

# IHEAA

Illinois Higher Education Art Association

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Spring Meeting at Kishwaukee College – Malta, IL April 13, 2018

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## Treasurer's Report

Balance brought forward from last report:	\$ 654.31	October 25, 2017
Receipts:	<u>430.00</u>	
Subtotal:	1,084.31	
Expenses: \$ 300.00 – (donation to host: WIU)	<u>-300.00</u>	
Balance this report	784.31	April 10, 2018

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## Minutes from the Fall Meeting at Western Illinois University – Macomb, IL October 21, 2017

### **Topics: "Fostering University / Community Relationships" and approval of updated example syllabi for core courses to recommend to the IAI Art Panel for Articulated Courses**

Kat Myers, Art Department Chair and Professor, Metals and Jewelry, at Western Illinois University (WIU) and our host, introduced Dr. Russell Morgan, Associate Provost for Budget, Planning & Personnel, who extended an enthusiastic welcome to all in attendance for the IHEAA meeting. Dr. Morgan expressed an appreciation of the great work of the art faculty and of the fine line between uniformity and academic freedom. General introductions around the room of all in attendance included several new members.

#### Presentation of the topic of "Fostering University / Community Relationships"

Eight faculty members from Western presented very interesting insights into their recent efforts and successes with several ways to engage interaction between the university and community through art related activities:

"Wheel Throwing Thursday" has gained quite a following through repetition, reaching both university (non-art majors) and local community members and even other schools. It is organized by faculty with work-study student help in the set-up and clean-up and promoted on social media and via Mail Chimp (a free bulk message system). WIU has 22 wheels and the first event this fall has 100+ in attendance. This event brings folks to the ceramics facilities with a focus on creative learning in a fun environment.

"Rocky on Parade" is a major public art project with significant funding opportunities which has led to the endowment of 2 scholarships. Rocky is the WIU mascot and fiberglass figures of various sizes are painted and purchased by local businesses. Concepts are submitted by students and local artists and then selected by business owners for their locations, giving the participants a client/artist commission experience. The source for the big fiberglass figures is <http://cowpainters.com/> WIU has this project highly organized and credit it with easing tension between the community and the university. Creating events with open houses at the locations encourages businesses to participate and increases expressions of pride in the university. An example of the promotional flyers used in previous events and other informational materials were circulated.

"1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays Open Studio" is an evening event (7-9 p.m.) which gets people on campus for art making for everyone. This is a family friendly atmosphere organized into four 30-minute sessions per night. It gets community leaders on campus and they help with funding as well. They now have regulars and busloads of kids from their Art Education alumni bringing their students.

These have all proven to be great public relations for the University with the community by becoming the face of the University with the public. Additional benefits include living/learning communities, social media presence / communication, and recruitment. A self-analysis of recent lay-offs of art faculty is because the Administration really didn't know the art faculty and what we do with the community, so they changed that by making it all more well-known and pushing public interaction. The logistics of these hands-on intensive events includes students. Scholarship recipients are asked to contribute their service to the department and students are empowered via their demonstration of methods, techniques, and assistance with the public participants. Another feature of these events is promoting a list of all "no pre-requisite" classes for anyone to take by having the list readily available to hand out to interested non-majors and community members.

Results at the administrative level are a demystification of what ART does for the university and the community. Artwork from the students is also seen across campus. The president sees the student work and everyone there in the arts facilities during such events.

Responses from the membership included: “Arts DuPage” is an effort to funnel all information about events in the arts into one location for easy distribution in DuPage county area. Another idea is low-budget music events at noon on Fridays that are open to the public because free events often get dollars flowing back to the schools. Community events at schools are created by the arts—that’s what we do with exhibitions, public art projects are the same strategy. Try getting permission to paint objects already in place in the community such as electric boxes or garbage cans. Interaction with the community can be via arts initiatives or in coordination with athletics or car shows or whatever. Community arts centers often enjoy coordinating with university events.

A general discussion of lower enrollment in various institutions and how that affects faculty workloads followed. Market driven decisions from administrations do not favor the arts. There is a curriculum fight between design and production. Design is art while production is not art. Fighting is over descriptions and students in non-transfer programs. Graphic design and interactive media such as at Judson where media studies is tech only teaching the tools versus design which is creativity teaching aesthetics.

