

# Dramatic Arts

## Undergraduate Review

### Year 1 (2017) - FAR Implementation Report

(Reviewed 2015-16)

#### Recommendation #1

Convert the current LTA and ILTA into continuing faculty positions.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the Committee's jurisdiction. It is expected that the program will proceed through normal channels of advocacy regarding the faculty complement.

#### Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

#### 2017 Comments

A request has been made to the Dean to convert the LTA to a Tenure-Track position and renew the ILTA for 3 years.

#### Recommendation #2

Arrange for a workload audit of DART and lead discussions for a go-forward plan with faculty and staff.

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the Committee's jurisdiction. The Department is encouraged to assess workload issues as part of the curriculum review referenced in its response to Recommendation #9.

#### Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

#### 2017 Comments

None

#### Recommendation #3

Establish better mechanisms for tracking alumni and use that data to prepare graduates for a broader vision of employment opportunities (i.e., beyond theatre and teaching).

#### ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. Although the Department chose to reject the recommendation, there is evidence that it is working with the Office of Alumni Relations and the Office of Marketing and Communications.

<b>Implementation Plan (2<sup>nd</sup> Priority)</b>	
Responsible for approving:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Responsible for resources:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Responsible for implementation:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by end of academic year 2017/18

<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>
On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)				
Action 1 DART has begun to review and update its existing data base that goes from the 1980's forward.	DART Members	T		
Action 2 We will use this data to assist in revisions of our 2017 curriculum review.	DART Members	T		
Action 3 DART has an alumni Face Book page on which event postings, alumni news and relevant information is posted.	DART Members	T		

**2017 Comments**

- DART already has in existence a one-page handout regarding careers.
- While DART is committed to addressing these recommendations, we believe that it is outside of our mandate and cannot meet the goals set without additional external support to conduct such tracking on an annual basis. We believe that the alumni office is better equipped for such an undertaking.

**Recommendation #4**

Attend promptly to the variety of geographical challenges listed in [Reviewer Report Section] 6 above and meet with faculty, staff and students mid-way through the Fall Term (2016) to assess success or otherwise.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. It is expected that the Department and the Dean will proceed through normal channels of advocacy to address the geographical challenges raised by the reviewers. It was noted that the Faculty of Education faces similar geographical challenges with its Hamilton campus and that a joint discussion might be worthwhile.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

None.

**Recommendation #5**

Senior administration/university-level planning and guidance to provide appropriate support (leadership, funding) for further enhancement of DART's contributions to the social and cultural life of St. Catharines.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. It is expected that the Department will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for these resources. The Department is encouraged to include this issue as part of the curriculum review referenced in its response to Recommendation #9.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts (School) and its Director have taken on some of this responsibility. For example, Suitcase-in-Point's *Rhizomes* project will take place in our facilities in late April. Leadership and funding other than the Director's involvement in this and other projects has been minimal.

**Recommendation #6**

Review the budget options for the operation of venues within the School, to take account of rapidly increased materials costs.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the jurisdiction of the Committee. It is expected that the Department will proceed through normal channels of advocacy for these resources.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

This is reflected in DART's 2017/18 budget.

**Recommendation #7**

Appoint a Webmaster to provide leadership for the School and to chair a committee concerned with promotion of events, marketing and fund-raising initiatives.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to have two parts.

- a. The Committee considers the recommendation to appoint a Webmaster to be not accepted as it lies outside of the Committee's jurisdiction.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

The School has provided assistance for web design and promotion of events. The Chair continues to be involved.

b. The Committee considers the recommendation to improve promotion and recruitment through various initiatives to be accepted and in the process of implementation.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving: Department, Dean of Humanities  
 Responsible for resources: Department, Dean of Humanities  
 Responsible for implementation: Department, Dean of Humanities  
 Timeline: Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2016/17

<b>Actions</b>  On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>
Action 1 DART has held 3 'Invitationals' (audition workshops) this year (one more than in past years) and at much earlier dates.	Chair Department members	T		
Action 2 Dart continues to provide tours, give workshops and liaise with local schools.	Chair Department members	T		
Action3 DART has a robust number of public events including public access to our mainstage productions, specific class outcomes, Walker Culture Chair events, outreach projects to community organizations, schools, other Brock University units and other activities that emerge throughout the course of the year that promote our program and assist with recruitment.	Chair Department members	T		
Action 4 The School assists in promotion through distribution of posts, flyers and email blasts.		T		

**2017 Comments**

- DART GREATLY exceeds typical promotion and recruitment activities!

- DART does not consider fundraising to be part of its mandate, nor does it have the resources to undertake it.

**Recommendation #8**

Appoint an undergraduate program officer, supported by a one-course teaching release per year over a three-year term.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside of the Committee's jurisdiction.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

This has not been done nor supported, making the responsibilities of the Chair unsustainable. The past two and the current chair's responsibilities are also heavily devoted to recruitment efforts (including tours and workshops), liaison with community arts groups, promotion of events, facilitation of performance outcomes, assisting in the coordination of facilities bookings, that require many additional hours. An undergraduate program officer could compartmentalize these responsibilities, making the role of the chair manageable.

**Recommendation #9**

Undertake a curriculum review, led by the undergraduate program officer, to examine ways to streamline current offerings, increase class sizes modestly so as to reduce the number of sections for some courses, and to achieve a more holistic view of curriculum that represents the experience of the majority of students in DART's undergraduate program.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers the recommendation to undertake a curriculum review to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The commitment to undertake a curriculum review is acknowledged by both the Department and the Dean. Such a review should take place regardless of whether it is led by an undergraduate program officer, but more importantly that it involve all faculty contributing to the programs.

**Implementation Plan (1<sup>st</sup> Priority)**

Responsible for approving:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Responsible for resources:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Responsible for implementation:	Department, Dean of Humanities
Timeline:	Dean of Humanities to report by the end of academic year 2016/17

<b>Actions</b>  On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>
<b>Action 1</b> This was a major discussion item at DART's retreat in August 2016 with the commitment to reduce the number of courses in the major.	Chair, Department members	T		
<b>Action 2</b> The Department has a history of reexamining courses, concentrations and programs on an annual basis.	Chair, Department members	T		
<b>Action 3</b> The Drama in Education and Applied Theatre (DIE/AT) Concentration replaced DART 3F92, 3F98 and 3P05 with DART 3F91 (UPC pending). This reduced the DIE/AT requirements by .5.	DIE/AT Concentration	T		

**2017 Comments**

This will also be a major item at DART's 2017 retreat where we intend to continue exploring how we can reduce the number of courses required in the major.

**Recommendation #10**

Appoint two faculty members (as part of their service load) to develop and design seminar-based 3P97 and 3P98 courses, to be brought to the Department for approval.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration but outside of the Committee's jurisdiction. The Department is encouraged to assess workload issues as part of the curriculum review referenced in its response to Recommendation #9.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

A Course Coordinator still assists in the coordination of these courses. This existed prior to the recommendation. No seminar is planned.

**Recommendation #11**

Develop Departmental policies for more transparent day-to-day management and sharing of information among all constituencies within DART.

**ARC Disposition of the Recommendation**

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as existing departmental policies exist which should be circulated and reviewed by members annually.

**Implementation Plan**

Recommendation not accepted.

**2017 Comments**

DART believes that we are very transparent in reporting day-to-day management and sharing of information among all constituencies within DART. Minutes are available on Sakai.