

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum  
Committee Members, Assistant Deans,  
All Department Chairman

FROM: Francis Wyroba, Chairman  
Department of Fine Arts

DATE: December 28, 1973

SUBJECT: Department of Fine Arts Proposal for Authorization  
to Plan for a Master of Fine Arts Program

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Attached is a copy of a proposal for authorization to plan for a Master of Fine Arts which the Fine Arts Department has submitted to the Dean and to the College Curriculum Committee. We would appreciate any comments on this proposal from you.

FW/nps  
Attachment

cc: B. Waugh, Dean  
J. Siegmester, Ass't Dean  
Joe Olander, Ass't Dean  
Barry Levine, Sociology  
Eric Leed, History  
George Babcock, Biological Sciences  
Brian Nelson, Political Science  
George Kovacs, Philosophy & Religion  
Charles Elkins, English  
Leonard Keller, Physical Sciences  
George Samuels, Economics  
Marcelle Welsh, Modern Languages  
Janet Parker, Psychology  
Philip Fink, Fine Arts  
T. Casey, Economics  
H. Antrim, English  
Abraham Stein, Biological Sciences  
D. Pyron, History  
R. Fisher, Mathematical Sciences  
F. Yudin, Modern Languages  
R. Arias, Philosophy & Religion  
R. Weiner, Physical Sciences  
M. Greenberg, Political Science  
R. Tikofsky, Psychology  
N. Sileo, Sociology



TITLE PAGE

PLANNING AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
FOR NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS

Submitted by

Florida International University  
University Submitting Request

College of Arts & Sciences  
Name of College or School

Department of Fine Arts  
Name of Department(s)

A New Academic Program Leading to the

Master of Fine Arts  
Give complete name of Degree

in

Art  
Academic Specialty or Field

February 1, 1974  
Proposed Date for Submission of Program Proposal

September 1, 1976  
Proposed Starting Date of Program

*Francis Wypala*

Department Head or  
Chairman

Date

Vice President for  
Administrative Affairs  
or Equivalent

Date

Dean of the School  
or College

Date

Vice President for  
Academic Affairs  
or Equivalent

Date

Graduate Dean  
(if applicable)

Date

President

Date



1. Description of Program

- A. The program in graduate studies in Fine Arts at FIU will be designed to give individual indepth instruction, exposure and direction to the qualified student wishing to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree. The curriculum will be open-ended to allow for the particular needs of each individual student. The program will consist of a minimum of eight quarters of concentrated work at FIU, approximately six of those quarters will be devoted to the development of the student as an artist or art professional. The remainder of his time will be spent in actual practice of his craft somewhere in the community. If his work is sponsored by some resource in the community, part of it may be left with the sponsoring agency or business.

The areas and media of specialization of the students will range from traditional to contemporary with the objective of meeting both student and community needs paramount. To implement this expanded curriculum it is proposed that high calibre professors, visiting professors and/or artists of the stature of Kepes, Fuller, Soleri or Nelson be secured.

Of primary importance to the program is great flexibility and range in order that appropriate reciprocity between community and university be established and maintained.

- 1B FIU undergraduate students are characteristically older than average, are self-directed, work-experienced, and mature. They are of all ages and of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds and are already well established in the community and desire to remain in south Florida. They are concerned with social and aesthetic enhancement of the area.

The program will be designed for qualified students who desire advanced training in the arts. We would also allow full or part time student participation and would enable accomplishment to be time-limited on an individual basis and would strive to meet the tutorial needs of students.

Recurrent change is implicit in contemporary society and requires mobility in education; new skills, techniques, and knowledge need to be learned and taught, the old to be re-evaluated. Education has become of necessity a life-long process, a process to which the university is essential. It is the objective of FIU in designing a



graduate fine arts program to develop and meet the art and cultural needs of the community through the leadership and involvement of FIU graduates.

