

**DECEMBER 8, 2014**  
**OSU DESIGN DEPARTMENT**  
**FACULTY MEETING MINUTES**

**AU 2014**  
**NO. 04**

**Present:** M.A. Beecher (presiding), Scott Denison, Chris Edbrooke, Carol Gill, Polly Graham, Jeff Haase, Rebekah Matheny, Noel Mayo, Paul Nini, Maria Palazzi, Alan Price, Liz Sanders, Scott Shim, Brian Stone, Gabe Tippery, Roozbeh Valamanesh

**Absent:** Peter Chan (sabbatical), Susan Melsop (medical leave)

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

Mary Anne Beecher has been invited to write the *Perspective* for the 40:2 (Spring, 2015) issue of the *Journal of Interior Design*.

Liz Sanders has a paper accepted for publication: Lapolla, K. and Sanders, E.B.-N., Using Co-creation to Engage Everyday Creativity in Reusing and Repairing Apparel, *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal*, 2015.

Images and scholarship by Jeff Haase is discussed in the upcoming publication "Spatial Design Education: New Directions for Pedagogy in Architecture and Beyond" by Ashraf Salama, Ashgate Press.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Good news! OSU NASAD Accreditation has now been confirmed and the next full review will be held in 2022-2023 academic year.

SA & FPL applications due to Department Chair by **January 12, 2015**.

Annual reports are due to Mary Anne by January 31, 2015. The format will stay the same as last year's reports with updates to the five year plans proposed as needed.

Spring meeting schedule circulated... please note in calendars.

Autumn break added to schedule starting next year: Please note that starting in 2015, the Autumn Semester will start on a Tuesday and end on a Wednesday and that there will be no classes held on the final two days of the first session (RF).

Requests for teaching assignment changes should be discussed within areas or made directly to Mary Anne. Please give special consideration to whether you are interested in offering a course or studio at the graduate level.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Quick review of fall term Research Workshops... are there potential future topics that interest the group? (Plagiarism, what else?)

The faculty suggested that presentations that include information that is more specific to design would be more helpful than the general information conveyed in the research workshops. Case studies might be a

useful format. Workshops that literally allow faculty to work on grant applications or other projects might be desirable. Plagiarism and disability accommodation should be pursued for our information.

Persons unable to attend the research workshop series can retrieve information that was distributed in them from Mary Anne.

### **Foundations program update/discussion**

Scott Denison's update:

- Everyone should have received a synopsis of the project by email
- Tomorrow, November 9, faculty can view students work and give feedback throughout the day
- Faculty participation is essential to the success of the exhibition/review; please make a point of spending some time during the day with the students.

### **Research capacity statement**

Some departments and colleges have Research Capacity Statement—this was recommended in one of the research workshops. The purpose of the statement is to characterize the department's ability to interact with and support collaborative research with other departments/colleges. Having a statement would make it easier for others to understand what we have to offer and how we might be valuable as collaborators. However, we need to consider the realities of our capacity as well as whether we want the statement to just portray our ability to integrate our research with others and/or for it to also provide an indication of our willingness to provide specific kinds of services such as data visualization.

Questions to think about:

- What's in it for us?
- How does it help our research?
- How much do we want to do?
- What's our capacity?
- How should our contribution be funded?
- How can design thinking help others?

Feedback:

- There are a lot of people out there who really don't know what we do.
- We can help the people who can't visualize what their next steps should be.
- We could tailor our efforts toward specific types of projects such as those that focus on aging, health and wellness; this might help us focus graduate research into areas of specialization as well.
- Developing this statement would address an urgent need to demonstrate our value to the college and university.
- We should establish goals and objectives for collaborating at a departmental level.
- We might want to communicate our research capacity by profiling case studies of projects to which we have already contributed.
- Mary Anne suggested that we use the January meeting as a working session to generate content for the Research Capacity Statement. If you develop a description of a case study prior to 1/12/15, please send it to her.

## **Graduate program curriculum discussion**

Carol Gill led a discussion of issues related to the Graduate Program:

- The Graduate Studies Committee has identified a number of guidelines in the handbook that the students are finding confusing. It is not clear whether the current handbook requires an external committee member from outside of the department by using the word “should” instead of the word “must.” We are currently informing first year students that a third committee member who is external to the department is heavily encouraged but not required as long as disciplinary diversity is present on the committee. There is not unanimous support for this clarification of the guideline so if this results in committee requests that are not diverse enough, we will revisit the matter of requiring a non-design faculty committee member.
- The faculty has not read the current handbook and not everyone is familiar with the regulations or the curriculum. It is recommended that everyone read the handbook (available on the department web site under “Graduate” and “Student Resources”).
- We need to clarify definitions for what is meant by “studio” and “seminar.” Paul offered up a definition of a seminar as “a course that is primarily organized around reading, writing and discussion.” Everyone seemed to agree on that.
- It is not clear that the two-person committees assigned to this year’s incoming students were to have been meeting this term and providing advising to first year students. We need to communicate more with those students, and they need to be informed that they should be meeting with their advisors. The system will not work if the meetings do not occur.
- Mary Anne has proposed a change to the first year review process. Instead of having students make multiple presentations with no written submission, it is proposed that students will write a proposal that is to have been read by all faculty members in advance of a meeting. Roozbeh and Maria spoke in favor of combining the written proposal with a presentation by each students so that face-to-face interactions were possible. A written description of the proposed new process and the proposal content was distributed for review and discussion at our January meeting.
- The faculty endorsed the idea that the Graduate Studies Committee make minor decisions related to the graduate program without involving the entire faculty. More significant changes should be proposed to, discussed by, and voted on by the whole faculty, however.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS:**

Lecture by Karen Lewis, Department of Architecture January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4 pm, location TBA

Next Department Faculty Meeting is January 12, 2015

See Handout – SPRING 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE for the list of next term’s meetings

**ADJOURNMENT:** Noel Mayo motioned to adjourn at 12:04pm