

Queen's University
Executive Summary of the Review of the Fine Art Program

In accordance with Queen's University Quality Assurance Processes (QUQAP), the Fine Art program submitted a self-study to the faculty of arts and science and the office of the provost and vice-principal (academic) to initiate the cyclical program review of its undergraduate program [Bachelor of Fine Art in visual art].

Self-study submission: January 15, 2016

The approved self-study included:

- a program description
- learning outcomes
- library report
- analyses of data
- CVs for core faculty

Site visit: March 21-22, 2016

Review Team:

- Sylvia Whitton, Faculty of Art, Ontario College of Art and Design
- Craig Walker, Director of the Dan School of Drama and Music, Queen's University

Meetings included:

- vice-provost (teaching and learning)
- dean and associate dean of arts and science
- director and vice-dean of arts and science
- cognate heads
- director of the union gallery
- undergraduate students
- staff
- faculty
- a tour of the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts

In their report (April 5, 2016), the review team provided feedback that describes how the fine art program meets the QUQAP evaluation criteria and is consistent with the university's mission and academic priorities.

The review team noted:

- the strong sense of community shared amongst participants of the program; and
- the robust visiting artist program which introduces interdisciplinary practices into the curriculum.

The reviewers also noted:

- that the BFA program's current structure has little permeability to allow for the healthy exchange of ideas;
- an unfortunate lack of integration with the greater campus; and
- that some students complained explicitly that they would like a richer opportunity to pursue connections with cognate disciplines, such as drama, film and music.

Based on all of the above documentation, a *Final Assessment Report* and an *Implementation Plan* were prepared by the vice-provost (teaching and learning) and approved by the provost (July 18, 2016).

The fine art program is approved to continue with report. The date of the next cyclical review will be determined at the time of the report to the provost and vice-provost (teaching and learning) on August 1, 2017.

Prepared by the vice-provost (teaching and learning)

July 14, 2016

Final Assessment Report & Implementation Plan for the Cyclical Program Review of the Fine Art Program

In accordance with Queen's University Quality Assurance Processes (QUQAP), this final assessment report provides a synthesis of the external evaluation and the internal response and assessments of the undergraduate bachelor of fine art program [BFA in visual art]. This report identifies:

- the significant strengths of the program;
- opportunities for program improvement and enhancement; and
- prioritizes the recommendations that have been selected for implementation.

The report includes an implementation plan that identifies:

- who will be responsible for approving the recommendations set out in the final assessment report;
- who will be responsible for providing any resources entailed by those recommendations;
- any changes in organization, policy or governance that will be necessary to meet the recommendations;
- who will be responsible for acting on those recommendations; and
- timelines for acting on and monitoring the implementation of those recommendations.

Summary of the Cyclical Program Review of the Academic Programs in the Fine Art Program

The fine art program submitted a self-study to the faculty of arts and science and the office of the provost and vice-principal (academic) on January 15, 2016. The self-study included

- a program description
- learning outcomes
- library report
- analyses of data
- CVs for core faculty

The review team comprised:

- Sylvia Whitton, Faculty of Art, Ontario College of Art and Design
- Craig Walker, Director of the Dan School of Drama and Music, Queen's University

The review team evaluated the self-study documentation and then conducted a site visit to Queen's on March 21 and 22, 2016.

Meetings included:

- vice-provost (teaching and learning)
- dean and associate dean of arts and science
- director and vice-dean of arts and science

- cognate heads
- director of the union gallery
- undergraduate students
- staff
- faculty
- a tour of the Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts

In their report (April 5, 2016), the review team provided feedback that describes how the fine art program meets the QUQAP evaluation criteria and are consistent with the university's mission and academic priorities. The review team noted the strong sense of community shared amongst participants of the program and the robust visiting artist program which introduces interdisciplinary practices into the curriculum.

The reviewers did note a number of concerns including the BFA program's current structure which has little permeability to allow for the healthy exchange of ideas. In the reviewers' opinion there is an unfortunate lack of integration with the greater campus. It was reported that some students complained explicitly that they would like a richer opportunity to pursue the connections with cognate disciplines, such as drama, film and music.

