### School of Art History Semester One Report

**Hannah Koegler- President of the School of Art History**

This report will document my projects and endeavours from the first semester 2020/21 academic year, and some of my plans for the second semester.

It goes without saying that this semester required much adaptation from SP’s, students, and staff. We all figured out some fantastic things together, and will continue to adapt as the world continues to change a mile a millisecond. Even through all the absurdity and uncertainty, I was constantly encouraged by the resilience shown by our community.

**Weekly Emails**

I sent out an email every week with information on events happening, initiatives, and opportunities I was asked to pass on. I also started an interview series with members of staff about their lives outside of Art History. While it was hard to work around staff schedules at times for an interview, it was really enjoyable for the staff and myself. I will try to continue this interview but perhaps fortnightly rather than weekly as the time difference I’ve found myself in provides added challenges.

**Office Hours**

I held a weekly online Office Hours where students could voice concerns. Since this only had a few bookings the entire semester, I supplemented with surveys sent out to the school in order to get a better idea of student opinion.

**Garden Party**

The first Teams event I held, and the first I held online, was the annual Freshers’ garden party over Teams. This overall went very well for a first endeavour online, and attendance was much better than expected by students. We played a fun game of “Would You Rather” using the poll function in the chat, and were able to somewhat replicate jumping around different conversations in a room by using different breakout channels.

**Student-Led EDI Lecture Series**

I held a weekly online lecture series during the latter part of the semester which gave students the opportunity to present art they connected with, and felt was underrepresented in the art historical canon. While the beginning was well attended, the weekly occurrence made it a little hard to draw up continuous interest for it. In the future, I would love for there to be maybe one event with many presentations twice a semester, and for there to be some sort of incentive given to presenters outside of just presentation experience.

**Lunchtime Internship Webinar Series**

Together with the schools of Classics, English, and History, I helped organize a student-presented Internship series that took place at lunchtime Monday-Friday one week. Each day had a different person who had done a different kind of internship that had relevance to all of the schools involved in the planning. We recorded these sessions and made them available to those who couldn’t attend.

**PG Application Information Session**

With my Staff Careers’ rep, I organized an evening information session with a current PG student and a former PG student on their experience with applications, the program itself, and some things a PG degree can be good for after. This session was well attended and was very informative from both presenters.

**Student-Staff Consultative Committee (SSCC)**

This year, I additionally invited my school’s EDI Officer, Wellbeing Officer, and the Head of PG Studies for the SSCC so they could hear the complaints, successes, and suggestions that they would be able to implement and could discuss ways they could help directly in the meeting instead of after. Having these specialized positions in attendance made the meeting run with much more certainty than in years past. I plan on continuing this in the second semester.

**Overall Successes**

This semester, I found a lot of success in engaging staff and students alike in creating interesting events, working with other schools, and trying to create connections in such an isolating time.

**Places to Improve**

Holding the engagement after getting it was a big challenge, and can be resolved by hosting events less frequently, but with more planning and marketing beforehand.

**Future Plans**

It is hard to plan in person events with certainty or in good conscience due to the constant challenges presented by Covid-19. As a result, I will more than likely be unable to plan an Art History Ball like I had hoped to when running for SP. I will continue to create online events and discuss with students other ways we can connect in this trying time.

Here’s to a great second semester!