



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

February 7, 2013

MEMO

TO: Kate Wagle, Director of Portland Programs, School of Architecture and Allied Arts

CC: Frances Bronet, Dean, School of Architecture and Allied Arts
Brook Muller, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Architecture and Allied Arts
Renee Irvin, Associate Dean for Finance, School of Architecture and Allied Arts
Laura Vandenburg, Head, Art Department
Charles Lachman, Head, Department of the History of Art and Architecture
Phaedra Livingstone, Museum Studies Coordinator, Arts & Administration Program

FROM: Patricia Dewey, Director, Arts & Administration Program

RE: AAD Support & Development of Portland Programs

As the Arts & Administration Program embarks on comprehensive curricular development at the undergraduate level and as we begin the strategic planning process to conceptualize and develop academic programs in Portland, we have had to scrutinize and look closely at the delivery of all of our current academic programs and assess our areas of strategic investment on all levels.

At this time, I have made the decision as program director to re-focus our current strategic investment in Portland and will not be allocating funding support for White Box in academic year 2013-2014. While I understand and appreciate the significant contribution the White Box makes to the mission of A&AA in Portland, my decision is based on the following:

To be truly sustainable the White Box requires significant financial support from more than AAD and the Dean's office.

To be academically relevant the White Box requires the integration of curricular components that enliven its activities and connect it to the deeper academic and community conversation occurring in our disciplines.

To be professionally feasible it needs professional staff to undertake the work of a professional academic visual laboratory where students and recent graduates can be mentored. It will not be sustainable, relevant and the visual laboratory we envision if there is only a single post-grad fellow responsible of all aspects of programming and operations.

ARTS AND ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

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The Arts & Administration Program is deeply committed to developing academic programs in Portland and is eager to contribute to the future success of the White Box. At this time, we believe that the best way for us to do that is to continue being part of the conversation that is underway regarding the development of academic programs in Museum Studies/Curatorial Practice in both Eugene and Portland. We look forward to bringing this to fruition and believe that the White Box will be a significant and necessary component to those programs once established.

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