

Administrative Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 11, 2014
Alumni Room
10-11:30AM

Attendees: Jamie Costello, Maureen Keefe, Kathy Keenan, Marjorie O'Malley, Paul Paturzo, Alicia Perry, Robert Perry, Kate Russell, Susana Segat, Dan Serig Anne Marie Stein and Kurt Steinberg

Not in Attendance: Don Arpino, Matthew Hincman, Patrick O'Connor and Ken Strickland

Guest Presenters: Loring Brinckerhoff, Rebecca Girard, Jamie Read, Mercedes Sherrod-Evans and Betsy Smith

The minutes from the October 21, 2014 meeting were approved.

Master of Design Innovation Leadership [MDes] - Jamie Read

In 2007, the Industrial Design department began steps to expand its master's programs. The MDes is to be a master's degree for future leaders that empowers them to solve the complex challenges of our time through "design thinking" combining the empathy of context to a problem while creatively developing solutions. The program is a full-time, two-year (60 credit hours) interdisciplinary program intended for those who want to lead the design and planning of new products, services, environments, systems and organizations. The program philosophy connects deep expertise in the practices of design and business into an integrated, broad-based curriculum that uses real-world market challenges and social initiatives as the context for every class and project.

Classes for the program will be offered here and at our ProArts partner institutions. It is designed for students looking for a new career path in the creative/design field and design students that want to grow their business/professional skills. The goal is to have a cohort of 24 students.

ASD - Loring Brinckerhoff, Mercedes Sherrod-Evans, Betsy Smith and Becca Girard

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects roughly 1-1.5 million Americans and seems to affect males more often than females. People who have ASD often exhibit repetitive behaviors, can only focus on a singular subject or thought process and have trouble with integrative learning. They have problems judging social situations and often have issues with authority figures and are described as rigid by observers. Because the creative parts of their brains often function at high levels, many ASD students go into design and other creative fields of study.

In 2014, 14 students at MassArt self-identified as having Autism Spectrum Disorder. ASD students often need separate environments for testing from their classmates, as they can

be very sensitive to noise, fluorescent light, and other sensory distractions. They tend to overanalyze their work and often find it hard to function in a traditional learning setting.

In order to give ASD students a chance to interact with other students on the spectrum, who face similar challenges, the Colleges of the Fenway consortium offers game nights for ASD students. During the next budget process, this topic should be revisited as funding to support these students will be essential to providing them with the extra support needed to successfully guide them through their college experience.

President's Office Updates Honorary Degrees

Samuel Bak and Anita Kunz will be our 2015 Honorary Degree recipients.

President's Award

Liz Pozen accepted the nomination as our 2015 President's Awardee.

Godine Award

Barbara Krakow has accepted her nomination for the Godine Award, and Hope Barkan, a MassArt Trustee, is helping us cultivate a relationship and coordinate when the award will actually be presented to Barbara.

Advancement Updates Auction

The 2015 Auction will be held on April 11th. There were some very strong submissions this year. As always the Auction will serve as our largest fundraising event of the year, therefore there will be no free tickets given out and there is a great need for individual and corporate sponsors.

Year End Solicitation

Email solicitation regarding the appeal for the Annual Fund will go out December 11th or 12th. Annual Fund gifts are the easiest way for people to support student scholarships and it is crucial that we get total participation from faculty and staff for promotion of the Fund, as well as in donation to the Fund.

Capital Campaign (Galleries)

A much appreciated cash gift was given to the College the week of December 11th, 2014 which put us over the goal we set for the Galleries, making the total for funding \$5.1 million. The college has signed the contract with the construction company for the renovations.

Flower Policy

The group approved the proposed flower policy, which outlines the procedures for how and when to send flowers to members and friends of the college. Any revisions should be sent to Kate Russell.

Strategic Planning

The current version of the strategic plan implementation matrix has gone before the Vice Presidents. The matrix must be completed to represent mid-year status and given to the Board of Trustees for review. Once approved, it will be published for the public.

Boston Design Week

The deadline for submission of events for Boston Design Week is Tuesday, January 20, 2015. Paul Paturzo, Marjorie O'Malley and Dan Serig will serve as point people for MassArt, so if you have any event ideas please contact them.

Equal Opportunity, Diversity, and Affirmative Action Plan - Maureen Keefe

The Equal Opportunity, Diversity, and Affirmative Action Plan has recently been updated to be in compliance with Title IX. Responsible employees now have to write a report on any incidents of sexual violence that they encounter or are privy to and must turn them over to the Title IX Coordinator (a new position). Department chairs are one of the responsible employee groups that have reservations about the reporting system. Members from Health Services and the Counselling and Wellness Center are the only responsible staff members that do not have to report an incident. Faculty and staff need to be trained to make those who are reporting incidents aware that the administration is obligated to forward a report to the Title IX coordinator.

A Title IX Coordinator will soon be hired to permanently deal with issues within the system, and manage trainings and compliance issues. Non-compliance can hurt us tremendously as it would mean involvement from the Federal Government, loss of federal funding, and stiff fines for the college. We cannot write our own plan and must use the one dictated for all of the State Universities. A meeting to review the Title IX process will be held in Kennedy 280 on Wed, December 18th. Also campus conversations around diversity have been going well, but are poorly attended. There needs to be more participation from faculty and staff. Diversity conversations with the students are also planned for the spring semester.

Admissions

Alison Falk of Nonprofit Professional Advisors Group has been hired as the lead for the search for the Dean of Admissions position. The position will cover undergraduate and graduate enrollment and help bridge the gap between departments for sharing relevant enrollment information. There needs to be a new strategy devised to create a multi-year plan for enrollment management. Revisions to the website, including prospective student portals, will be happening over the next year or so. Also, Lauren Wilshusen was hired as the new Director of Admissions.