

## MINUTES

School of Art - BFA Studio Committee

January 3, 2018 – 9:00-10:00am

Room 409 ARTlab

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### Present

S. Alward (Chair), O. Botar, P. Hess, H. Kalberg, M. Neufeld, D. Rey, C. Bakun (recorder)

### Guests

M. Lacosse, K. Smith – SOFA Co-Presidents

### 1) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**D. Rey MOVED, seconded by H. Kalberg, THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

### 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 29, 2017

**D. Rey MOVED, seconded by P. Hess, THAT the minutes be approved with revisions.**

**CARRIED**

### 3) NEW BUSINESS

Round table discussion with SOFA Co-Presidents

Three topics that they wish to discuss – engagement, community and technical knowledge.

Students have expressed concern over the amount of technical knowledge that they gain during the course of their degree. They would like more skills knowledge going into their 3<sup>rd</sup> year. There is some inconsistencies in technical skills depending on the instructor. A lot of the technical skills are taught through the technicians. It is difficult for example in ceramics, to gain all of the skills required in 3 hours per week. 6 hours may be more realistic. Students should expect to do learning on their own as not all skills can be taught in the time allotted.

The technicians contact info and ways that they are able to assist students will need to be communicated to the student body so that they are comfortable asking for assistance. Instructors could post technical information on UMLearn so that students have access to the information.

Further details are required from students as to what specific technical skills they feel are missing. A 'survey monkey' should be sent out by student council to acquire this information and bring back to committee.

Another concern which was raised was the ways that crits are managed. Students do not seem to gain a lot of insight with the current process. Students would benefit from longer and more active crits by bringing in guests and perhaps increasing contact in classes from 3 hrs to 6 hrs. Meeting outside of class time may create a more comfortable atmosphere for productive crits.

A need was expressed by students for more engagement and a sense of community. A time when students can come to discuss their work, studies and engage with each other. This would be a combination of student and school led activities. Guest lectures and critiques helps build a sense of community. A mentoring structure could also assist with student engagement.

More detailed ways that students can engage with each other will need to be discussed amongst the student community. SOFA co-presidents will discuss with the students and gain some insight into some concrete ways of achieving this and arrange to meet back with this committee at the end of the term to discuss and debrief.

**4) AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING** – Chair: O. Botar

ADJOURNED – 10:05am

<b>Meeting dates 9:00-10:00am room 409 ARTlab</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Date agenda items to recording secretary to be included in next meeting agenda</b>
Jan 31, 2018	O. Botar	Jan 19, 2018
Feb 28, 2018	D. Rey	Feb 16, 2018
Apr 04, 2018	H. Kalberg	Mar 23, 2018