SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Program Review

Summary and Reflections with Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Instructional Program - Art/Fine Art (ARTF)

Executive Summary

Describe the successes and challenges your unit has faced since the last comprehensive review.
The Fine Arts Department, particularly the hands-on Studio Art classes, faced significant challenges during 2020 through early 2022, with most courses being taught fully or partially online. Despite those challenges and the limits placed on faculty, staff, and students by the pandemic, our faculty and staff members found creative solutions and offered dynamic learning experiences for our Fine Arts and Art History majors, and the many students across the campus who take any of our 15 Gen Ed courses. Some examples of the ways our Fine Arts department Faculty managed to work around the limits of the pandemic include:

? A Drive-Through Art Exhibit organized and managed by Fine Arts and Museum Studies Students.
? Outdoor art projects like Steamroller printing
? Weekly faculty and staff drop-in video meetings where we could share discoveries about online teaching and get help and support from one another
? A system for Ceramics courses where students could take home a pottery wheel, work at home, and then drop works off on campus to be put in the kiln.

These are just a few examples of the many successes and creative solutions Fine Arts faculty developed in the time since our last comprehensive program review in 2019.

In recent years, our department's enrollment numbers have been strong overall. Our Spring 2023 total enrollment in Fine Arts, for example, is 18,361 compared to a total of 17,871 in Spring 2022.

Our challenges, over the past few years have mostly fallen into three categories:

- Pandemic-related adjustments (those have mostly been resolved or are no longer relevant)
- Inadequate equipment and needed facilities repairs that have been difficult to get accomplished (this continues to be a problem, particularly for the resource-intensive studio art courses). We have not had a budget increase in many years, but the costs of supplies for our courses keep rising.
- Loss of two full time faculty members making departmental tasks and student mentoring difficulty to accomplish for the remaining contract faculty.

If applicable, describe any major curricular or service changes your unit has engaged in and the impact of those changes since the last comprehensive review.
One major change has been the retirement of two full time faculty members in our 2-D program, one in 2020 and one in 2022. We have not been able to have those positions replaced, and we've had to hire six new adjunct professors over that period to help us meet our students' needs.

If applicable, describe the impact of any new resources (human, fiscal, etc) on the unit and/or action plan implementation.

If you assess OUTCOMES, please confirm that the outcomes have been reviewed for accuracy. If you do not assess Outcomes, skip this question.
Reviewed & Accurate

Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

Executive Summary Complete
Yes

Data Reflection

Trends observed in program/service area's data.
In recent years, our department's enrollment numbers have been strong overall. Our Spring 2023 total enrollment in Fine Arts, for example, is 18,361 compared to a total of 17,871 in Spring 2022.

Our program success rate is strong: the average program success rate for fine arts over the past 5 years was 75.9% compared to the campus-wide average of 73.2% Over the past two years our overall retention rate as increased by two points, and the most recent year of data shows it at 88.7 %.

In 2019, our department reached our highest number of degrees conferred, at 43. That number dipped somewhat during the first years of the pandemic, and in 2021-22 (the most recent year we have this data for) we conferred 31 degrees. In order to grow are program and insure that more students are completing degrees we need to replace the full-time faculty members that retired, so that all courses students need to graduate can be offered more regularly and in a range of modalities.

Describe any equity gaps in the data. Are there differences and/or patterns observed by demographics (e.g.race/ethnicity, gender, age, etc.)
Our data shows a troubling and persistent 12.8 % equity gap our success rates for Black/African American students and a 4.5% equity gap for Latinx students. These numbers are similar to campus-wide equity gaps. Our fine arts department data for first-generation college students does not indicate any significant equity gap.

Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

Describe the discussion(s) that took place about the unit's learning outcomes assessment data.
Our learning outcomes discussions over the past few years have mostly related to ways of handing remote-learning for Studio Art classes while still ensuring that students meet the objectives for the program and for each course. This year's outcomes focus has been more granular, as each discipline lead has been working on verifying the accuracy of their course's outcomes across the various sites and documents where they are published.

Data Reflection Complete
Yes

Practice Reflection

Describe current practices your program/service area has engaged in that you believe impact the above data trends and equity gaps.
In 2019 our department adopted a Student Success plan that focussed on closing the equity gaps noted above. When it comes to Studio Art classes, many aspects of our Student Success plan have to do with making art supplies and materials more readily available for students, offering dedicated space and time in our studio buildings for students to work, and engaging students with community arts activities, exhibits, and speakers that featured Black and Latinx artists and art workers.

