

IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed: Proposal for Herron School of Art MFA track on Visual Art and Public Life

Summary of Proposal:

Goal of the new MFA Visual Art and Public Life track in Photography and Intermedia is to offer a systematic set of courses for students who wish to pursue careers in photography and intermedia art forms such as video, sound art, and performance. The new track will offer an alternative visual art option for students that will complement the School's MFA offerings in furniture design, printmaking, and sculpture.

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?

The goals of offering another track to complement existing tracks within the MFA in Visual Art and Public Life are clear. The proposal also outlines how the creation of this specific track complements the urban mission of the IUPUI campus and will allow the program to attract students.

2. Is the program academically sound?

Yes, the proposal outlines how the new track offers coursework which fall well within NASAD accreditation guidelines. The program contains the appropriate number of graduate studio coursework hours and the level of the coursework is appropriate to the graduate degree.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?

The proposal indicates that existing tenure-track and part-time faculty resources are available for this new track. However, the proposal is unclear as to how the existing faculty resources will be reallocated as enrollment in the track grows. Additional clarification of the faculty resources necessary for the offering of this track would be helpful. In particular, are existing courses being used for this degree or will additional sections be necessary? If the latter, will faculty be reallocated from another area that has excess capacity, or will faculty be hired on an overload basis?

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?

The proposal argues that the track in Photography & Intermedia will complement Herron's other existing MFA in Visual Art and Public Life tracks. The new track is also differentiated from the MFA track offered on the IU Bloomington campus so that direct competition is not expected.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal...

I have a favorable view of this proposal and would be included to vote for it. However, I would like to see clarification of the resources needed to offer the courses within this new track.