

**Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Graduate Education Council (GEC)
October 18, 2017
T1101, 1:00-2:30pm
Minutes**

Members Present: Paul Paturzo, Laura McPhee, Lois Hetland
Advisors Present: Aurelio Ramirez, Jackie Knight, Anne Marie Stein
Recording Secretary: Felicia D. Scott, Nadia Savage

Call to Order

Chair Paul Paturzo called the meeting to order at 1:15pm.

1. Announcements

- **Voting Members:** Paul Paturzo, Lois Hetland, Laura McPhee, Juan Obando, Maggie Shirland, Patricia Seitz, Dan Szabo, Student Member (TBD)
- **Post-Graduate Opportunities:** Paul Paturzo and other college administrators are travelling to Beijing China. Paul will discuss plans for an artists' residency program for graduate alumni for as early as spring 2018 at the Beijing Royal School (highschool). This would supplement the artist- in-residency program at Srishti (to be offered again in spring 2019) and the matching grant for Skowhegan.

2. Discussion: Change to MFA Full Residency Graduate Seminar Requirement

For the MFA full residency program, Paul Paturzo presented the concept of reducing the current two-semester graduate seminar requirement to one semester by eliminating the spring Graduate Seminar II course requirement. The proposed change is a response to students who are not content with the course and would prefer an elective. GEC discussed whether the course could be improved and retained, whether there are deficits in the program that could be addressed in the course, or whether students would be better served by enrolling in additional elective.

- GEC proposed that students enroll in one of a short menu of electives offered by the graduate program to retain the benefit of working across the 1st year cohort and allow for enrollment with 2nd year students, while allowing students to tailor enrollment to their interests. No vote was taken as there were not enough voting members to support a quorum.
- A plan for one full year of electives was proposed in anticipation of this potential change. **Spring 2019:** art education pedagogy course required by MFA Photo students who want to teach, and to be recommended for other majors, particularly in first spring; exhibitions and curation course; Graduate Review Forum with Adrian Kohn. **Fall 2018:** Skill based elective such as laser cutter/3D printer with artist such as Clint Baclawski; public art course with Juan Obando; artistic practice as inquiry with a visiting faculty such as Marilyn Arsem, Camilo Alvarez, Marie Cieri, Arzu Mistri, Mariama White Hammond, Destiny Palmer, Deb Todd Wheeler.

- GEC recommended marketing electives to graduate students including introduction to faculty or a video on electives at orientation.
- Spring 2018 electives: Human Codes and Cultural Maps course – strengthen course structure and purchase 10 DNA kits now, and encourage students to take and submit the tests for earlier results; Adrian Kohn’s Graduate Review Forum, GRAD-659; art education pedagogy course; and curatorial practices course to consider.
- It was also recommended that up to three Graduate student scholarships per semester be offered for enrollment in MassArt travel programs as electives. Graduate Program staff will speak with Institutional Advancement regarding funds for this type of scholarship.

3. Other Items

- Graduate Assistantship:** Lois Hetland recommended instituting a graduate assistantship position for interviewing graduate students and alumni and to collecting data from them regarding the graduate programs. The position would be based upon a book by Dick Light.
- Graduate Faculty Criteria:** Issues around graduate faculty criteria are for further discussion this semester:
 - Developing comprehensive criteria
 - Identifying grad faculty on campus
 - Hiring by Graduate Program coordinator in conjunction with Graduate Dean and with departmental input
 - Determining whether or not faculty must have a terminal degree (for each program).
 - Considering differences from other state colleges. Our graduate program cannot operate only upon overloads, as a CE program, as is most common at DGCE schools.
- Admissions Update:** The number of started applications was provided by Paul Paturzo.

Adjournment

Chair Paul Paturzo adjourned the meeting at 2:38pm.