That sort of organizing of supplies, speakers, events, and community engagement stretches far beyond the scope (and hours), of our individual classes. It requires full time faculty support. Amidst the upheavals of the pandemic and the subsequent retirement of two full time faculty members, we've struggled to maintain and grow those programs that are so important to us reaching our equity goals.

Our Fine and Performing Arts Committee (a committee made up of mainly full-time faculty and staff members) has worked to bring more than a dozen artists, art workers, and other creative professionals to our campus to speak to students and our community over the past two years. Our department's Mesa College Art Gallery, and our World Cultures Art collection also provide multiple invaluable opportunities for students to meet with diverse artists, engage with artworks from all over the world, and get hands-on experience with curating, maintaining, and cataloging art objects.

These opportunities for students to engage with diverse fine arts professionals and get hands-on experience is so valuable for our disproportionately impacted groups, and they are an important part of how our department will meet our equity goals.

Making art, studying art, and working collaboratively in hands-on studio art classrooms helps students build empathy. A 2017

study of Medical Students published in the Journal of Internal Medicine, for example, showed that university students exposed to the arts demonstrated higher levels of "positive personal qualities." (Mangione, S., Chakraborti, C., Staltari, G. et al. Medical Students' Exposure to the Humanities Correlates with Positive Personal Qualities and Reduced Burnout: A Multi-Institutional U.S. Survey. J GEN INTERN MED 33, 628–634 (2018).https://doi.org/10.1007/s11606-017-4275-8)

A robust, diverse set of Studio Art offerings is good for our whole campus, offering high-quality opportunities for students from all majors to develop those "positive personal qualities" (like empathy and compassion) that that 2017 study cites.

The Fine Arts Department as a whole has developed several ongoing campus-wide projects and resources that are dedicated to fostering a culture of equity-mindedness and engaging students across disproportionately impacted groups. In the arts, one simple way to work towards closing equity gaps is to expose students from disproportionately impacted groups to artworks and artists that are culturally relevant for them. Our World Culture Art collection has exposed students from across the campus to African Art, and has provided hands-on learning experiences with curating exhibitions, preserving objects, and cataloging archives for students from Art History courses, Museum Studies, and a range of other programs. Popular exhibitions of artworks from the World Cultures art collection engaged students and community members and modeled our campus's commitment to diverse representations. Two recent examples include the February 2023 Africa in Context exhibit at the Mesa College Gallery and the Summer 2022 Echoes of Africa exhibit at the San Diego Central Library.

What other factors (internal or external) might also impact the above data trends and equity gaps?
As noted above, the Fine Arts department plays a major role in shaping our campus culture, particularly through our Art Gallery, the World Cultures Art collection, the events organized by the Art Club and the Fine and Performing Arts committee, and the student gallery. But despite that strong role (and the need for full time faculty members to sustain those efforts) we have not been granted replacements for our retired full time faculty members, or the much-needed ILT position for the World Cultures Art Collection. We've requested those positions 3, and 2 years in a row respectively.

Related Documents for Charts and Graphs

Practice Reflection Complete
Yes

Mid-Cycle Updates

YEAR 2 Updates (2023 - 2024)
Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 2.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 2.

Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2022 - 2023. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 2.

YEAR 3 Updates (2024 - 2025)
Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 3.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 3.
We have continued to meet and discuss strategies to help close the success rate gaps in our data. Several fine arts faculty participated in MOST's Assess cohort this semester to work on improving assessment strategies.

Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2023 - 2024. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.
We have re-organized our process for outcomes assessment this semester, and are catching up. We are using Nuventive's 'assignment' feature, and outcomes assessments have been submitted for about 70% of the courses due this semester so far, which is a big improvement in faculty participation over last semester.

Summary and Reflection

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 3.

YEAR 4 Updates (2025 - 2026)

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 4.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 4.

Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2024 - 2025. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 4.

YEAR 5 Updates (2026 - 2027)

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Executive Summary section for Year 5.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Data Reflection section for Year 5.

Review Outcomes Report. Review the unit's outcomes assessment process for 2025 - 2026. Discuss connections to unit goals/action plans/resource requests.

Provide any edits or updates to the prompts originally documented in the Practice Reflection section for Year 5.

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Goal 1: Expand and strengthen the Fine Art Department's 2-D program

Unit Goal: Goal 1: Expand and strengthen the Fine Art Department's 2-D program by making more varied courses available for studio art majors, and connecting those courses to the campus community through events and multi-disciplinary collaborations.

