



College of Arts and Letters
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**THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
April 12, 2022**

ATTENDANCE

Deans: *Dean:* Sarah Mustillo; *Associate Deans:* James Brockmole, Mary Flannery, Ernest Morrell, Mike Pries, Michael Schreffler; *Assistant Deans:* Maureen Dawson, Mary O'Callaghan, Nicholas Russo (Director of Advising)

Chairpersons and Directors: Tobias Boes, Margot Fassler, Luca Grillo, Elisabeth Köll, Geoffrey Layman, Charles Leavitt, James Lundberg, Lauren Lundy, Tim Matovina, Sarah McKibben, Alison Rice, Mark Schurr, Eric Sims, Jeffrey Speaks, Tom Stapleford, Xiashan Yang

Elected Faculty: Ann Astell, Christopher Chowrimootoo, Tarryn Chun, Kiera Duffy, David Gibson, Barbara Green, Alexander Martin, Elizabeth McClintock, Erin McDonnell, Todd Walatka, Sophie White

Undergraduate Student: Noelle Dana

Regularly Invited Guests, Observers, and Resource People: Alessia Blad (*Center for Languages and Cultures*), Theodore Cachey (*Center for Italian Studies and the Devers Program in Dante Studies*), Kate Garry (*Office of Communications*), Robert Goulding (*Reilly Center and HPS*), Margaret Meserve (*Glynn Family Honors Program*), Matt Zyniewicz (*Dean's Office*)

Guest: Marius Hauknes (*Department of Art, Art History and Design*)

Excused: Pedro Aguilera-Mellado, Gail Bederman, Cindy Bergaman, Tatiana Botero, Tom Burman, William Carbonaro, Noreen Deane-Moran, Kirk Doran, Julia Downing, Darlene Hampton, Berthold Hoeckner, Michelle Karnes, Laura Knoppers, Stephen Lancaster, Amy Langenkamp, David Lantigua, Charles Leavitt, James Lundberg, Lauren Lundy, Ma Congcong, Elena Mangione-Lora, Collin Meissner, Christopher Miller, Janeala Morsby, Andrew Radde-Gallwitz, Jason Ruiz, Siiri Scott, Roy Scranton, Scott Shim, Jeff Spoonhower, Joseph Stanfiel, Nicholas The, Pamela Wojcik

Dean Sarah Mustillo convened the meeting at 3:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

S. Mustillo asked for any amendments to the College Council minutes. The Council approved the minutes without corrections.

COLLEGE BUSINESS

Graduate Minor in Visual Material Culture

S. Mustillo recognized Associate Dean Michael Schreffler and Marius Hauknes (*Arts, Art History and Design*) who presented salient aspects of the proposal for a Graduate Minor in Visual Material Culture. The other co-author of the proposal, Tatiana Botero (*Department of Romance Languages and Literatures*) could not attend the meeting. M. Schreffler noted that former Associate Dean of the Arts Peter Holland previously reviewed the proposal and offered comment. M. Schreffler, M. Hauknes and T. Botero met with colleagues in the Department of Film, Television and Theatre (FTT) to learn more about the graduate minor in FTT, gleaning insights into its structure. They also spoke with Laura Carlson (*Vice President and Associate Provost, Dean of the Graduate School*). M. Hauknes stated that the minor seeks to complement the work of PhD, MFA, and MA programs across the College by providing research experience in the study of art, architecture, and material culture in a global perspective. M. Hauknes noted some highlights of the proposal. He offered more extended reflections on the program requirements. The new minor will have 5-10 students at any given time.

The Department developed the new minor because, through feedback from a survey in 2021, graduate students requested them to do so, to deepen graduate students' understanding of art history and how to use art in the classroom, based on a survey last year. The Department recognized two themes in the feedback from the survey. Graduate students wanted to learn how to incorporate art history into their own projects, and they wanted to be able to add such a minor to their academic portfolios to be more competitive on the job market. The minor will offer courses that will cover a broad temporal and geographic span and objects in a wide array of media (e.g., stone, paper, paint, ink, canvas, metal, glass, plastic). The research methods will intersect with but will be distinct from other disciplines, such as film or digital media studies.

S. Mustillo opened the floor for questions.

Associate Dean James Brockmole wondered why graduate students were required to write an essay for admission into the minor. M. Hauknes observed that presumably the essay would stem from a paper or bibliography from their course work.

Luca Grillo (*Department of Classics*) welcomed the minor, observing that interdisciplinary programs will be very helpful for graduate students, given the current job market. He noted that in the summary of the minor in the proposal mentions the interdisciplinary aspects and asked if the minor program will allow for a broad array of faculty to offer courses. M. Hauknes suggested that there are some faculty outside of the Department of Art, Art History and Design who could teach such courses, Robin Jensen for example. The School of Architecture also recently hired a new art historian that could contribute courses. M. Hauknes underscored his efforts to broaden the pool of eligible faculty.

Erin McDonnell (*Department of Sociology*) wondered if the course offerings in the School of Architecture would compete with the course offerings in the new minor. M. Hauknes agreed that the School of Architecture might wonder if the minor is compatible with the School's courses. He stated that the School would have to approve the students taking the minor, while also recalling that many Architecture students already enroll in many art history courses that the Department teaches.

Sophie White (*Department of American Studies*) noted that there are other specialists who teach material culture, yet material culture was not prominent in the proposal. It was missing as a focus with

its distinct types of methodology. She asked why the proposal combines visual with material. Why not focus only on visual culture? M. Hauknes replied that the combination of visual and material culture does a better job at describing art history, the breadth of kinds of objects investigated now. The title of the proposal is representative of the courses currently offered.

Margot Fassler (*Director of Sacred Music*) observed that about half of the medievalists in the Medieval Institute study material culture in MI. Material culture and study of manuscripts characterizes Notre Dame's Medieval Institute. As a friendly amendment to the proposal, S. Mustillo suggested that one course outside of the Department could be approved.

Mark Schurr (*Chairperson, Department of Anthropology*) indicated that the combination of visual and material cultures in the title well suits the work of graduate Anthropology students.

S. Mustillo called for a vote to approve the proposal for a new Graduate Minor in Visual and Material Culture.

The proposal was unanimously approved.

Proposal for International Economics CIP code change

S. Mustillo asked Associate Dean Mary Flannery to discuss the Department of Education's Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) for international economics programs. M. Flannery described how the international economics programs should also be recognized with a STEM designation as its core is the same as the Economics major which has previously been designated as STEM. It is important for international students who want to stay in the US and work. International students can stay and work in the US for one year on non-STEM majors; whereas, if pursuing a STEM major, they can stay and work in the US for two years. The College would like to pursue such a designation for international students to let them work in the US for an extra year.

S. Mustillo called for a vote to pass the proposal for the international economics programs to be recognized with a STEM designation.

The proposal was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

S. Mustillo adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew C. Zyniewicz
Dean's Executive Administrator