

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 24 November 2017

School of Design, The Glasgow School of Art (GSA): Final Update on the GSA Singapore/Singapore Institute of Technology Collaborative Review Action Plan (2016/17)

The University of Glasgow's Academic Standards Committee is invited to consider the following final update on the School of Design's Collaborative Review recommendations from session 2016/17.

The update on recommendations is provided for information below. Also attached for information is the action plan which shows progress as reported during session 2016/17 to GSA's Undergraduate and Postgraduate Committee and Academic Council.

No.	Recommendation	Status
1	The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design should set out formally, the ambitions for the partnership with SIT for the following five years. This should include consideration of the delivery of new programmes, CPD short courses and research potential.	Complete
2	The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design, in conjunction with the Senior Researcher for the School of Design, should develop an explicit research agenda for GSA Singapore and ensure that this links with the School of Design RKEC Strategic Plan.	Complete
3	The Review Panel recommended that the School of Design reflects on further ways of exploiting the potential for intercultural learning. While recognising that the Overseas Immersion Programme provides a good platform for this, the School should explore other ways of connecting students from GSA Singapore with peers across GSA	Complete
4	The Review Panel recommended that the Programme Teams, in conjunction with the School of Design's VLE champions, should further explore the usage of virtual environments, in particular to consider the holding of asynchronous critiques and developing partnership project briefs between different locations. The Review Panel recommended that this be shared within the School of Design and across the institution in order that the wider GSA might learn from the School's experience.	Complete
5	Notwithstanding the considerable work undertaken since the Partnership Review in February 2015, the Review Panel recommended that the Programme Director continued to engage with colleagues at SIT and Temasek Polytechnic to address the outstanding issues with regard to workshop access.	Complete
6	The Review Panel recommended that the Programme Leaders together with input from the programme team and the Programme Director, should reflect further regarding how the programme curriculum could be enhanced to explicitly address employability.	Complete
7	The Review Panel remained unclear regarding whether there remained a disparity between the contact hours in Singapore and those in Glasgow. If there was a disparity between the campuses, the reasons for this should be set out and the appropriate clarification provided. The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design investigate this further, and report as appropriate.	Complete
8	The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design, in conjunction with the Programme Director should reflect on the recruitment targets for GSA Singapore. Subsequently, the Programme Director should engage with the Programme Director for SIT to define and agree targets for entry in 2017/18.	Complete

Submitted by: Barbara Ridley, Deputy Head, School of Design.	
Date: 15th March 2017	

Recommendation	Action Plan	By Whom	Timescale	Progress	Completed
1 The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design should set out formally, the ambitions for the partnership with SIT for the following five years. This should include consideration of the delivery of new programmes, CPD short courses and research potential.	A five-year plan to be developed in conjunction with the overarching SofD strategic plan for 2018-2021. The plan will be informed by the SofD Singapore Development Group (SDG) and discussions with the Singapore Institute of Technology.	Acting Head of School (AHOs)/Academic Coordinator (AC) /Programme Leaders (PLs)	End of Academic Session 2016/17	<p>The first meeting of the SDG scheduled for January 2017.</p> <p>Objectives: Develop a shared narrative that brings to life the School of Design’s vision, ambitions and strategy for the partnership with SIT for the following five years.</p> <p>November 2016: Colleagues from InDI, Programme Director and Design Director, were invited to visit GSA Singapore with a view to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Understanding the Design Innovation landscape in Singapore</i> • <i>Identifying areas of mutual interest and potential collaboration with SIT’s Enterprise & Innovation Hub and Design Council Singapore</i> • <i>Exploring opportunities for the development and delivery of Continuing Professional Development</i> • <i>(CPD) programmes</i> • <i>Discussing potential collaborative research opportunities with SIT colleagues</i> <p>Key actions: Programme Director and Design Director to develop and cost-up a bespoke CPD programme for the Civil Service College Work for colleagues at SIT’s Enterprise and Innovation hub (EIH) to commence Feb 2017</p>	Yes

