

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 29, 2014

TO: Scott Coltrane, Senior Vice President and Provost
Doug Blandy, Senior Vice Provost of Academic Affairs
Barbara Altmann, Senior Vice Provost of Academic Affairs
Frances Bronet, Dean, School of Architecture and Allied Arts
Charles Lachman, Associate Professor & Department Head
Dept. of the History of Art & Architecture
Jill Hartz, Executive Director, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

FROM: Patricia Dewey, Associate Professor and Director,
Arts & Administration Program

RE: Museum Management and Museum Studies
at the University of Oregon

The purpose of this memo is to reinforce the Arts and Administration Program's (AAD) historic and continued commitment to developing and offering graduate-level programs in Museum Management and Museum Studies.

Through the significant work that was undertaken by Rogena Degge, Professor Emerita; Linda Ettinger, Associate Professor Emerita; and Doug Blandy, Professor and UO Senior Vice Provost, the Arts and Administration Program was founded and the Master's degree program in Arts Management was unanimously approved by the State Board of Education in October 1993. When the Master's in Arts Management was approved, Museum Management was one of four areas of concentration that was approved as part of the degree. Ten years later, the University of Oregon approved the interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies that was co-designed by faculty in AAD, Art History, and Anthropology and is administered by the AAD Program with certificate conferral through the School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

As the academic home at the University of Oregon of the museum curricular area for twenty years, museum management and museum studies courses have been developed through the Arts and Administration Program. As the foundational concentration for our Master's degree program in Arts Management, museum management and museum studies continues to be a significant area of focus and investment in our program.

Indeed, for the past twenty years we have maintained a tenure-line faculty member whose area of expertise is museum management and museum studies and we will continue to maintain this line indefinitely.

Many specific museum management/studies courses have been developed through AAD, along with supporting elective courses. Only one of the specific museum studies courses was introduced through AAD in the last six years. All other museum-related courses in our curricular offerings were developed seven or more years ago. A partial list of specific and related courses is below.

Museum Courses offered through AAD

Planning Interpretive Exhibits
Museum Education
Museum Ethics
Museum Theory
The Cultural Museum
Collection Care and Preservation

Related Supporting Courses offered through AAD

Arts Participation and Evaluation
Art in Society
Community Cultural Development
Cultural Administration
Cultural Policy
Cultural Programming
Event Management
Digital Ethnography

Over the past two years, I have been working with AAD TTF and NTTF to both expand our undergraduate offerings and to streamline our graduate curriculum in order to take advantage of the Graduate School's new transcribed "Specializations," with the plan to convert our current concentrations to graduate specializations. As part of this graduate studies realignment, I've also sought to look for ways that our Graduate Certificate in Museum Studies could possibly benefit from faculty expertise in our partner departments and more fully utilize the A&AA resources that may be brought to bear at White Stag.

Please know that I am committed to continued development of museum management / museum studies curriculum in AAD and am happy to report to you that I am in ongoing talks with Dean Bronet to launch a search for a faculty coordinator in museum management/studies with the goal of recruiting a senior faculty member to fill this line. I look forward to meeting with key individuals interested in UO museum studies curricula to discuss their continued collaboration with the Arts and Administration Program and to seek their assistance in recruiting a senior faculty member to continue to advance and build on the great work predecessor faculty have accomplished in museum management/studies at the University of Oregon.