Goal Status: Active

Beginning Year: 2022 - 2023

Projected Completion Year: 2025 - 2026

Mapping
Mesa College Strategic Plan: Roadmap to Mesa2030:

- **Community - Objective 1:** Use technology to improve communication and accessibility across campus. (✓)
- **Community - Objective 4:** Remove barriers to equitable participation by developing, incentivizing and creating structures for all employees to engage in and design professional learning (✓)
- **Community - Objective 5:** Increase opportunities to be an asset and resource to the external community (✓)
- **Completion - Objective 1:** Develop pathways that provide students with clarity about degree, certificate, and transfer requirements. (✓)
- **Completion - Objective 3:** Design and promote programs and services that intentionally target a reduction in equity gaps in completion outcomes (✓)
- **Pathways and Partnerships - Objective 3:** Increase community engagement, experiential learning, integrated career planning, and workforce training to prepare students for future careers (✓)
- **Scholarship - Objective 2:** Evaluate and improve Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion practice in classroom environments, campus activities, departments, schools, and administrative units (✓)
- **Scholarship - Objective 4:** Expand the use of innovative and high-quality teaching, learning, and support practices that achieve equitable outcomes and increase student success (✓)

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Continue to apply for additional 2-D contract faculty members. Work as a group to understand why those requests have not been granted in the past, and make any needed adjustments. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	**Submission Date**: 09/27/2024 **Action Plan Update**: One position was funded, hiring currently (Fall 2024) **Update Year**: 2024 - 2025 **Action Plan Progress**: On Track

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Connect our painting, printmaking, digital, and other 2-D programs to the campus community. We've already begun to do that via the printmaking program's Steamroller printing events, and we plan to work on ways to extend that sort of community-mindedness to our other courses. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	**Submission Date**: 09/27/2024 **Action Plan Update**: Succesful Art Department open house in Spring 2024, many community members in attendance **Update Year**: 2024 - 2025 **Action Plan Progress**: On Track
Action Plan Status: Active	**Submission Date**: 12/16/2025 **Action Plan Update**: We have been unsuccessful in our requests for a new Photography instructor for over a decade. Now with the recent retirement of the full-time painting instructor we are experiencing increased instructional gaps within the Fine Art program that directly impact students and the broader campus community. Painting and photography are core studio offerings that support Mesa's AA degrees, transfer pathways, and portfolio-based outcomes required for CSU and UC studio art programs as well as other institutions. Without full-time faculty in these areas, Mesa relies heavily on part-time instruction for these courses. Painting courses at Mesa have historically served as foundational courses for Fine Art majors and adult learners with interest in painting. Photography courses support not only studio art students but also those in graphic design, multimedia, and interdisciplinary programs that depend on visual literacy. Hiring a in full-time faculty in painting and photography is necessary to ensure instructional quality, equity, and long-term viability of the Fine Art programs while meeting student demand. **Update Year**: 2025 - 2026 **Action Plan Progress**: Barriers Encountered

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan: We successfully hired a new Studio Art Faculty in the area of printmaking for Fall 2025. The printmaking field is growing throughout the county and the courses have filled. The new faculty plans to update and expand the program and facilities to better meet students needs. However, the recent retirement of the full-time painting instructor and the absence of a full-time photography instructor have created instructional gaps within the Fine Art program that directly impact students and the broader campus community. Painting and photography are core studio offerings that support Mesa's AA degrees, transfer pathways, and portfolio-based outcomes required for CSU and UC studio art programs as well as other institutions. Without full-time faculty in these areas, Mesa relies heavily on part-time instruction for these courses. Painting courses at Mesa have historically served as foundational courses for Fine Art majors and adult learners with interest in painting. Photography courses support not only studio art students but also those in graphic design, multimedia, and interdisciplinary programs that depend on visual literacy. Hiring a in full-time faculty in painting and photography is necessary to ensure instructional quality, equity, and long-term viability of the Fine Art programs while meeting student demand. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026	

Goal 2: Increase campus-wide instructional connections with the World Cultures Art Collection, the Mesa Art Gallery, and the Student Gallery.

