

Student Dean Forum Term 1 21/22: School of Art – CCW			
Date & Time : 23/11/2021 2pm	UAL Staff in Attendance: <i>Sophia Phoca, Dean of Art</i> <i>Samantha Elliott, Associate Dean Student Journey,</i> <i>Roni Brown,</i> <i>DVC Education</i>	Arts SU Officer in Attendance: Georgia Spencer, Welfare Officer	Arts SU Staff Facilitator: Charlie Souter-Phillips
Course Rep in attendance : 16 / out of 55 reps in school (29% turnout)			
Mural Link: https://app.mural.co/t/artsstudentsunion1479/m/artsstudentsunion1479/1637663493862/9a06d7876e06041f23d0c59006164c03ade1ec9c?sender=u4ebbd0dc53659c8de2006384			

Theme: 1 Month Review at UAL

Course reps we're asked to provide feedback from their courses/cohorts on topics centred around the student experience been in their first month back/starting in their studies. - what has worked well for students /positive outcomes.

1. Students experiences of Big Welcome and induction/return to University
2. How are students finding the blended learning model (online/physical teaching)
3. How are students connecting and finding their social community
4. Health & Safety on Campus

We recognise how important the first month/transition to University and study is to students and want to ensure this is a positive experience for everyone.

Positives feedback and successes:

Topic	Feedback from Mural
Big Welcome & Inductions	
Blended Learning Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are very really enjoying the program. They're really enjoying the program, especially the group critiques.
Learning Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very cool to have events at Uni like thought and action, it allows us to discover other students' works, etc.
Health & Safety on Campus	



Room for improvement:

Topic	Feedback from Mural	Suggested Solutions
Big Welcome & Inductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy and paste post it note from Mural *If School Dean has responded to feedback with information, please put summary underneath in yellow • There wasn't a clear campus map - It was quite hard for students to find where the buildings/resources were – (Sam comment) We've got some community building workshops happening across the sites in the run up to the winter break and we heard other forums that students who miss site tours really wanted them. So we've got student ambassadors in place when those workshops are run to do site tours. ACTION SAM • We would like more life and activities in campus. (Sophia comment) We are prioritising that. (Sam comment) it's something we've been working on. We're creating a programme, we have some activities starting today, but it's a gradual process. We're also working with the SU. Feel free to share ideas, email us. ACTION 	
Blended Learning Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult for international students, because of technical issues, and also for onsite students, who find difficult to engage the discussion in front of a screen during lectures • Disbalance in some students doing in-person curation and some doing online within cohort groups • A fear of coming back next year for international students, they feel the difference between being onsite/online can create a huge gap with other students • Very hard to focus on the online learning for students with ADHD • Camberwell FA Drawing course have less chance to access the technical workshop and facilities. • A concern that's come up (MA Curating and Collections) is the lack of in-person engagement. So, the course that was advertised to us, talked a lot about physical hands on curating experience that we would have in person. There's just been a lack of physical engagement when it comes to teaching. We had a session today and some of us found out is that we're all split into groups and half of the groups are getting to do some hands on curating while the other half are not getting to do that and are focusing on online curating and it was expressed that 	

	<p>that may change in later terms that the groups may swap but it wasn't really communicated to us and I think it was just a bit of a shock. (Sophia comment) During the pandemic they tested what online curation and archives could look like, however I understand you might be craving the in-person curating experience, so I'll discuss this with David Dibosa. ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few people are quite angry at the lack of teaching time we have in university. (Sophia comment) We probably need to organize a meeting with you, David Dibosa, and me, and possibly Martin Newth to really unpack this. ACTION • Our studios are incredibly crowded and a booking system means lots of people haven't been able to access them at all or as much as they would like. And those who are in the studios are quite crowded together. People are quite kind of angry about it because they feel that they were <i>promised</i> their own private studio space and what we've actually got are not-very-large rooms, and I think there's like 150 of us sharing them. That's not even with like all of the students here. Yeah, and so we've had to have this booking system implemented where we book a space each week. Some people haven't been able to come in yet. (Sophia comment) I'm aware of this issue. We are setting up a new way of understanding how we inhabit studios. We are employing a new space manager to look at how to manage the studios. And we're also in the process of planning how storage can work for you so that you can store your work. • I'm on the MA Curating and Collections and there's been quite a lot of confusion for our course and our one-to-one sessions. But there's a lot of restraint on one-to-ones, if you book it, you can't change it, and some people have theirs on the 10th of December and our deadlines on 13th December. So, that doesn't give these students enough time or equal opportunities on the course. (Sophia comment) we need an urgent meeting with you all. Course leader just to unpack some of those issues. They're clearly quite a few emerging from 	
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	<p>curating and collections that I actually wasn't aware of. So that's really, really helpful. ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Fine Art) Most people are unfamiliar with the spaces and equipment or anything, and we don't really have any support or whom to go to if we have questions. All we have is our weekly meeting with our tutor where we discuss the collective themes and ideas, but we don't approach anything about our own practice. (Sophia comment) Tutors are fully aware. We need more staff on the ground. We're employing alumni to support you, so I will speak to the programme Director and make sure that you have the one to one support you need. ACTION • (MA Curating and Collections) We got a lot of our assessment information and guidance quite late in the term, so it was really difficult to understand what was required of us and we weren't given a lot of time to prepare. (Sophia comment) We need a meeting with David Dibosa, Martin, yourselves and myself. • (BA Fine Art Drawing Year 2) We don't have enough technical workshops. There aren't many slots, so we usually can't book in. Special interest in Ceramics and Printmaking workshops (Sophia comment) We are aware of this and are trying to address this. Some technicians are offering online workshops. I will speak to Rupert to discuss current offer. • (BA Sculpture) The Ceramics workshop is always overbooked, and as BA Sculpture, we feel that we should have some priority. • It would be very helpful to have in-person classes live-streamed & recorded, so that those who can't attend can still watch the recording; but those who can/want to be in person still can. 	
<p>Learning Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a lack of sense of belonging to the school especially after covid, very hard to get to know new people especially when the students have to work alone • There should be maybe more social events in Chelsea (and not always in CSM) , it's a shame that we barely know each other after 3 years • Maybe more connections with other courses? Like Fine arts/curation? • We're quite an international course and a lot of us made a huge effort to come to London because we want to be engaged, and in a sense, it's been a slight let down that 	

