

Studies in Arts and Culture

Undergraduate Review

Year 2 (2018) - FAR Implementation Report

(Reviewed 2015-16)

Recommendation #1

Replace outgoing full-time faculty member.

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 to address this recommendation.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation #2

Plan future program directorships to consist in two consecutive three-year terms.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the jurisdiction of the Committee. The appointment and renewal of the Program Director is governed by the Brock University/Brock University Faculty Association collective agreement.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation #3

Hold regularly scheduled social events three times per year to strengthen student engagement and sense of cohort.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and will build on current practice. The Committee agrees with UPC comments and encourages the Program to examine the curriculum with the intent of identifying core courses in all years to reinforce and build a sense of community.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

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

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Hold a student gathering	Program	T	C	

2017 Comments

A gathering for STAC students was held on January 27, 2017. All STAC majors, faculty and staff, and some alumni were invited to the informal gathering. One STAC major came, and no other students responded to the three invitations that were sent.

2018 Comments

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the STAC program students, faculty and publics are engaged with many outcomes produced by all participating departments and programs. All STAC-specific and not-specific programming has a component of social engagement for the public, faculty, staff and students, whether exhibitions, concerts, performances, etc. These events are marketed and promoted by sponsoring faculty, Departments, and the Office of the School. The Office of the School also reports about events, in collaboration with the Social Media coordinator for the Faculty of Humanities. Many of the events listed below are collaborative efforts with other departments, which also serves to increase visibility and provide opportunities for students to meet and mingle. Such events in 2017-18 were:

- November 1-3, 2017 - Visual artist and bookmaker Bernard Cella (based in Vienna, Austria) visited Brock as part of the Walker Cultural Leaders Series. A public lecture was held at Rodman Hall on November 1st, and a book-making workshop took place on November 3rd.
- November 30, 2017 - Opening reception for exhibition *Colour Constructs* at Rodman Hall, with featured work by graffiti artist Mat Vizbulis. A partnership with Visual Arts and French Studies.
- January 25, 2018 - Public lecture by *Canadian author Daniel Dugas* at the Marilyn I. Walker building. A partnership with Modern Languages and Interdisciplinary Humanities.
- March 8, 2018 - Opening reception for exhibition *Expressions of Today* at Niagara Artists Centre, with featured work by graffiti artist Mat Vizbulis. A partnership with French Studies.

Please see the STAC website for more complete information:

<https://brocku.ca/miwsfpa/stac/>

A meet-and-mingle event for the current STAC major and minor cohort, with STAC faculty, instructors and staff, will take place during the April exam session.

Recommendation 4

Hold program faculty meetings at least once per term. Include all program instructors in these meetings.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers the recommendation to hold a faculty meeting at least once per term to describe current practice as found in the Collective Agreement. The Committee notes that the Centre has the right to determine its own membership in these meetings.

Implementation Plan

No further action required.

Recommendation 5

Continue to leverage Rodman Hall as a key and effective component of the program.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the Committee's jurisdiction. The Committee wishes to confirm that all available information regarding Rodman Hall was made available to the reviewers during the review. The Committee understands that the university is exploring options for the future of Rodman Hall, and that key to this will be maintaining artistic, curatorial and research services to faculty, students and the community moving forward.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation 6

Implement sound studies stream as outlined in Self Study.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be worthy of consideration, but understands that it is dependent on resources which are not yet available to the program.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation 7

Consult with art and design Universities (namely OCADU, NSCAD, and Emily Carr) in order to be able to bring alternate labour categories to the bargaining table in future contract negotiations between the Faculty Association and the employer, specifically "permanent part time" designations that allow for instructors who maintain arts practices beyond their work for the University.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be not accepted as it lies outside the Committee's jurisdiction. Any such changes would be a matter of negotiation between the university and its labour partners.

Implementation Plan

Recommendation not accepted.

Recommendation 8

Expand the program's visibility to prospective students by ensuring that it is prominently featured in all arts related advertising.

ARC Disposition of the Recommendation

ARC considers this recommendation to be accepted and in the process of implementation. The program is encouraged to work with the Communications Director of the MIWSFPA to ensure that the profile of STAC is communicated externally and internally.

Implementation Plan (1st Priority)

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

Actions On Target (T), On Hold (H), Delayed (D), Complete (C)	Responsibility	Year One	Year Two	Year Three
Action #1 Ensure STAC's presence in MIW publicity documents	Program	T	C	
Action #2 Develop more STAC publicity materials for circulation	Program	T	C	
Action #3 Define a clearer direction for STAC.	Program	T	T	

2017 Comments

Publicity documents that originate in the Marilyn I Walker School already support all four units of the school, which includes STAC. The School's Viewbook profiles all four units. Development of STAC's new website was part of the redesign of all the units in the School, and is supported by the School's publicity office.

New Takeaway cards were developed through Marketing this year, as there had not been any developed in previous years.

A curriculum review meeting was held on December 12, 2016, and a second meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2017, facilitated by CPI. Further clarification and direction of STAC's curriculum will assist in the development of effective marketing materials for the unit.

2018 Comments

The MIW Director's office continues to do an excellent job of managing the many publicity documents supporting the four units of the SFPA. STAC is given its share of space in the many items of publicity that come out of the MIW: website support, Brock News articles, social media presence, Viewbook publication, and event posters. The Takeaway cards developed for 2016-17 have been updated to the new branding format and are in circulation for Spring Open House.

We observe the absence of a Communications Coordinator at the MIWSFPA since May 2017 and foresee significant challenges ahead with marketing and promoting STAC. Should the Communications Coordinator/MIWSFPA position remain vacant our capacity to achieve this recommendation is significantly reduced. This full-time position, previously responsible for the coordinated marketing and promotion of public engagement opportunities at the School is no longer funded since February 2018. Part-time support is inconsistent and it is not reasonable for us to rely on interim and ad-hoc staffing to achieve professional results and successful outcomes.

Concerning Action #3, STAC has been through a year of deep consultation and discussion of many different possibilities for future direction. STAC continues to learn how to navigate the intricacies of the new BA Honours Humanities (BHE) enrollment path and how to carve a presence for STAC amid the undeclared student cohort. Development of a half-credit, first-year online course (STAC 1P98) will eventually assist in this presence, and we hope it will be considered for context credit status when it makes its debut in the 2019-20 academic year. A change of directorship for STAC beginning July 1, 2018 will bring new energy and direction to STAC.