John Baldacchino Presentation
Thank you all for being here.

One of the most important things for the Arts Institute are our affiliates. As you know the Arts Institute is now a division. I’ve learned that there is no simple definition of a division, but I report to the Provost. We do continue to work closely with the School of Education for curricular matters. The Arts Institute is a place where all the arts come together and we’re working to articulate how these relationships work. We work with 3 departments in School of Education, 3 departments in L&S and 1 in SoHE.

One of the first things I learned about was governance. I learned that it has been modified over the years, but is not effective in its current form. I’m working with my staff to identify the changes that need to be made to our governance. Our current structure is modeled after the Nelson Institute, but further investigation has shown that we should function more like the International Division. My staff and I are consulting with various parties and are working to update our governance documents. We will share more of these changes after the new year.

The idea of this meeting was to give you a possible notion of how the Arts Division will work and engage with different areas, and where we can support you in the work that you are doing. We are looking for possibilities to work together and maximize the benefits of the arts; look at what brings us together and where we are diverse. I have been in discussion with many people – affiliates, chairs, provost’s office, and other campus administration.

The diagram is a first stab at how the Arts Division will be organized.
The Arts Division will be focused on five objectives
  1. Do research (Arts Research/Creative Scholarship)
  2. Open opportunities (Arts Pedagogy & Integrated Arts)
  3. Bridge communities (Arts in the Community)
  4. Make connections (Arts, Leadership, Innovation)
  5. Promote diversity (Global Arts)

Think of these as shoeboxes where we put the work we do; some boxes are empty at the moment and some encompass the work we are already doing. These topics and themes are not new – they are based on conversations and the priorities of the campus.

Creative Scholarship, Arts Pedagogy, and Arts in the Community already exist in various forms and we will work on growing Arts, Leadership, Innovation and Global Arts in the future (2018/2019).

An example of how we can work together is the “Do research” objective – lots of us are interested in this, but could do more, such as apply for funds internally and outside. This is hard to do on your own, but if we group together, we can do more.

Most people associate us with the Arts in Community area because of our festivals and other outreach. I would like to engage more with universities that I have contact with. Let me know who your contacts are so we can also work to expand the Global Arts area.
The goal is for affiliates to work around these themes, and perhaps even lead these areas. I understand that at this point it might seem vague, but I want affiliates to take ownership of these various objectives. Please let me know if you feel anything is missing.

We are present in the bigger university picture. I sit on the Deans’ Council, so I can bring arts departments’ issues to the deans’ level conversation.

**QUESTIONS**

**Q:** Classical music is huge in China and School of Music has interest in going there to recruit. Do others have experience with recruiting in China?

**A:** Suggest working with VISP in Division of Continuing Studies and Wisconsin China Initiative.

**Q:** If we are interested in working on one of these objectives, how will this work? Online forum? How do we get these groups together?

**A:** If we find that there is consensus on this kind of structure, we could have committees/clusters/etc.; there would be an identifiable person you could go to. This infrastructure still needs to be created. We want your input on how to go about it.

**Q:** Decisions about where the resources go for different projects gets political. What have you been thinking/talking about in terms of distribution of energy and resources?

**A:** Regarding donors, we will not have a board of visitors, we are not taking any gifts away from anyone. We have helped raise funds for departments. If you work with us on getting external or internal funding, those involved would be able to include the cost of a buyout or other related expenses into the grant. We would use funds to seed further requests.

**Q:** If a group of people wanted to get together to look for an off-campus, multi-purpose space for exhibitions and performance, could the Arts Institute spearhead that? {Bridge Communities}

**A:** Yes, we are talking about this and we want to include departments more in what we’re already doing.

**Q:** How do we find out who the other affiliates are and what their areas of interest are?

**A:** This already exists on our website but we can look into making interests keyword searchable.

**Q:** Is there a way now to seek out partnerships – a way to propose ideas and put out that we are seeking others?

**A:** Some possibilities: create an online communication forum, host regular in-person meetings, present roundtables and regular talks for affiliates to present work.

**Q:** What is the status of AI’s curricular authority?

**A:** We have authority for a course subject listing and an initial set of courses, which are currently going through approval processes. The idea of interdisciplinary certificates is running into more friction, but we are continuing to work on that.

**Q:** Is there interest in creating a center for somatic education here at UW?
A: Suggest you talk to other colleagues to get them on board. The most successful grants have other funds and a group of people working on it. Happy to continue this conversation with you.

**John summary**

- Next meeting, we will talk about governance. We are working on governance and affiliate involvement at the same time.
- We are hosting an Arts Recruitment Summit on February 3. Bringing Sally Gaskill from SNAAP (Strategic National Arts Alumni Project) in to speak on what alumni say they want in an arts education.
- We are members of a2ru (Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities).
- We are also members of ELIA (European League for Institutes of the Arts), very interesting, great for networking – we can do more stuff through these networks.
- We work closely with other divisions, for example Continuing Studies and International Division.
- If there’s something you would like to do, let us know. Maybe we can help in situations where there are constraints through the departments.

**Follow-up items from question/discussion portion:**

- Establish a clear plan for how affiliates will connect to each of the five objectives, possibly creating committees with an identifiable lead person within each.
- Establish regular meetings with affiliates rotating through the five objective topics as a way for affiliates to connect and share their work. Affiliates would have the ability to suggest and add topics.
- Explore possibility of adding key word search for affiliate areas of interest on Arts Institute’s affiliate list on website.
- Utilize online messaging system, Slack, as a means for affiliates to connect and communicate with each other.

**Attendees:**

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<th>Courtney Byelich</th>
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<td>Li Chiao-Ping</td>
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