

**Museum Assistant Certificate Advisory/CTE Certificate Programs Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 17, 2020**

**Minutes**

**Advisory committee:**

Carol Henke, Gallery Director, full-time faculty

Megan Debin, full-time faculty in Art History

Karren Hiskey, former student

Vanessa Canas, former student

Kelly Chidester, Freelance Curator

Kristin Mihaylovich, full-time faculty in Art History

**Discuss CTE certificate**

We discussed the impact of the pandemic on the museum sector. Many full time staff have lost their positions locally, but the group was hopeful that as venues started to reopen, there was likely to be more entry level jobs open. The pandemic may have pushed those close to retirement out of the field, making more room for new opportunities. All agreed that it would be useful for students to have our certificate, as verification of their skills, when seeking entry level gallery and museum jobs.

Courses in certificate were discussed: Students that are part way through the certificate are disappointed that we can’t offer the upper level courses, but understand why a face-to-face experience is necessary.

The switch of art history courses to their own prefix was discussed in depth. Moving from ART to ARTH allows us to de-colonize our curriculum, removing the focus from Western European art. The group was clear that they felt the Museum Studies courses should stay with Art History in the switch from ART to ARTH. This led to a discussion of the return to the Art History lecture hall. The lecture hall is in such poor condition, we talked about how an overhaul is needed to support student learning.

We also discussed the problem of not supporting face-to face internships now, and hope they will be offered soon. We also revisited the limitation of only allowing one internship course. We agreed it would be useful to have an advanced internship courses.

We discussed the importance of having experience using industry standard tools and equipment. We discussed installing a new lighting system and a projector in the gallery and expanding the technology, supplies and equipment used in collection management, so that students could learn using the type of equipment they would be likely to use on the job.

**Land as Kin Initiative**

The indigenous art exhibitions were discussed, and our intention to collaborate with local institutions: CSUF, Fullerton Museum Center and The Muckenthaler Cultural Center.

**Future initiatives**

Tours of museums and galleries were discussed as a great way to share our passion for museums with students, potentially encouraging them to complete our program.

We would like to offer workshops on various museum topics to our students, and also open them to past and future students. Our students need one-on-one mentoring to see themselves in this field.