



Notes Education Board meeting, 5 October, 2020

Participants

Staff members:

Annika Eriksson
Katrin Holmqvist-Sten (chairman)
Jeanette Nilsson (secretary)
Per Nilsson
Lisa Torell
Karin Wibron

Student representatives:

BFA1 – Hannes Iversen
BFA2 – Dani Liljedahl
BFA3 – Guro Aae
MFA1 –
MFA2 -

Agenda

1. Welcome and presentation
2. Education board: why, what and when?
3. COVID-19
4. Evaluations spring
5. Fall semester ahead
6. UmArts
7. Open House in 2021
8. Round-the-table
9. Other issues

1. Welcome and presentation

The first education board for the semester and Katrin welcomes everyone to the meeting followed by a short presentation round. There are no representatives from the MFA classes. This has been a bit of an ongoing problem that some classes are not represented at these meetings, and so it's an issue to work with how to get students involved and engaged. Since it has to do with student influence it's important that all classes are represented and also that the representatives work in their class best interest both in raising the views of fellow students and following up/informing after a meeting.

2. Education board: why, what and when?

The education board meets 3-4 times a semester for planning issues and other concerns among students and staff. Each class should be represented by 1-2 students. Occasionally an education supervisor from the Student union joins - sometimes to inform, sometimes to fill up the lack of student representatives. Usually Micael Norberg is chairman, however since he's on sick-leave at the moment only working 25 %, Katrin is replacing him this semester and hopefully he will be back in the spring taking over the role as chairman.



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3. COVID-19

The pandemic makes us continuously taking precautions and now that there is an increase in infection this is even more important and so we need to remind ourselves to keep distance, to wash our hands etc. We will stick to the opening hours 8-20 until further notice. We're having challenges, one is the new seminar room next to the main entrance where it has been very difficult to keep distance; another is the student kitchen. Here chairs have been removed although they tend to come back, signs have been put up but people gather anyway. One solution could be to take away the table so that people eat elsewhere? To close the kitchen area altogether, as was initially brought up, is not something the school wants to do. Dani suggests that a microwave oven could be placed on each floor to avoid queuing. At H & H the situation has been also a bit problematic but they will refurnish with less tables and/or more space in between the already existing tables in order to help people keep distance. If the need for closing down ever becomes a fact an extra education board meeting will be held immediately after.

4. Evaluation spring

What was done in the spring after the break-out of COVID-19? After finding out about it at the end of March and the decision came from the vice-chancellor at Umeå University to go over to distance learning we had to close the school. An exemption for BFA3 and MFA2 was shortly after taken allowing students in the graduate classes to enter the school and work in the workshops and in their studios with their exam work, all under certain restrictions.

5. Fall semester ahead

Due to new teachers and sick-leaves among the ordinary staff the schedule for the fall semester was delayed.

This semester we will have one open workshop in performative sound art by Eric Bünger who was supposed to have come to us earlier but his teaching was then postponed to this fall.

A few occasions are recently scheduled "Higher Seminars" with invited artists, primarily for the MFA students (7 October with Michael Stevenson; 4 November with Gunilla Klingberg and 2 December with Louise Dahlgren). These will be over Zoom and will also be open to interested BFA students. Information and link to the Zoom lecture on the 7th of October has now been sent out to all class email lists.

One activity that has not been scheduled yet, and is still uncertain how it can be carried out, is the interdisciplinary workshop held at the same time each year for the 1st year students at the Institute of Design, the School of Architecture and the Academy of Fine Arts (last week of the fall semester which is week 2).

Two series of lectures by painters will take place October-December and the dates for them are now also confirmed (Emma Hartman, Elisabeth Frieberg and Martha Persson on the 3rd of Dec; Ida Persson, Julia Sehlin and Katrin Westman on the 26th of Nov). This is thanks to funds from the faculty that the school's painting group can invite artists. First the idea was to invite them to the school but because of the difficulties in travelling and/or restrictions with this for the time being the lectures will need to be over Zoom instead. Each artist will first give a lecture and then have a seminar.

Coming Monday lectures scheduled so far: 12th October Peter Stridsberg; 19th October Emily Fahlén Luleåbiennalen; 26th October Jan Verwoert; 23rd November Gerd Tinglum and 30th November John Skoog. Information and Zoom links will be sent out for each lecture.



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4 group exhibitions (show and crits) are scheduled for the MFA2 students (week 46 and 47 in Nov and week 50 and 51 in Dec. Crits will be held and also an open lecture by each external guest that has been invited (Mats Stjernstedt and Anders Kreuger in Nov and Kirse Jung-Stevnsborg and Marti Manen in Dec). The lectures will be open to all, be over Zoom and links will be sent out.

6. UmArts

UmArts (Umeå Centrum för arkitektur, design och konst) will soon be realized. Four units are involved in the project: the School of Architecture, the Institute of Design, the Department of Creative Studies and the Academy of Fine Arts. Since 2018 there has been a working group for it with representatives from the different units. The main purpose with UmArts is to gather the artistic activities within Umeå University and to find common ground to maintain and develop the artistic field, to strengthen its visibility and impact within the university as well as nationally and internationally. There has been an ongoing recruitment in order to find a director who will be in charge of this centre and there is a person intended for this position, however not yet officially announced. When this person begins his/her position the Academy of Fine Arts is meant to be host. More information to come..

7. Open House in 2021

An open house event is usually arranged once a year. Previously this has taken place at different times of the year (April/May and December). This time it is planned to take place on the 5th of February but still due to the pandemic we don't know in what way, on-site or digitally or both. A working group for it will in due time be decided and they will start looking at different solutions. Last time we arranged it prospective students had a chance to get feedback on their artistic work they intended to apply with, something that was much appreciated and therefore something we will try to hold on to.

8. Round-the-table

BFA1 - Hannes. The class has not had the time to discuss so nothing special to bring up.

BFA2 – Dani. The opening hours.

BFA3 – Nothing special.

9. Other issues

Karin presents her idea with the gallery what can be done in there, find info about that in her email to art-hela-skolan 5/10.

Blackout curtains will come, money for new ones have been applied for. Annika: Robert has shown different types of blinds that can be used.

Hannes points out that one of the microwave ovens is broken and so this creates unnecessary queuing. Katrin will inform Robert about it.

Next planned education board meeting:
2nd of November at 3 pm

and the one after that:
7th of December at 3 pm