There is recognition of the need to preserve and nurture the vital contributions that art makes to life. Dade County is no longer tourist-dominated. The emergence of second and third generation Floridians is having impact. Public pressure for improved art programs and public concern for a new image for the Miami area are apparent. The great influx of Latin American peoples and their absorption into the community is having and will have direct effect.

FIU is dedicated to evaluating and relating to the educational needs of the world community and to encouraging the growth and development of the art of all cultures.

- 2A The first years program will involve four (4) Masters of Fine Arts majors. All of the first year students will be selected from graduates of FIU and/or Baccalaureate Degree holders of Broward and Dade County.
- 2B Unmet and grossly apparent regional, state, national, and international needs for artists and art professionals as well as burgeoning interest in art and craft products prompted investigation as to the possibilities of undertaking a new Masters of Fine Arts program at FIU. This expanded arts program would be relevant to these emerging demands and desires of the community at large, the university community, and the art student.

Many qualified students are unable to become highly skilled art professionals for the following reasons:

1. No state university in the area offers a Masters in Fine Arts;
2. Many potential students are married and/or established in this community and cannot for family and socio-economic reasons travel out of the county or state to study;
3. The current energy crisis could be a limiting factor;
4. No graduate Fine Arts program now exists which provides an opportunity for the part time candidate.

South Florida is a rapidly expanding area in which there will increasingly be job opportunities for skilled art professionals. In Miami, Metro projects a new art complex on Watson Island. Coral Gables has succeeded in saving the old Biltmore Hotel and in having it designated a landmark building in which a cultural center is planned. The Miami Art Center has recently received



a substantial bequest which will enable expansion. The Lowe Museum is also in the process of expansion. The Bass Museum is reopening. Viscaya continues to attract large numbers of people. Artist and private galleries are doing an unprecedented business in Miami. There is need for opportunity for training of museum personnel, curators, restorers, appraisers, historians, and critics, as well as for creative artists. The College Art Association recommends a survey of existing programs related to professions in the arts other than teaching and suggests that areas not emphasized in most curricula such as criticism and editing could be opened up with a little initiative.

Further, Florida is just beginning to recognize and prize its past. There are firm plans for future commitments to the arts in the vigorous expansion programs initiated by Dade County. Also the historic preservationists are now active here and concerned with saving and understanding our local past. These concerns will require the skills of trained art professionals.

In addition to employment opportunities in the art world itself there are extensive community needs for art experience and enrichment. Interdisciplinary opportunities exist in both public and private institutions, in the state institutions for the retarded and mentally ill (Sunland in North Dade and the South Florida State Hospital in Hollywood), in vocational rehabilitation of the handicapped, in prison reform and habilitation, in drug centers, in day care centers, in work with delinquent youths, in senior citizen centers. In all these areas the community requires the services of skilled and dedicated art professionals.

In the commercial world, employment is available to the trained art professionals in advertising, industry, film, business, galleries, antique shops, and a range of related concerns.

Finally, this country's recent and late recognition of the importance and preciousness of our environment has suggested to many artists that their energies and abilities might best be concerned with preservation, conservation, and reconstruction. Art professionals are closely related to the aesthetic needs of mankind and should be among the leaders of the effort to preserve and enhance both our life styles and our environment.



2C FIU, situated in Florida's largest metropolitan area Miami, appears eminently suited for the development of a Masters of Fine Arts program. Local, state, and national and international needs are particularly apparent in Dade County which stands as the Gateway to The Americas.

The Fine Arts department of Florida International University serves as a center for transmission of culture for all people. The quality of that transmission is of paramount social concern, particularly in an area of tremendous expansion as south Florida is now undergoing. The cumulative effects of the arts in public life can no longer be ignored, but must be encouraged and directed.