Compare the courses: art versus media and see where the learning outcomes separate the tools from creativity. 2+2 agreements between 2-year and 4-year schools (HCC & ISU for example) are increasing. WIU is interested in arranging more 2+2 agreements. We make “Makers” via the visual arts. Entrepreneurs are creative makers. Southeast participates in a public outreach event and fundraiser “Harvest Fest” which is community event with proceeds going to the Art Club. Many schools have sales of student art at the end of each semester or annually. This is an example of incorporating entrepreneurship in curricular and non-curricular student art events. These activities build self-esteem and self-employment in the arts. Self-Employment in the Arts (SEA) (<http://www.selfemploymentinthearts.com>) is a conference and web resource for business plans, ideas, connecting with opportunities. Some art faculty wrap a course around the SEA conference for their students. Building resumes, critical thinking skills are all possibilities honed in art requirements; thus putting business aspects of the arts into their experiences. Creative Vets is really getting attention. Pride of ownership in the making and learning responsibility are also benefits to the students.

#### **Break**

**Business Meeting:** Minutes of the previous meeting (Spring 2017 at Illinois Central College) were approved. Treasurer’s Report was also approved. (Moved by Al Shull and seconded by Mac McAvoy.)

The IAI (Illinois Articulation Initiative) Art Panel meeting for this afternoon had to be cancelled due to a scheduling conflict that prevented a state representative from being present.

A discussion of the draft syllabi updates for the core courses to recommend to the IAI Art Panel for articulated courses included the topic of using the computer wording from the Two-Dimensional Design syllabus as a boilerplate for other courses due to the increased importance of digital skills and applications in other courses. It was decided to add the wording “Curriculum” to the “Development Option” regarding the inclusion of computers in those courses. This is to clarify the situation as an opportunity (rather than a requirement) to include computer applications in courses as faculty desire. This is not to be confused with developmental strategies for alternative learning situations. The discussion encouraged reference to NASAD guidelines and articulation for course outcomes rather than course by course approach. Homework is still required in studio classes. The motion to accept the five revised course outlines (Drawing I, Drawing II, Life/Figure Drawing, Two-dimensional Design, and Three-dimensional Design) was made by Al Shull, seconded by Kat Myers, and passed with a majority vote.

#### **Lunch Break**

Upcoming meetings include Spring 2018 at Kishwaukee College, in Malta, Illinois with host Jamie Long on April 13th; Fall 2018 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois with host Patricia Belleville on October 19th. 2019 locations are Spring at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield with host Al Shull and Fall at Northeastern University in Chicago with host Nate Mathews.

Election of Officers: four Board of Officers terms ended with this meeting. G.E. Colpitts was re-elected and Susan Czechowski elected to represent 4-year schools. Michael McAvoy and Sarah DeNeal were elected to represent 2-year schools. Their terms on the Board of Officers will end in 2020. Officers are elected to three year terms.

A dues reminder was announced by Veda.

Motion to adjourn from Kat Myers and seconded by Nate Mathews.

Respectfully submitted: Veda Rives Aukerman, IHEAA Secretary / Treasurer

*This meeting was followed by an extensive tour of the art department facilities and gallery exhibitions.*

#### **Attendance: 23**

**Officers:** Charles Boone, College of DuPage; G. E. Colpitts, Judson University; Al Shull, Lincoln Land Community College; Nate Mathews, Northeastern Illinois University; Denise Seif, Parkland College; Veda Rives Aukerman, Illinois State University

**Members & Guests:** John DenHouter, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville; Karl Warma, Quincy University; Jean Janssen, Kankakee Community College; Michael McAvoy, Heartland Community College; Meda Rives; Patricia Belleville, Eastern Illinois University; Sara DeNeal, Southeastern Illinois University; Matthew Watt, Parkland College; Susan Czechowski, Kat Myers, Jan Clough, Stacy Dorethy, Bill Howard, Julie Mahoney, Duke Oursler, Ian Shelly, Russell Morgan, Western Illinois University