

## HISTORY OF ART DEPARTMENT MEETING

### Monday, January 12, 2026 | 2:30 P.M. | Arts 333

Attendance: Jason Weems, Savannah Esquivel, Susan Laxton, Johannes Endres, Jeanette Kohl, Kristoffer Neville, Yong Cho, Sonja Sekely-Rowland, John Medina, Breana Lepe

#### Chair's Announcements (Susan):

- Fatima has officially resigned
  - VAPs are in place
  - UAW contract extension until January 31
    - Supposed to negotiate in December and did not, prepare for opportunity for grad strike after January
- New service assignments, WIP and Undergrad Advisor
  - Savannah will give a talk in May on project
- Newsletter

#### New Business (Susan):

- Cross-listed course, CPLT 185 Fashion in French Literature and Art (Heidi Brevik-Zender)
  - Syllabus was circulated

#### Graduate Studies Report (Jason):

- Application season for MA and PhD program
  - 26 completed applications submitted, ~10 started/incompleted
    - 13 MA and 13 PhD
- Discussion of how advising would be distributed with new students

#### Undergraduate Report (Yong):

- **Student Success Fund—Undergrads Will Travel to CAA this year!**
  - Through application process, 5 undergraduate majors have been chosen to attend the CAA next month (using the Student Success Fund). The selected students are: Katarina Brown, Maya Serna, Kira Iokibe, Sandra Martus, and Alexis Ramirez. Students have already looked through the conference program and picked out the panels that they wish to attend—needless to say, they are very excited!
  - I (Yong Cho) will be attending the conference as well. I will be the faculty contact person for the students during the trip. We will make sure to take pictures to share with the Dean's Office upon return. I am in touch with Jeremy Gutierrez, CHASS Marketing's Student Writer. Hopefully CHASS Marketing will feature the trip.
- **Proposed Changes to Catalog**
  - Before Aleca began her sabbatical, she submitted a request to make changes to the catalog that we discussed during the past faculty meetings. These changes include:
    - 1) Addition of AHS 100 to the catalog as a prerequisite for AHS 192 Jr/Sr Seminar (NB: AHS 100 currently being reviewed by the COC).
    - 2) Language that makes it clear that students can repeat AHS 192
- **Proposal to Shorten the Course Titles—Declined**

- Last year, we received a request to shorten the course titles for Lower Division courses to satisfy a new character limit. In response, Aleca had submitted the request to shorten the course titles to CRS. If you recall, this included things like changing the course title of “World Art: Images, Issues and Ideas” to “World Art”; the course title “Introduction to Architecture and Urbanism” to “Architecture and Urbanism.” However, for reasons that are related to the “minimum three years rule,” CRS has, for now, declined this request to change the course titles.

#### VRC Report (Sonja):

- (Please see the attached file in the email.)

#### Graduate Student Report:

- Waiting on update of the UAW meetings
- Sandra stopped by, we want to bridge AHUA and grad students association
  - Open up the space to all of AHS undergraduates to come by if they have any general questions about the program and events
- Conference updates: Materiality of objects. This exploration embraces the agency of materials and matter. How does texture, tactility, and sensorial knowledge play a role in visual culture? Topics here may include unconventional materials and material experiments, object biographies or transformation of objects across media/intermediality. Rachel and Xinqian will confirm the conference date and send out the CFP soon.
- Talking about possible venues for the conference and keynote speakers
- Think about the dates and email graduate UCSB coordinator to see what may have happened, Sonja will pass along a contact

#### UCR ARTS Report:

- Transegoras closes soon Feb 15, 2026
- Big opening at UCR ARTS on Highlander Day, all arts to raise awareness of this
- Faculty partner still in progress

#### Upcoming Events:

- Talk with Jaimey Fischer March 4 from 12:30-2:30 PM, UCHRI, lecture on the future of humanities
- Talk from representatives from American Council of Learned Societies, April 2
  - Encouraging graduate students to please go
  - Workshop+lunch for grad students