



Memorial

University of Newfoundland

Office of the Vice-President (Academic)
and Pro Vice-Chancellor

October 27, 2004

Professor Kenneth Livingstone
Head, Division of Fine Arts
Sir Wilfred Grenfell College

Dear Professor Livingstone:

Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing the PBC response to the academic program reviews for Theatre and Visual arts. With all the changes that have occurred in senior administration in the past few months, PBC did not meet regularly and some issues regarding APR were not dealt with in a timely manner.

In December 2003, both units provided action plans to the University Planning and Budget Committee, which was the culmination of the academic program review process. The PBC has considered these plans and wishes to express its appreciation to both units for its participation in the regular academic program review of the unit and its activities from which these plans derive.

The primary purpose of formal academic program reviews is to give units an opportunity to engage in formative self-assessment and to obtain the advantages of commentary and advice from experts from the discipline in question. The role of PBC is to monitor the process and develop a body of knowledge that is useful in making broad strategic recommendations and to provide sound budgetary advice to the University. It is not the role of the Committee to determine allocations to individual units, but we can sometimes offer advice or make potentially useful observations.

An anticipated outcome of the process is a plan that clarifies how best to achieve the unit's objectives with the resources available to it. From the standpoint of the University, the process also provides a measure of accountability to the whole institution and the public that supports us. The following issues were raised by the Committee during the course of its discussions about these reviews:

- The current program review did not make any reference to a previous review process that was undertaken a number of years ago. Such reference may have provided useful context.

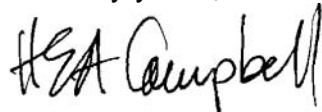
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- The self study could also have focussed more on the program curriculum.
- It would have been useful for the self studies to have provided more information about the graduating student outcomes.
- The question of how theatre and visual arts students are prepared to be able to manage the business aspects of their careers is an important one that needs to be considered by these units.
- The Division is urged to consider the position of Art Historian.

One of the expectations of this process is that the Department establish a forward looking vision and goals for the coming years. We would encourage both units to engage in a series of discussions designed to build on the work that has been done during the APR process and to articulate this sense of direction more explicitly.

I offer my support and that of the Committee as you begin the important work of moving forward. We look forward to seeing your one-year update in March, 2005

Sincerely yours,



H.E.A. Campbell
Vice-President (Academic)

c. Dr. John Ashton, Principal, SWGC