Cultural Policy Initiatives

Overview of Activities

The academic field of cultural policy is concerned with analyzing the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of public policies that influence the health, strength, and vibrancy of the arts and culture sector. Sustained applied research and education in cultural policy will help to cultivate future leaders in the cultural sector who have the commitment and capacity to advocate for the public value and the public purposes of the arts in our society.

Several new research projects have been launched by CCACP's Associate Director for Cultural Policy, Patricia Dewey. First, a long-term research initiative titled Cultural Development in the Pacific Northwest was begun in 2004. The first exploratory phase of the investigation has culminated in conference papers and an article (in early draft form) focusing on the leadership role of flagship arts organizations in urban cultural development in Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver BC. Preliminary research findings point to a significant need for Capacity Building for Cultural Policy Advocacy, which will be the next step in this long-term project. Additional upcoming research initiatives will include a comparative analysis of Canadian/US cultural policy relative to regional cultural development.

A second major area of research interest is international (comparative) cultural policy, which currently focuses on the European Union and on Canada. The current study of European Union Cultural Policy explores development of a supranational model of cultural policy, addressing a gap in comparative cultural policy scholarship that is based on nation-state models. A research project on Comparative Canadian/US Cultural Policy relative to cultural development will be initiated in the future, and will intersect with the research interest area in cultural development.

In general, the CCACP initiatives in the field of Cultural Policy are starting with exploratory research, leading to multiple publications (Dewey will be reviewed for tenure in 2008-09). A secondary current goal is to establish long-term “fundable” project concepts, cultivate partnerships, and lay the necessary groundwork to develop further teaching, research, and community engagement initiatives in this area.

Main Project Goals and Initial Implementation Timeline

Cultural Development in the Pacific Northwest

2004-2007
Conduct exploratory research on the leadership role of flagship arts organizations in urban cultural development in Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver BC. To date, this research has led to multiple conference presentations and several publications:


2007-2009
Initiate new *Capacity Building for Cultural Policy Advocacy* program, with a focus on state-wide advocacy development in Oregon. The preliminary concept for this initiative includes establishing the following:

- Website development and creation of an online advocacy "tool kit"
- Develop partnerships with the Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Cultural Advocacy Coalition, Oregon Cultural Trust, and Oregon Council for the Humanities
- Work in collaboration with Lane Arts Council to develop a pilot professional development program for cultural sector leaders
- Develop a regional and national network for advancing cultural policy advocacy
- Develop a fundraising plan for this initiative
- Conceptualize further publications on this topic

*European Union Cultural Policy*

2006-2009
Conduct field research on this topic in Europe in fall 2006. Collect data for the first phase of this study, develop professional network, and conceptualize a long-term research agenda on this topic. Begin to explore opportunities for funding future phases of this research. Dewey will teach an Honors College course on this topic (titled "The Cultural Dimension of Contemporary Europe: Fostering Unity in Diversity") in fall 2007. Dewey taught a Freshman Seminar titled "Globalization, Culture and the Arts" in fall 2004 and fall 2005. To date, this research has led to multiple conference presentations as well as several publications:

Dewey, P. "Navigating the EU Cultural Policy Labyrinth." (article in progress)

Dewey, P. *European Union Cultural Policy.* (book project in progress)


Dewey's Additional CCACP Goals, 2006-2009
- In partnership with Doug Blandy, Lori Hager, and the AAA Office of Development, develop a detailed development plan for my research, CCACP infrastructure development, and AAA-wide development collaboration.
- Initiate new online CCACP Occasional Paper Series of academic article-quality publications, serve as Series editor, establish peer review process and review board.
- Continue to integrate CCACP Cultural Policy research initiatives with AAD annual course instruction in Cultural Policy.