					<p>Update March 2017:</p> <p>GSA-SIT Strategic Plan: The development of a GSA-SIT strategic plan is under development. The HofS, PD and AC met with senior SIT representatives in February 2017 to discuss the outcomes of the 5-year Collaborative Review and to initiate discussions about the future ambitions for the GSA-SIT partnership. The intention is to proceed with further meetings in June 2017 when senior GSA staff are in Singapore. The SDG will meet in April 2017 to review a draft strategic plan currently under development.</p> <p>InDI: Colleagues from InDI, following on their visits to Singapore (November 2016 and March 2017), are progressing with discussions and plans to develop bespoke CPD programmes for SIT’s EIH.</p> <p>Design Council Singapore (Dsg): Dsg recently announced plans to develop a Design Industry Manpower Plan to inform future Sg Design Industry needs. The PD met with the Executive Director of DSG to introduce the current GSA Singapore programmes thereby enhancing awareness of GSA profile and potential to contribute to the Sg Design Industry Manpower Plan. As a result the PD has been invited to be a panel member of the Design Education Panel which is tasked with informing the Design Industry Manpower Plan.</p>	
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					<p>Update August 2017 Development meetings have been held during AY2016-17 both in Glasgow and Singapore. These along with the most recent meetings in June 2017 with SIT and DSg has informed the GSA Singapore Strategic Plan that sets out formally the ambitions for the continued partnership with SIT for the following five years; progress against which will be monitored by regular GSA Singapore development meetings.</p>	
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2	<p>The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design, in conjunction with the Senior Researcher for the School of Design, should develop an explicit research agenda for GSA Singapore and ensure that this links with the School of Design RKEC Strategic Plan.</p>	<p>Develop a mapping exercise of current research activities in GSA Singapore and identifying future research agenda and links with the School of Design RKEC Strategic Plan</p>	<p>AHoS/ SofD Senior Researcher / Programme Director (PD)</p>	<p>During Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>Acting Head of School and Senior Researcher (SofD), are currently working in consultation with the SofD RKEC to finalise the SofD research strategy. The updated strategy will include the research agenda for GSA Singapore.</p> <p>Update March 2017 Ongoing</p> <p>Update August 2017 The Programme Director has been invited to be a member of the School of Design LREC (Local Research Enterprise Committee, formerly RKEC) and GSA Singapore is now a standing item on the agenda. This has helped to identify a number of research strands active in both Singapore and Glasgow and opportunities are currently being explored to maximize on potential research collaborations and knowledge exchange.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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3	<p>The Review Panel recommended that the School of Design reflects on further ways of exploiting the potential for intercultural learning. While recognising that the Overseas Immersion Programme provides a good platform for this, the School should explore other ways of connecting students from GSA Singapore with peers across GSA.</p>	<p>To further explore opportunities for intercultural learning within programme curriculum and across GSA Glasgow and Singapore including the GSA Students Association.</p>	<p>PLs / PD/ AC</p>	<p>During Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>The exploration of opportunities for cross campus intercultural learning is integral to ongoing curriculum development.</p> <p>Programme Leaders will take this forward as a rolling agenda item for programme meetings with academic staff on both Glasgow and Singapore campuses.</p> <p>The Academic Coordinator will explore opportunities with the President of the Students Association (PSA).</p> <p>Update March 2017 The AC and PSA are working together with GSA Sg student reps to develop opportunities for cross campus intercultural learning within the Overseas Immersion Programme and beyond.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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4	<p>The Review Panel recommended that the Programme Teams, in conjunction with the School of Design's VLE champions, should further explore the usage of virtual environments, in particular to consider the holding of asynchronous critiques and developing partnership project briefs between different locations. The Review Panel recommended that this be shared within the School of Design and across the institution in order that the wider GSA might learn from the School's experience.</p>	<p>To explore the usage of the VLE</p>	<p>PLs) / PTs /AC</p>	<p>During Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>Use of the VLE is integral to curriculum developments and cross campus learning and as such is a continuous area of exploration.</p> <p>Projects such as the 'Tenement/HDB' continue to provide optimum opportunities for exploration of the VLE's capacity as a suitable vehicle for cross campus learning.</p> <p>Recent progress has been made with recording lectures on the Glasgow campus and making them accessible through the VLE for Singapore programmes.</p> <p>The Academic Coordinator is working closely with the Blended Learning Coordinator and individual School of Design Augmented Learning with Technology (previously VLE) Champions to further explore opportunities.</p> <p>A review and testing of 6 possible new VLE's has been undertaken at GSA. Singapore staff and students were invited to participate and feed into this process alongside their Glasgow counterparts. It is anticipated that any new VLE would offer greater scope for cross campus and asynchronous learning.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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					<p>Update March 2017 VLE: Testing of 6 potential new VLE's has been completed and the procurement of a preferred VLE is underway. The AC is working with the GSA Blended Learning Coordinator to develop a time line for AY2017/18 rollout and training for Sg staff.</p>	
5	<p>Notwithstanding the considerable work undertaken since the Partnership Review in February 2015, the Review Panel recommended that the Programme Director continued to engage with colleagues at SIT and Temasek Polytechnic to address the outstanding issues with regard to workshop access.</p>	<p>To further explore opportunities to enhance access to workshop and technical facilities at SIT and Temasek Polytechnic.</p>	PD	End of Term 1 Academic Session 2016/17	<p>A meeting was arranged between the Programme Director and SIT Programme Director to discuss access to workshops and technical resources.</p> <p>Outcome: SIT has offered a dedicated space for 'messy making' within the SIT building that our programmes occupy. This was minuted at the December 2016 GSA – SIT Operations Committee.</p>	Yes

