

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee - Friday 25 May 2018

Programme Approval 2017-18 (School of Fine Art): Update on the Recommendations for the MLitt Art Writing Programme at The Glasgow School of Art

In May 2017, the UPC: Programme Approval Meeting considered and approved a MLitt Art Writing programme. Academic Council recommended the programme to the November 2017 meeting of the University of Glasgow's Academic Standards Committee, which subsequently validated the programme for a period of six years commencing in September 2018 (subject to the completion of a satisfactory Service Teaching Agreement between the two institutions).

The following recommendations were made at the meeting of 10 May 2017, and it was agreed that these should be considered and a report with regard to progress against the recommendations made to the Committee, via Boards of Studies within 12 months.

The following is an extract from the relevant Programme Approval report:

The Programme Leader should report any updates on recommendations in the appropriate comments box and return to Academic Registry following Boards of Studies.

Recommendation 1

The Approval Panel recommended that the programme team continue to develop and explore the collaborative opportunities with School of Visual Art, New York Master of Fine Art programme.

Due to the initial process of recruitment aligned to staff maternity leave and illness this aspect of the recommendations has not at this stage developed further, however, with the staff team now returned to full duties in advance of the programme starting in September we aim to progress discussions with SVA over the coming months to discuss the possibility of an international aspect to the programme and potentially curriculum as well. The initial discussions were extremely positive and will in the future, support the further development of the programme (the international aspect) and also research around Art Writing.

Recommendation 2

The Approval Panel recommended that the Programme Leader should consider timetabling in relation to resources allocation for the programme within the School of Fine Art and with Technical Services and the wider GSA context.

This recommendation is complete: the Programme Leader has developed a full timetable and held discussions in relation to resource as requested. The allocation of resources is fully aligned to the move to Stow and the technical aspects of this move inclusive of all programmes has been discussed and agreed. The programme is resourced in terms of physical location and teaching resources in the same way as the Master of Letters in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) and a new programme under design, the Master of Letters in Art, Society and Culture. The studios and resources will be located on the 5th floor of the new Stow building and the students will have access to the different technical facilities available within the building, as well as other technical and resource areas across

the GSA campus.

Recommendation 3

The Approval Panel recommended that the programme team should carefully consider the planning of the estates provision to ensure the proposed studio ambition for the programme is satisfied. Specifically, the type and nature of these spaces should be given consideration.

This item is complete (as mentioned above) as all of the studio and teaching resource aspects of the programme have been agreed and allocated into the provision of studio and space within the Stow building.

Recommendation 4

The Approval Panel recommended that the programme team investigate minimal amendments to University of Glasgow course documentation in order to provide parity with corresponding GSA documentation. These amendments should be in relation to reasonable adjustments within assessments and teaching times.

The panel noted some discrepancies with the documentation in relation to University of Glasgow courses offered on the proposed programme. The University of Glasgow course specification states that the course is offered in semester 1 or 2 however, in the corresponding GSA documentation, the course is only offered in semester 2. This is due to the fact that the UoG course is a double iteration, offered independently in semester 1 and then again in semester 2, the documentation correctly states that students within GSA will be able to undertake the course in semester 2 as they will be committed to the Research Methods and Methodologies in Practice course, which is run in the School of Fine Art in semester 1. The programme team will initiate discussion around the aspect of 'verbal communication' with colleagues at Glasgow University, as requested by the Head of Student Support, in order to allow for reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities.