



FACULTY OF ART AND DESIGN

 STAFF STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR BA and MA Graphic Design
 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD at 4pm on 9th November 2020

PRESENT: Donna Williams (Chair/Secretary) Gavin Kirby, Phil Thomas, Harry Richmond (staff)
 Cameron Ridgway, MA YR2, Keiran Protheroe MA YR1
 Scott Cameron, Alicia Pagnet YR3
 Emily Jones, Joseff Williams YR2.
 Jac Elsey, Bryleigh Draycott YR1

Agenda Item	Main Discussion Points	Action Points	Timescale
1. Welcome and Apologies / Terms of Ref	Welcomed everyone to the Staff Student Committee Non-attendance – Glenn Sherwood, James Davies. Welcome to the new Course Reps from YR3, YR1 and MA YR1		
2. General Comments from Staff	A thank you to all the students that have been supportive and helpful in keeping on masks, the 2-metre distance and sticking to their bubble groups. We appreciate that this has been a very different start to the Academic year. There has been generosity of patience and		

	lovely to hear the laughter in the studios. The workshops are now up and running and delighted that students are booking in. We have encouraged any student who may be experiencing mental health difficulties to get in touch with staff and our student services support at uwtsd. So far, we have managed to speak to every student and check in. Please look at the Digital Support and Bursaries available. Some great news for Harry who has been selected for the We are delighted to report that Harry Richmond has been selected to exhibit in the prestigious exhibition at the Standpoint Gallery, London. 'Reverting To Type' An International Exhibition showcasing progressive letterpress artwork from around the world, on the theme of 'Protest'. Pleased to report some great job outcomes are coming in from the graduates of 2020 with a UWTSD PR on Patrick Glavee who has secured a job at Apple Creative. It was all a bit hush hush whilst in process, but we can now release this information Only one Graphic Design student has engaged on the Swansea Brand but that seems to be going well. The Track and Trace in the uni systems is going well.		
--	--	--	--

	Hwb have been getting back to students very quickly and have been helpful. We have had good feedback. Staff would like to thank all the students for their patience in the studios and on online lectures as we negotiate new ways of working. Staff would like to thank the course representatives as sometimes it can be tricky to bring up sensitive questions or negative statements from other students which may not reflect their opinions. The staff would like to re-assure the course reps that we all value their contribution and are grateful that they are able to communicate any issues. Positive or negative. If any issues come up, please do not wait for a course committee meeting and contact PM immediately. This is for all reps and students.		
3. Report from MA YR2	There are so many invitations to lecturers / speakers which are not related to their specific discipline.	Staff – explained that the lectures are open to all the master students. It is not compulsory to attend them all, but it is an invitation to engage in all the disciplines offered on the MA. It was agreed that the platform for the talks is not particularly elegant and may a webpage for MA speakers could be arranged.	PM to discuss with PM of Masters.

	Students to arrange group chats to help with collaborations and connecting with each other. Due to current Covid situation, would like a reduction in University Fees.	This comment will be passed further up the chain but at this level, staff cannot comment. Students can also discuss this with their student union.	
4. Report from MA YR1	Would like to have a better connection with students on the year group. Would also like a reduction in student fees.	Emails groups have been sent out and a suggestion of a Zoom Room from staff. This comment will be passed further up the chain but at this level, staff cannot comment. Students can also discuss this with their student union.	
4. Report from YR3	Feel disconnected from Graphic Design Department as third years are in the Advertising rooms on floor 6.	Unfortunately, due to the current social distancing and student bubbles we have had to arrange different room. There is sometimes availability	

		in Graphic Design Floor and PM will send out details as its studio availability opens up. Next Semester all third years are back on the Graphic Design Floor 4. There is also a booking in system to use the Third-year room which is available all week. Pleased to see that students have been using it.	
	Can we have a drop off point at Dynevor for library books. As it is too far to go to SA1 and not convenient.	Message from the Library: This can be raised for consideration potentially, but due to the policies and procedures we have set up to navigate our way safely through the Covid Pandemic we are only presently able to offer this at Y Fforwm Library.	
	Can the Albion Printing Press be moved into the Letterpress Room?	This was suggested a while ago, but it is not possible due	.

		to room size. There may be a suggestion that Letterpress may move to the Printmaking room but that was not seen as a positive move. At present we suggest that students book in for the printmaking as our staff will work out ways to benefit each students' project.	
	After Effects is not running well on some students on laptops. The Digital Bursary is providing laptops that are not powerful to run Design programs.	This issue is being addressed and how this can be resolved. There is a system of connecting remotely onto our studio macs Here is the link https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/onlinelearning/ There are also times that our Mac Suite can be used. However, no third year booked in.	Check again to find if students in the third YR are still having this issue. Particular students can then contact PM for help. Technicians are also looking into this issue to help students.

	Is Design Week happening this academic year? Will there be an opportunity to be the 2021 designer for Design Week?	Staff are in discussions with AD.	
5. Second Year BA Graphic Design	Students are finding the balancing of different projects difficult. Very grateful for the one-to-one specific help offered on projects and finding the interactive online discussions very helpful Students are very busy, but the projects are taking their minds off covid stress.	Staff commented how impressed they were that they were seeing the opposite as two modules are delivered in one day in the studios. There is a step up to YR2 in quantity and expectations of skills requirements. Please do contact PM if students are struggling. There is support , especially in these difficult times. Good news. 😊	

	Finding that the diversity of briefs excellent Some issues with the sexualised content of Contextual Practices in particular the use images used in YR1 and YR2 for Calvin Klein. Could we share mockup sites to save time Would like an opportunity to learn Motion Graphics In second year Students want a reduction in student uni fees and are involved with student's union to discuss.	☺ Discussion with contextual practices lecturers. May also be a good opportunity to bring up these issues when shown as it opens up discussion on Semiotics and to challenge the subject matter presented. Staff open to discussions. Staff in this area will discuss. These sites do change very quickly and get updated. We are in discussions to create a possible workshop to allow students to gain this software skill in second year. Discussions in progress. Staff are not able to comment on this area but will minute the comment for AD.	PM discussed with lecturers. Lecturers happy to discuss with students. PM to discuss with AD
--	---	---	--

	Found the extra help on the common modules helpful after last week's meetings on how to complete the units and explanation of summative deadline requirements.	Good news and we are having small group discussions coming up which will help everyone on their specific social graphic project.	
6. First Years BA Graphic Design Joseff Williams and Emily Jones	Would like a list of all projects that are due. Some students are struggling with the Semiotics section of Contextual Practices. Some students are out of practice of structure and writing essays	All assignment specifications are up on moodle and it would be good for students to arrange their schedules and lists to help with their organisation and time management. This is part of learning professional practice. Information forwarded to CP lecturer. Staff are encouraging students to ask questions as lecturing staff would be able to specifically target those that are struggling. Please do use our study support at uwtsd. Appointments can be booked in and are a great source of support.	

	Students getting competitive in the common modules What time does the uni close?	Nothing wrong with a bit of competition as long as there is learning going on. 😊 Pace yourself in each unit. Dynevor opens at 8am and closes at 9pm each evening on weekdays but please write name in book and remember that you can stay in the area that you have been booked in for the day due to the restrictions in cross overs in space	
--	--	--	--

Next meeting to be confirmed but usually in February 2021