

Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC)

*University Curriculum Forum*

Undergraduate Program Review Report: Department of Art

*November 14, 2009*

The Art Department, comprised of Art Education, Art History and Studio Art, submitted a self-study report to UCF on November 4, 2009. The self-study covered Standards 1-9 of the Academic Program Review document. The Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC) reviewed all submitted materials and met with Dr. Rachael Vaters-Carr and Dr. Jeffrey Slomba, the Art Department's assessment coordinators, for discussion of the self-study report on November 12, 2009.

PRAC commends the work done by the Art Department and has made the following evaluation of Standards 1-9:

**Standard 1:** The department/program's mission supports the University's mission

Met

The mission of three programs in the Art Department (Art Education, Art History and Studio Art) is articulate and comprehensive, and is aligned with the University's mission of academic excellence, access, social justice and service for the public good. The report identifies specific examples of the Department's support of the University's mission.

**Standard 2:** The department/program has clearly stated program goals and objectives

Met

The Art Department identified eight program goals and objectives stating what the program intends to accomplish in terms of its mission and student learning. An example of a program goal identified is to "foster students' creative drive through experiences in art."

**Standard 3:** The department/program has clearly stated program -level expected student outcomes and methods for measurement

Met

The Art Department has identified specific student learning outcomes for each of its three programs and has identified **direct** methods for assessing these student learning outcomes. There are three program outcomes (per NCATE) for Art Education, nine learning outcomes for Art History and 11 learning outcomes for Studio Art (which encompasses concentrations in Ceramics, Graphic Design, Jewelry/Metals, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture and Studio Art). Strategies for Independent and periodic review of student material are outlined in the self-study. PRAC made recommendations for closer alignment between learning goals and measurements of student learning within each program in the Art Department.

**Standard 4:** The department/program actively uses data about student learning to improve its programs

Met

The Art Department has articulated a plan to actively use student performance data to improve its programs. Some of these plans include an annual assessment meeting to review data collected as part of standard 3 (including a senior capstone experiences, e.g., a senior exhibition course), and to conduct a sophomore, junior and senior review.

**Standard 5a:** Evidence of quality instruction

Met

Syllabi, summaries of student evaluation forms, DEC reviews and study surveys are used by the Art Department as evidence of quality instruction. PRAC recommended that the Art Department show the alignment between assignments in the course syllabi and the program goals and program learning outcomes in their next self-study.

**Standard 5b:** Evidence of Teaching effectiveness

Met

A description was provided of how student performance in capstone courses will serve to inform the Art Department about teaching effectiveness.

**Standard 6:** The department provides evidence of a coherent and current program

Met

The Art Department described mechanisms to oversee program coherence. Additionally, programs are kept current through a vital Department Curriculum Committee. Plans to implement a foundations program to prepare students for higher level courses in the program are in place.

**Standard 6a:** The Department clearly describes the relationship between graduate and undergraduate programs

Met

**Standard 7:** Appropriate number of qualified faculty, students, and staff

Met

The Art Department identified themselves as a comprehensive and vigorous department. Faculty represent diverse backgrounds and expertise. Documentation of student enrollment was provided; however, questions of accuracy of data at the university level were raised. PRAC recommended

investigating and then instituting more accurate mechanisms for tracking student enrollment. Support staff and facilities support were identified as major concerns. Lack of adequate facilities support was identified as a health and safety concern.

**Standard 8:** The Department provides high quality student advisement and maintains adequate tracking procedures of its students

Met

**Standard 8a:** Undergraduate Program Direction

Met

**Standard 9:** Department offers appropriate number of courses and sections to meet the needs of students

Met

Data provided by OMIR were used to address this standard; however, some concern was expressed about the accuracy of this information. PRAC recommended investigating alternative methods for collecting this information.

\*Because the Art Department had only 3 semesters to conduct a self-study of standards 1-9, PRAC accepted *plans* for meeting standards in addition to evidence of implementation. Thus, for some standards, a judgment of “met” was given when sufficient plans were in place to meet the particular standard. As departments/programs have more semesters to accomplish this self-study, more concrete evidence will be needed in order to have the standard “met.”

### **Summary**

The Program Review and Assessment Committee appreciates the work the Art Department, comprised of Art Education, Art History and Studio Art, and Dr. Rachael Vaters-Carr and Dr. Jeffrey Slomba, department assessment coordinators, have done so far in the preparation and presentation of the self-study report, and has evaluated standards 1-9 as “met.” PRAC recommends to the University Curriculum Forum that Continuing Approval be given to the Art Department (and its three programs). In doing so, UCF understands that Standard 1- 9 have been met.