



University of Toronto Quality Assurance Process (UTQAP) Cyclical Review: Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan

Program(s) Reviewed:	History of Art, B.A. (Hons.): Spec, Maj, Min History of Art, M.A., Ph.D.
Division/Unit Reviewed:	Department of the History of Art
Commissioning Officer:	Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science
Reviewers (Name, Affiliation):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Frederick Asher, Professor Emeritus, Department of Art History, University of Minnesota 2. Dr. Jeffrey Chipps Smith, Kay Fortson Chair in European Art, Department of Art and Art History, University of Texas, Austin 3. Dr. Dietrich Neumann, Professor of History of Art and Architecture, Professor of Urban Studies, Professor of Italian Studies, Director of Urban Studies, Dept. of the History of Art and Architecture, Brown University
Date of Review Visit:	October 20–21, 2015
Date Reported to AP&P:	March 30, 2016

Unless otherwise noted, all bulleted comments apply to all programs reviewed.

1 Outcome

The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.

2 Significant Program Strengths

- Highly selective Ph.D. program, considered the best in Canada
- Exceptional time-to-completion of five years for Ph.D. students
- Unique undergraduate conference organized by students each year

- Broad, encyclopaedic coverage of artistic fields and epochs in courses offered
- First-rate, very productive, internationally-recognized faculty

3 Opportunities for Program Enhancement

The reviewers recommended that the following be considered:

- Developing experiential learning, international, and research opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students
- Addressing the quality, structure, and delivery of the M.A. program
- Better coordinating advising and support for undergraduate students between the colleges and the department
- Fostering more of a sense of community and increasing communication with graduate students
- Revisiting the funding structure for Ph.D. students to better reflect students' trajectories through the program
- Improving facilities to better support program delivery

4 Implementation Plan

The Dean undertook in consultation with the Department to support the following changes:

- Immediate Term (6 months)
 - Developing experiential learning, international, and research opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students
 - The Department has started to liaise with the Centre for International Experience to create an information session tailored to the concerns of art history undergraduates. This session will include the participation of the Department's undergraduate coordinator.
 - Fostering more of a sense of community and increasing communication with graduate students
 - The Department will consult with faculty, staff and graduate students to review the current communication processes and prepare a plan on how to improve communication with students on departmental matters that concern them.
 - The Department will address opportunities for improving student morale and improvement of camaraderie through the introduction of peer mentoring (the matching of an M.A. student with a Ph.D. student).
 - Revisiting the funding structure for Ph.D. students to better reflect students' trajectories through the program
 - The Department, with the guidance of the FAS Dean's Office, will review the current funding structure to better understand if changes can be made to better assist students as they progress through the program.
 - Improving facilities to better support program delivery
 - The Department is working with the Office of Infrastructure Planning to present options that will improve the current space.

- Medium Term (1-2 years)
 - Developing experiential learning, international, and research opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students
 - The Department has started discussions with various institutions such as the Royal Ontario Museum to formalize relationships in the hopes of creating internships for students. The Department will continue to work to secure a more formal model with other potential institutions.
 - The Department will communicate to graduate students the opportunities that are currently available to them, while also discussing potential new experiential learning and research opportunities.
 - Addressing the quality, structure, and delivery of the M.A. program
 - The Chair will consult with faculty and students to discuss the current structure and delivery of the program with the aim of revising the curriculum and program requirements, as necessary.
 - Better coordinating advising and support for undergraduate students between the colleges and the department
 - The Undergraduate Office, in consultation with the Chair and the Colleges, will review the current access afforded students seeking advice from the Department to better align them with the expectations of the students.

The Dean's Office will follow up annually with the unit to assess progress.

5 Executive Summary

The reviewers identified the programs' strengths as the Ph.D. program's position as the best in Canada; the exceptional time-to-completion of five years for Ph.D. students; the unique undergraduate conference organized by students each year; the broad, encyclopaedic coverage of artistic fields and epochs in courses offered; and the first-rate, very productive, internationally-recognized faculty. The reviewers recommended that the following issues be addressed: developing experiential learning, international, and research opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students; addressing the quality, structure, and delivery of the M.A. program; better coordinating advising and support for undergraduate students between the colleges and the department; fostering more of a sense of community and increasing communication with graduate students; revisiting the funding structure for Ph.D. students to better reflect students' trajectories through the program; and improving facilities to better support program delivery. The Department will consult with faculty, staff and graduate students to review the current communication processes and prepare a plan on how to improve communication with students on departmental matters that concern them. The Chair will consult with faculty and students to discuss the current structure and delivery of the M.A. program with the aim of revising the curriculum and program requirements, as necessary. The Department is working with the Office of Infrastructure Planning to present options that will improve the current space. The Department has started to liaise with the Centre for International Experience to create an information session tailored to the concerns of art history undergraduates, and it will work with external organizations to formalize internship opportunities. The Committee on Academic Policy and Programs (AP&P) concluded that the Decanal response adequately addressed the review recommendations.