

Student Dean Forum Term: CSM C School, Term 1, 2024-25			
Date & Time: 04/12/24 14:00-15:00	UAL Staff: Jayne Knowles	Arts SU Officer: Charmiane Chikiwa	Arts SU Staff: Eleanor Smith
Number of students in attendance: 16			

### **Action Log for School Dean and Students' Union**

<b>Actions for School Dean</b>	<b>Update on Progress</b>	<b>Response to students</b>
Dean to look into the disparity between cost of study (£50 fee for compulsory interpretation module) on BA Costume interpretation and design pathways.		
Dean to check when the spray room will be available for student use.		
Dean will follow-up with staff on whether there is an expectations for students to do making over the Christmas break.		
<b>Actions for Students' Union</b>	<b>Update on Progress</b>	<b>Response to students</b>
CCW Officer to check with estates when the second religious room will be available.		

### **Minutes**

#### **Discussion points submitted by Deans**

#### **Welcome**

- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Interpretation Pathway
  - o Reps share that they find the opening unit is too high a workload for 5 weeks. Students think there is a disparity with the design pathway.
  - o Lots of students did not finish their piece for the tailoring unit. Reps highlight this is due to only having one session a week and not enough contact time. Reps highlight that contact time is the main issue
  - o Dean: acknowledges these concerns.

- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Design Pathway
  - Reps say that students feel they are not developing enough technical skills.
  - Reps suggest design pathway students have the opportunity to sign up for technical skills sessions with interpretation pathway students.
  - Reps suggest at least one technical session a month.
  - Students find the 5 week unit before the collaborative project helpful.
- MA Theatre and Performance Design
  - Students enjoyed welcome and found induction workshops positive.
  - Reps share positive feedback from students about the opportunity to learn outside of their discipline.
  - Reps would like more focus on the practical basics of theatre making.
- MA Costume
  - Reps say students should receive library induction earlier.
  - Students would like more studio space. Reps suggest an online room booking system would be useful. Current paper system is not working.
- BA Costume: Yr 1
  - Positive feedback from students about the collaborative project on unit 1. Supports students to become used to industry.

### **Structure of Unit 1**

- MA Costume
  - Students would like more collaboration opportunities.
- BA Technical Arts: Yr 2
  - Reps say students feel that five weeks is enough for the first unit in 2<sup>nd</sup> year.
  - Reps recognise that an extended Unit 1 could be positive for 1<sup>st</sup> years.

### **Discussion points submitted by Reps**

#### **Facilities, Equipment and Cost of Materials**

- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Interpretation Pathway
  - Cost of study is high.
  - Rep says cost for technical skills should be included in course fees. Highlights that there is a £50 fee for cost of materials for a compulsory unit and there is not this cost on the design pathway.
  - **Action: Dean will follow-up and look into this.**
  - Rep says students find that materials provided vary in quality.
  - Access to fabric has changed and students can now only access with a technician- this is not as accessible for students. Reps suggest a check-in and out system for materials.
- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Interpretation Pathway
  - Reps say students would like budgets to be confirmed earlier.

- Budget can be an issue in collaborative projects.
- BA Costume: Yr 3
  - Rep says students did not get enough information in advance about what projects would be on offer.
  - Students wanted to save money and do research in advance of projects over the summer.
- BA Costume: Yr 1
  - Reps say sustainability encouraged on the course and students make use of free and second-hand fabrics.
  - Primary making period is over the Christmas break meaning that not all students have access to sewing machines.
  - Reps suggest research and design periods should be over the Christmas break instead.
- Dean
  - Updates: a spray booth will be ready for students to use soon. **Action: Dean will check when it will be ready.**
  - Dean acknowledges the challenges of costs of study. Highlights that CCW is upfront that different disciplines have differing costs of study.

### **Guest Lectures and Industry Involvement**

- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Design Pathway
  - Reps say guest lecturers have been amazing and inspiring. They are an important part of the course and would like to have more.
  - Students prefer in-person guest lectures
- BA Costume: Yr 2 – Interpretation Pathway
  - Reps say there has been a decrease in guest lectures.
- BA Technical Arts
  - Reps say it would be useful to be able to get in contact with guest lecturers after the lecture to ask questions.
  - There has been a good amount of guest lectures and industry involvement on the course.
  - Reps suggest there should be guest lectures from recent Wimbledon alumni.
- BA Costume
  - Students would like to learn more about how to network and promote themselves.
  - Dean: highlights that 1<sup>st</sup> years have a brand new ‘Professional Futures’ unit to address this.
  - CR: Yr 2 and Yr 3 ask whether it would be possible for them to join some of these Yr 1 sessions.
  - CCW Officer: highlights that UAL offers career and employability support.
  - Reps say they would like career support specific to their course.

## **UAL AI Policy**

- BA Technical Arts
  - Rep says UAL AI policy must be clearer. The policy contradicts itself in places.
  - UAL should be lobbying for increased protections against AI rather than teaching AI use.
  - UAL should clarify that student work will not be used for AI.
  - Dean: acknowledges that the policy is unclear.
  - Reps say it would be useful for students to be taught about UAL policies including AI, sustainability and social justice.

## **Campus Opening Times**

- BA Technical Arts
  - Reps say students would find it helpful for campus to be open for a few days over the Christmas break. Rep highlights that projects are physically large and not possible to transport off campus.
  - Dean: UAL position is that there is not access to studios or workshops outside of term time. Highlights that the library is open for students to work on clean practical work in this space.
  - Dean: rational is about fairness, highlighting that some students go home internationally or work over the break. Students are only expected to do making during term time.
- Student across courses highlight that a expectation to do making over the break does exist.
  - Action: Dean to follow-up on this.

## **Any other business**

- Religious rooms are great but there is only one room and there is more needed.
  - Dean: highlights that there is a second quiet room next to the SU coming.
  - Action: CCW Officer to check with estates when the second religious room will be available.