii) Open communication with students

The meeting with SOFA representatives was very informative, as a result the committee feels that the BFA studio committee meet at least once per year with SOFA. In the student feedback session, students expressed a lack of community amongst students. As a result of this discussion, this committee would like to recommend reinstating the 3rd year field trip to Chicago as it builds a sense of community and exposure to both historical art and contemporary art.

O. Botar MOVED, seconded by M. Neufeld, recommend to the Undergraduate Program Committee, THAT the 3rd year field trip be reinstated.

CARRIED

iii) Safety Course

The committee discussed the idea of bringing back a safety course for students as this is missing from the curriculum. It could include presentations by all the SoA technicians, and be presented in the Art Now class. Also, an online quiz could be a requirement for all SoA students.

O. Botar MOVED, seconded by M. Neufeld, recommend to the Undergraduate Program Committee, THAT the ART Now class dedicate one class to studio safety and etiquette that would include presentations by all SoA technicians and that an online quiz be a requirement of all first year students.

CARRIED

iv) Mentorship of Students

Steven Cochrane is a faculty advisor for students. The Art History professors would like a mentoring program for Art History students as well.

Students expressed a concern for mentorship of students i.e., 4th year students mentoring 1st year students, and a succession plan for incoming SOFA members. Dominique will ask SOFA co-presidents to revisit this topic amongst themselves.

v) Dedicated time for student and school events

The committee would like to bring forward to the Undergraduate Committee the idea of reinstating a dedicated common time for students and school events, such as the Wednesday noon hour. This will encourage participation and build on community.

M. Neufeld MOVED, seconded by O. Botar, recommend to Undergraduate Program Committee, THAT a dedicated weekly common time be reinstated to foster student and school events.

CARRIED

5) AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING – Chair: H. Kalberg

ADJOURNED – 10:05am

Meeting dates 9:00-10:00am room 409 ARTlab	Chair	Date agenda items to recording secretary to be included in next meeting agenda
Apr 04, 2018	H. Kalberg	Mar 23, 2018