3A&B Schedule of BFA's Awarded at FIU

<u>Quarter &amp; Date</u>	<u>Total No.</u>
Spring 72-73	5
Summer 72-73	1
Fall 73-74	4
*Winter 73-74	15
*Spring 73-74	70
*Summer 73-74	10
*Spring 74-75	80
*Spring 75-76	100

\*Anticipated

4A	<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Highest Degree, Inst. &amp; Yr.</u>	<u>Specialty</u>
	Couper	Asst. Prof.	*M.A.-F.S.U., 1963	Painting
	Jacobs	Asst. Prof.	M.S.-I.I.T., 1962	Crafts
	Langer	Asst. Prof.	PH.D.-N.Y.U., 1973	Art Hist.
	Lyle	Asst. Prof.	M.F.A.-U.of S.F., 1971	Sculpture
	Nicastro	Asst. Prof.	M.A.-SUNY-Albany, NY, 1968	Print-making
	Wyman	Assoc. Prof.	**M.A.-Columbia, 1950	Ceramics
	Wyroba	Professor	**M.A.-Columbia, 1949	Ceramics

\* Only Masters available in Florida

\*\*Terminal Degree at that time



4B-C The following faculty will be necessary to fully implement the program.

<u>New Faculty</u>	<u>Year</u>
1. Photographer	1974
2. Painter	1974
3. Weaver/Fabrics	1975
4. Printmaker	1975
5. Art Hist-Curator	1976*
6. Comprehensivist/Environmental- Technologist	1976*
7. Sculptor	1977**
8. Designer	1977**

\* Faculty to initiate program

\*\* Faculty to fully implement program

5A The facilities that will be available to the Fine Arts Dept. in January 1975, on campus, will be

1. Library volumes	3,000
2. Library periodicals	38
3. Lab space-enclosed	11,000 sq. ft.
4. Lab space-roof only	2,500 sq. ft.
5. Equipment-OCO funds	\$35,000
6. Art slides	25,000 slides

The additional facilities that are available to art students in the Miami Area are

1. Library volumes-downtown library	8,200 circulating
	8,000 reference
2. Library volumes-4 jr. college campuses	10,000 (approx.)
3. Lab space - MAC	4,000 sq. ft.
Ceramic League	1,000 sq. ft.
Grove House	1,000 sq. ft.
+Renting of storage space in a large city such as Miami for studios for students.	
4. Museums and Galleries	
Miami Art Center	



4. Museums and Galleries (con't)

Low Art Museum  
Miami Museum of Modern Art  
Ft. Lauderdale Museum  
Proposed Dade County Museum (1976)  
32 Private Galleries

5B The following facilities are anticipated in September 1976 when the Fine Arts Dept. will move to the new INTERAMA CAMPUS.

1. Facilities to be kept at Tamiami Campus
  - a. Lab space (enclosed) 5,000 sq. ft.
  - b. Lab space-roof cover 1,000 sq. ft.
2. Facilities at Interama
  - a. Library volumes 5,000
  - b. Library periodicals 42
  - c. Lab space-enclosed 22,000 sq. ft.
  - d. Lab space-roof cover 2,000 sq. ft.
  - e. Equipment-OCO \$50,000
  - f. Art slides 50,000 slides
  - g. Media lab 2,000 sq. ft.

The above facilities and equipment will be sufficient to fully implement the M.F.A. program.

5C This program could be supported by its normal generated resources.



**STUDENT CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED FOR A TYPICAL DEGREE**

Discipline Categories*	Course Level			Total
	Lower	Upper	Graduate	
Agriculture & Natural Resources		↑	↑	↑
Architecture & Environmental Design				
Area Studies				
Biological Sciences				
Communications				
Computer & Information Sciences				
Education				
Engineering		↓	↓	↓
Fine & Applied Arts		60	36-72	96-132
Foreign Languages		↑	↑	↑
Health Professions				
Home Economics				
Law		30 as per advisement	0-36 as per advise- ment	30-66
Letters				
Library Science				
Mathematics				
Military Sciences				
Physical Sciences				
Psychology				
Public Affairs & Services				
Social Sciences				
Interdisciplinary Studies		↓	↓	↓
<b>TOTAL</b>		90	72	162

\*For definitions of each category see NCHEMS Technical Report 27.