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Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Goal Status: Active

Beginning Year: 2022 - 2023

Projected Completion Year: 2025 - 2026

Mapping
Mesa College Strategic Plan: Roadmap to Mesa2030:

- **Community - Objective 1:** Use technology to improve communication and accessibility across campus. (✓)
- **Community - Objective 2:** Develop activities, spaces, and programs that support a sense of belonging with a focus on antiracism, historically minoritized groups, and inclusion. (✓)
- **Community - Objective 5:** Increase opportunities to be an asset and resource to the external community (✓)
- **Completion - Objective 2:** Develop cross - functional teams that support student success and include integrated career and transfer counseling. (✓)
- **Completion - Objective 3:** Design and promote programs and services that intentionally target a reduction in equity gaps in completion outcomes (✓)
- **Pathways and Partnerships - Objective 1:** Develop and implement frameworks to create communities that can provide more targeted delivery of educational resources and support services. (✓)
- **Pathways and Partnerships - Objective 2:** Expand partnerships with K-12 institutions to enhance program offerings and increase access for minoritized students. (✓)
- **Pathways and Partnerships - Objective 3:** Increase community engagement, experiential learning, integrated career planning, and workforce training to prepare students for future careers (✓)
- **Scholarship - Objective 2:** Evaluate and improve Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion practice in classroom environments, campus activities, departments, schools, and administrative units (✓)
- **Scholarship - Objective 4:** Expand the use of innovative and high-quality teaching, learning, and support practices that achieve equitable outcomes and increase student success (✓)

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan Status: Active	**Submission Date**: 12/02/2024 **Action Plan Update**: We have not been able to secure a permanent position, though we have a Nance currently, which allows us to keep the study room for the World Cultures Art collection open to the community 4 days a week. **Update Year**: 2024 - 2025 **Action Plan Progress**: Barriers Encountered

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan: Continue to apply for the much-needed ILT position for the World Art collection, to help relieve the burden on our Full-time faculty member who is working tirelessly, and far beyond her contract hours, on making that collection and its relates programming an asset to the campus and community. We will work as a group to understand why those requests have not been granted in the past, and make any needed adjustments. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Supplement and grow the current campus-wide reach of these programs by increasing collaboration with faculty members in different disciplines. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	**Submission Date**: 12/02/2024 **Action Plan Update**: Now that we have the support to keep the study room open for the World Cultures Art collection, many more classes are visiting and getting tours. We are continuing to expand our outreach efforts. The Mesa Student Gallery and Art Gallery have been building their programming to increase community connections as well. **Update Year**: 2024 - 2025 **Action Plan Progress**: On Track
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Continue to apply for the much-needed ILT position for the World Art Collection, to strengthen support for students, faculty, and staff by ensuring the World Art Collection and its related programming are sufficiently managed, supported, and more accessible across campus, while addressing barriers to better serve the campus and community. Increase student exposure to the Mesa Art Gallery by integrating regular class visits across disciplines, expanding instructional support for faculty, and promoting the gallery as a shared campus resource that increases engagement with contemporary art, and ongoing support for student exhibitions and creative practices. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026	**Submission Date**: 12/16/2025 **Action Plan Update**: An ILT position has been requested via the World Art Collection Program Review portal to strengthen support for students, faculty, and ensure the collection is sufficiently managed, supported, and more accessible across campus, while addressing barriers to better serve the campus and community. Efforts are being made within the department to increase awareness of the exhibitions in the Mesa Art Gallery, including collaborating with other disciplines as well as external community groups. These increased efforts will hopefully provide more exposure and engagement with contemporary art, and ongoing support for student exhibitions and creative practices. **Update Year**: 2025 - 2026 **Action Plan Progress**: Barriers Encountered

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Goal 3: Engagement and Completion

Unit Goal: Goal 3: Increase students' engagement in studio art courses and their prompt completion of degree programs by offering up-to-date and efficient tools, approaches, and facilities, and by regularly offering all of the courses students need to graduate.

Goal Status: Active

Beginning Year: 2022 - 2023

Projected Completion Year: 2025 - 2026

Mapping
Mesa College Strategic Plan: Roadmap to Mesa2030:

- **Completion - Objective 4:** Support students' access to resources to mitigate the impact caused by technological and basic needs insecurity (✓)
- **Stewardship - Objective 4:** Establish a college-wide practice and schedule that addresses routine maintenance and renewal of equipment, facilities and technology to ensure access to adequate resources and better serve students (✓)

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Create a departmental task-force to take stock of needed updates, and develop an online system for recording them. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Continue to request updated equipment through BARC (we requested two items this year) but also seek alternate ways to fund the needed equipment and improvements. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2025 - 2026, 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Improve & update teaching practices by participating in relevant professional development trainings **Action Plan Cycle:** 2023 - 2024, 2022 - 2023	

Unit Goals, Action Plans, and Updates

Action Plans	Updates
Action Plan Status: Active **Action Plan:** Hire more faculty and obtain more FTEF so that we can regularly offer all of the classes listed in our degree requirements. **Action Plan Cycle:** 2024 - 2025, 2023 - 2024	