6	<p>The Review Panel recommended that the Programme Leaders together with input from the programme team and the Programme Director, should reflect further regarding how the programme curriculum could be enhanced to explicitly address employability.</p>	<p>To develop and implement an action plan to enhance career and employability focus within programme curriculum.</p>	<p>PLs / PD/ PTs</p>	<p>During Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>The development of an action plan is underway with the following initial activities planned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A questionnaire sent to 2015/16 alumni to gain better understanding of graduate destinations and processes/issues gaining employment.</i> • <i>A meeting with SIT dedicated Careers department to develop stronger working relationships.</i> • <i>The development of visiting lecture programme with particular focus on industry.</i> • <i>The development and implementation of new 'live' projects.</i> • <i>The development and implementation of workshops focusing on graduate portfolios, skills and employability.</i> <p>Update March 2017 Alumni Questionnaire: A Graduate Destination Survey for 2015/16 alumni was completed Sept-Oct 2016. The results of which were shared at the December Operations Committee. (appendix 1)</p> <p>Visiting Lecture Programme: A programme of lectures has been launched. Recent lecturers include Theseus Chan, Aditi Kulkarni, Iain Aitchison, Kari Robertson, Anna Murray and Digger Nutter.</p> <p>SIT Careers Department: The PD is working closely with the SIT Careers Department to integrate their services into forthcoming degree shows plans for Industry events.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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					<p>Symposium: Graduate Employability in the Creative Industries: What do Employers Want, And What Does Singapore Need? In partnership with Design Council Singapore, and within Singapore Design Week, GSA Singapore ran an Industry employability focused symposium. More info: http://gsasdw2017.peatix.com/</p> <p>Speakers included: Vincent Chau, Assistant Director Design Singapore Council Chris Godfrey, Global Principal, HBA Residential Jin Kang, VP Experience Design, OCBC Bank Jayce Tham, Chief Businesswoman, CreativesAtWork</p> <p>Live Projects: A series of 'live' projects have been initiated with WY-TO, Fitch, Kwong Wai Shui Hospital, National Gallery Singapore and Pink Dot. Planning for AY 2017/18 will ensure 'live' projects are embedded in timetabling etc.</p>
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7	<p>The Review Panel remained unclear regarding whether there remained a disparity between the contact hours in Singapore and those in Glasgow. If there was a disparity between the campuses, the reasons for this should be set out and the appropriate clarification provided. The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design investigate this further, and report as appropriate.</p>	<p>To commission a mapping exercise.</p>	<p>PD</p>	<p>End of Term Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>The Programme Director has been commissioned to development of a mapping exercise of contact hours on the Singapore Programmes to establish if there is disparity with Glasgow contact hours.</p> <p>The findings will be presented to the Acting Head of School and Programme Leaders for further review and consideration.</p> <p>Update March 2017</p> <p>Contact Hours: The development of the mapping exercise is underway. The Programme Director is working with the Communication Design and Interior Design Teams to review timetables and staffing in order to provide a comprehensive overview of contact hours.</p> <p>Update August 2017</p> <p>The Programme Director has reviewed Singapore programme timetables mapping learning hours and comparing with the data collected by Programme Leaders for the equivalent Communication Design and Interior Design programmes in Glasgow. This evidenced insignificant variance in studio contact hours. There was however evidence of variance in taught hours across Design History & Theory (DH&T) courses and most noticeably in Y3; the additional contact hours were mainly workshops and lectures that staff felt necessary to help 'bridge' gaps</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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					<p>between polytechnic and H.E. levels of study. Academic planning for DH&T AS 2017-18 has resulted in a closer alignment between delivery in Singapore and Glasgow.</p> <p>Many of the 'bridging' workshops and lectures will now be delivered as part of SIT's 'Value Added Programme'; a series of electives offered and funded by SIT which will appear on students' Record of achievement issued by SIT.</p>	
8	<p>The Review Panel recommended that the Acting Head of the School of Design, in conjunction with the Programme Director should reflect on the recruitment targets for GSA Singapore. Subsequently, the Programme Director should engage with the Programme Director for SIT to define and agree targets for entry in 2017/18.</p>	<p>To review and agree on 2017/18 recruitment targets.</p>	AHoS /PD	<p>End of Term 1 Academic Session 2016/17</p>	<p>The Programme Director met with the SIT Programme Director to discuss recruitment targets for 2017/18.</p> <p>Agreement was reached to maintain the AS 2016/17 recruitment targets (Communication Design 70, Interior Design 50) for AS 2017/18. This was minuted at the December 2016 GSA – SIT Operations Committee.</p>	Yes