

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, HAYWARD

DESIGNATION CODE: 98-99 CAPR 13

DATE SUBMITTED: November 18, 1999

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning and Resources

SUBJECT: Five-Year Program Review for the Art Department

**ACTION**

**REQUESTED:** Approval of the Program Review of the Art Department

The Department of Art offers a variety of programs and courses here at our campus. The number of students majoring in Art has more than doubled since 1995 (122 majors in 1995; 290 majors in 1999). According to the Department, almost 300 students have chosen to major in Art, and there are signs that this growth will continue. Although studio courses are restricted to a maximum of 24 students, the Department continues to generate excellent FTE. Electronic Arts is the newest addition to the Art Department and certainly the area of greatest growth. More than two-thirds of the new art majors have declared their interest in this area.

The Department offers a variety of courses in digital graphics and multimedia, digital video, animation, and web technology. In the Spatial Arts area, the Department offers courses in ceramics, bronze casting, metal sculpture, figure modeling, creative process, and advanced projects. The variety of areas such as Pictorial Arts area, photography area, figure-drawing, painting, and printmaking give opportunity to student to choose their area of interest. The Art Department faculty have already begun to plan changing the capstone courses to better reflect the changing student needs.

The Art History area has been modified to adopt the University's mission statement and the interests of student body. Art History faculty teach in the PACE program, in Distance Learning with the Contra Costa Campus, and in the Freshmen and Sophomore Cluster GE program. The Department hopes to be able to offer GE "Activity" classes in the studio areas and allow students to work independently and in groups in such areas as bronze casting, stone carving, pottery, gallery and museum visits. Another plan is underway to begin to offer Spatial Arts courses as "Activity" modules for the GE cluster classes.

A new technology program has just been added. The Department feels that the media program needs more allocation to offer the courses demanded by its majors and the studio area needs to continue to support the program. The Art Department recently proposed a BFA degree and it has been approved. The Department is planning a MFA degree program and feels that these degrees will complement the Multi Media Master's program.

Ten studio and history faculty members have retired since 1992, but only three new hires have been granted the Department, all in media areas. A new faculty member will join the Art Department during the 1999-2000 academic year. The large program and limited resources have put constraints on the Department.

According to the Department, the facilities are excellent and need no major improvement in

studio areas. They are currently building a digital video lab for media and a seminar room that will be used by all art faculty.

Dr. Aalice Mansell, VP of Academics at Technical University of British Columbia, who has considerable experience in Studio media courses, Art theory, and program development, reviewed the Art Department in Spring 1999. Dr. Mansell was very impressed with the program and course offerings, the 95-96 plans, and the achievements of the Department. She further recommends the review of all course offerings and program requirements, formation of a coherent vision plan, and the instigation of an MFA program. She also has noticed the tension between studio and media program areas in the past. The Department acknowledges the comment and is currently in the process of altering many of the conditions that have caused the conflict in the past. The Department believes that the apparent tension between areas or studio and media programs should be resolved with the changes already underway.

The Department is following the recommendations made by the reviewer, and is developing an assessment plan, but has not yet implemented it. According to the Art Department, the Department will plan for the future and does expect to develop its Five-Year Plan as Dr. Mansell suggests. The Department is adapting changes and making improvements, but is asking for allocations of resources appropriate to its projected growth.

#### CAPR's Evaluation:

CAPR concurs with the reviewer that the Art Department possesses a young, committed faculty, the foundation of a new program direction, and a program that is a leader in the field. CAPR further recommends that the Department continue with the plan to change the capstone courses, develop an assessment plan, and more importantly develop a five-year plan to show the vision of the Department and where it is leading.

Overall, CAPR concurs that the Art Program is a valuable program and should be continued without modification.