	<p>we haven't had that engagement that we really are craving.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our larger classes are all held online, and we have trouble connecting to our other colleagues during lectures/tutorials. There's a lot of content during the class, and we don't have enough time to discuss the ideas, which is the main idea behind curatorial practices. The online method of learning isn't very efficient for us as it's not a very welcoming environment to share/discuss ideas. (Sam Comment) We're having discussions about how to create spaces for students to have those spaces and conversations online whilst also thinking about how we can support more sessions on site. 	
Health & Safety on Campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a problem with studio spaces; they are overcrowded and it can create a feeling of anxiety amongst students who do not know where to be comfortable to work 	

Action Log for School Dean & Students' Union

Actions for School Dean	Update on Progress	Response to students
Speak to David Dibosa regarding MA Curating and Collections programme (content & communication with students / sense of belonging)	9 th Dec	Martin Newth set up an event on the 9 th of Dec. MA FA and C&C students. More to come in the new year covid permitting.
Chat with students, David Dibosa & Martin Newth about in-person teaching	16 th Dec	This was discussed on the 16 th of December with Course Leader David Dibosa and Programme Director Martin Newth. David Dibosa will contact Reps and set out a weekly agreement/action plan/meeting with students on how to proceed in the



		light of ongoing covid related developments.
Send out information about campus tours to students via Newsletter	student ambassadors have been booked and will support tours at 12pm and 1pm across all of the sites on the 10,11 & 13th,17th Jan.	A' frame with posters will alert students to this in receptions and Course leaders will be emailed and asked to share detail with students at welcome back discussions.
Conversation with course leader (MA Curating & Collections) regarding tutor 121s	As above	See above
Conversation with Martin Newth regarding studio 121 support	Dec 2021 – Forecast 1 budgets released to increase GSA support.	The details of this allocation will be communicated to students in Jan 2022.
Speak to Rupert Norfolk about BA Drawing workshops & booking system / meeting with students	Dec 2021 – Forecast 1 budgeting	CCW has just approved a studio manager role who will be overseeing the studio bookings to enable access to all. The person should be in post in the new year. Y2 discussions in Drawing established that workshops had to be re-scheduled due to lack of attendance. This points to better coordination between staff, students and technicians re: timing of workshops. Across all courses in Year two in fine art: Courses have been allocated more consumables budgets to

		<p>hold a series of making activities led by a combination of academics and technicians where <u>materials will be supplied</u>. This is in recognition of gaps in experience in this cohort due to remote learning last year.</p> <p>Where FA is using a booking system (BA Painting) tutors are working closely to support students and the uptake and use has improved. Students still find it a hassle to have to book, but comments from students have been positive about how the booking system (and the way staff follow up on this on site) make access to space more equitable.</p> <p>Ceramics: Richard Barton is conducting a review of this area. He is proposing to change the staffing structure to enable more booking slots for specific processes and look at how some processes could partially be done in the studios and brought to the workshop for firing (this has been piloted and works well).</p>
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		<p>Studio booking structure in relation to expectations. This years' open days will feature a thorough explanation of how studios are used so that expectations of incoming students can be managed and time can be used more effectively. We continue to monitor/adapt the new model and acknowledge it will take time to refine. On MA Painting we have purchased noise-cancelling headphones and students found working around others distracting.</p>
Actions for Students' Union	Update on Progress	Response to students
Work with Colleges to offer more in-campus activities & communicate them (better)	Dec 21	<p>A call out has gone to staff to fund college events. These are now approved, and will be activated covid permitting.</p> <p>Activities on site, will continue, with an aim to foster confidence with return to sites, and create community and network building opportunities (all sites had an activity such as origami workshop in December)</p> <p>A fund has been made available for courses and</p>



		<p>programmes to deliver out of curriculum events, these activities will take place from January and run until the end of the academic year. A full programme will be shared in January.</p> <p>The free tea and coffee and soup evenings will continue across all sites for January and February</p>

