**Minutes**

**School of Art**

**Meeting**

**Date**

Wednesday 8 April 2009

**Time**

11.00am

**Location**

28.4 Union Boardroom

**Attendees**

1. **Attendees and apologies**

   (Chair) Prof Robert Baines A/P Linda Williams Geoff Hogg A/P David Thomas Matthew Watts Dr Philip Samartzis Mark Edgoose Rhett D’Costa, Professor Mark Minchinton

**Apologies**

Prof Elizabeth Grierson Michelle Strange Linda Erceg. Away - A/P Peter Ellis A.P Lesley Duxbury A/P Terry Batt A/P Kevin White Godwin Bradbeer

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<th>Discussion/Outcomes</th>
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<td><strong>Previous Minutes</strong></td>
<td>Minutes approved by Linda Williams, seconded by David Thomas</td>
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| **New Business** | **2. Adjunct Professors**

Proposal for two Adjunct Professors endorsed the recommendation of the two Adjunct Professors Dr Martin Comte and Dr Mark Williams. | HOS to send paperwork to PVC, DSC |
| | **3. SOA Workplan**

It is essential that Executive members familiarise themselves with the SOA Workplan. Particular attention should be paid to the Executive Summary which incorporates:

1. **Purpose and Direction**
   - Mission:
   - Vision
   - Values
   - The 7 Key points under The School of Art will:
2. **Major Challenges**
3. **Emerging priorities for the School (TO 2010)**

Mark Minchinton recommended that in future versions of the SOA workplan that Aboriginal and Torres Strait education and research should be included in the vision of the school (under the mission). | All Executive members Mark Minchinton to speak to HOS |
| | **4. Action Plan –**

The Action Plan has been sent to the PVC, Professor Colin Fudge. | |
It was noted that there was still reference to 2D and 3D groups/precincts pgs 13, 17 and 18. Recommendation that this terminology is removed from Action Plan.

### 5. Key Elements Project

This paper was tabled. It has been endorsed by the PVC Design and Context and to proceed to next stage of consultation within the School of Art.

Points arising from discussion:

- Use of the word clusters was raised- this word is already used (research clusters). Robert Baines

- Linda Williams suggested that this project has arisen partly due to budget problems and also due to unresolved issues between Media Arts and Fine Art.

- Rhett D'Costa thought that the reference to the Accommodation brief was in regards to the physical rather than pedagogy and seems a form of validation for this proposed change.

- Robert Baines stated that it appears that in this document the Accommodation brief is continually referred to as validating this major change: **KEY ELEMENTS PROJECT**.

- David Thomas stated that diversity and hybridity are not the equivalence of quality, neither is specialisation. We need to be wary of assumptions that underpin the language we use. We have not accepted all recommendations of the review. We have not accepted all the recommendations of the review. A discussion needs to be on why we accept hybridity.

- Geoff Hogg recommended strengthening specialisations as a basis for cross disciplinary practice where hybridity can benefit from informed specialist knowledge.

- Philip Samartzis asked what the rationale for putting Fine Art Photography under the cluster Art and Time.

- Mark Edgoose noted that the structure of clusters assumed pedagogical commonalities between these areas, potentially excluding other connections and flexibility with other studio areas

- Geoff Hogg recommended that Galleries should sit with the Art and Public Engagement group as they are the key interface between the School of Art and Public Art and recommended that Galleries staff
be invited to a School Executive.

Rhett D’Costa, David Thomas and Linda Williams recommended that Galleries should sit with the Centre for Contemporary Ideas with its connections to the AIR program, visiting scholars and Forum activities that come under the centre for ideas and that all these areas would have a strong public interface.

David Thomas recommended that other areas of the School should have an input into the document. It became unclear whether the document was talking about BP201 or about PG areas and the implications for teaching and research in other areas.

Linda Williams recommended that Research Clusters should have some pathway to working with key elements. But that it was unclear what the relationship between undergraduate and postgraduate were in key elements since only art and public engagement had postgraduate courses.

Rhett D’Costa questioned the term Public Engagement (Art and Public Engagement). Does this mean that the other clusters don’t have public engagement?

Mark Edgoose questioned use of word manager (studio managers). Maybe studio specialist would be a more appropriate term.

Rhett D’Costa questioned why Art and Public Engagement have 2 separate coordinators and the other clusters don’t.

Matthew Watts re-iterated the point that it in part resembles the old Media Arts model. If so, it would be worth looking at the reasons why Media Arts was originally broken up.

In regards to course rationalistion, Mark Edgoose stated that the School should not lose specialisation in favour of hybrid courses.

Robert Baines stated that the document does not identify that the School of Art is a centre of excellence with a specialist focus. Students onshore and certainly from overseas are drawn to its specialist focus.

The Executive agreed unanimously that we need to retain specialisation as well as developing hybrid courses and enhancing interdisciplinarity. Interdisciplinarity should be focused on in alternative studio courses and electives. Studio and Theory courses need to retain specialisation while also developing hybridity in some courses.

It was requested that there needs to be clarification of who program
coordinators report to.

Mark Minchinton and Linda Williams requested further clarification with the term *postgraduate* and its placement within the undergraduate key elements – which areas does this refer to?

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| **Next Meeting** | Wednesday 6 May 2008  
3.00pm to 5.00pm  
Union Boardroom Bldg 28, Level 4 |