Responses were received from:

- the interim program director (April 24, 2016).
- the associate dean of arts and science (May 25, 2016)

The senate cyclical program review committee (SCPRC) reviewed all the documentation at its meeting of June 7, 2016 and agreed with the recommendations regarding:

- space
- timetabling
- governance
- curriculum reform

The Senate Cyclical Program Review Committee did not agree with the recommendation to hire an external consultant, which would be cost prohibitive.

The implementation plan below reiterates and prioritizes the specific recommendations associated with the fine art program. The SCPRC requests that the dean of the faculty of arts and science report to the provost and vice-provost (teaching and learning) on progress made on the recommendations on:

February 1, 2017

August 1, 2017

The following are the recommendations made by the SCPRC and approved by the provost.

Implementation Plan:

Recommendations (Prioritized by Theme)		Proposed Follow-up	Responsibility for Leading Follow-up	Timeline for Addressing Recommendation
Space				
1.	Reform of dedicated space: In recognition of the ongoing financial challenges of the program, the SCPRC agrees that students in the BFA program can no longer be provided with dedicated space.	Interim program director to lead thorough review of use of studio space. Review will include options for reform and associated cost implications, action plan and timeline for completion. Review will take account of relevant issues including curricular needs and financial constraints.	Interim Program Director to lead Dean, Arts and Science to monitor	For all recommendations: Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science to report to Provost and Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning) 1) February 1, 2017 2) August 1, 2017
Timetabling				
1.	Reform of Scheduling: In order to allow students to more easily access electives, scheduling of classes must be spread throughout all five weekdays and over all the time slots from 8:30 to 5:30.	Interim Program Director to initiate review of scheduling: 1) Agree principles 2) Make timetable changes	Interim Program Director to lead Dean, Arts and Science to monitor	
Governance				
1.	Collaborations with Cognate Unit: The Program is encouraged to explore opportunities for	Program director to discuss with appropriate cognate heads.	Interim Program Director to lead	

	collaboration with a cognate unit for matters of governance.		Dean, Arts and Science to monitor	
Curriculum Reform				
1.	<p>Re-organize curriculum: The BFA program should undertake a complete curriculum review, in consultation with the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The review should include an exploration of alternative ways of organizing the curriculum, which may include i) spreading the first three years of the curriculum over four years; ii) admitting students to second year, thus using the current years one to three as years two to four; iii) or other options that may emerge from the Review.</p> <p>Increase the number of required Art History courses: As part of the overall curriculum review, the number of required Art History courses should be increased.</p> <p>Reform 400 level curriculum: As part of the overall curriculum review, the fourth-year curriculum should be revised to provide students increased opportunities to develop analytical, critical and writing skills.</p>	<p>Interim program director to make contact with centre for teaching and learning.</p> <p>Comprehensive curriculum review to be completed.</p>	<p>Interim Program Director to lead</p> <p>Dean, Arts and Science to monitor</p>	

	Expansion of Elective Courses: As part of the overall curriculum review, consideration should be given to the creation of more elective courses as an important potential revenue source as well as a way of integrating non- BFA students into the unit.			
2.	Re-establish formal curriculum committee: A formal curriculum committee which is accountable to the (Interim) Director of the program must be re-established. The membership should include members from cognate units.	Interim program director to ensure committee is re-established.	Interim Program Director	
3.	Pathways: The BFA should continue to develop pathways for non-BFA students.	Program director and dean to initiate discussions.	Interim Program Director	
4.	Partnership with St. Lawrence College: As part of the broader curriculum reform, the BFA and the faculty of arts and science should reopen discussions with St. Lawrence College with the aim of providing BFA students with access to St. Lawrence courses, especially in graphic design.	Interim program director to contact relevant colleagues at St. Lawrence College.	Interim Program Director	

The dean of arts and science shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation plan. The details of progress made will be presented in writing to the provost and vice-provost (teaching and learning) and filed in the office of the provost and vice-principal (academic). Monitoring reports will be posted on the university web site.

Final Assessment Report & Implementation Plan

July 18, 2016
Approval Date

Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning)



Signature

Dean, Arts and Science



Signature

Final status of Fine Art Program

Approved to Continue With Report

Date of next program review

To be determined at time of report on August 1 2017