



ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE

Clothing and Textiles-Fashion Design Advisory Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Friday, March 2, 2012 6:00 p.m.

Location: Antelope Valley College- APL room 108

Participants/Attendees:

Name	Title	Affiliation
Melissa Ramiro	Instructor/Dept Chair	AVC
Nayma Karamanos	Instructor/owner	AVC/Kuki's Bridal
Carol Dykehouse	Instructor	AVC
Rudy Ramiro	Prison Industries Admin.	CA Prison Industries/Corrections
Lari Mora	District Visual Coord./student	WHBM/AVC
Elaine Sandeen	Owner	The Design room
Lindsey Sewalson	Former student graduate	AVC/CA-state Northridge (new)
Fay Harrison-Bergier/Dawn	Owner	Bolts in the Bathtub (new)
Amanda Mills	Student/independent costumer	AVC

Advisory Board purpose and introductions:
 Two new members (from Bolts in the Bathtub), and a prior graduate from AVC and subsequently CSUN were introduced. The primary functions of the advisory board were covered. The point was made as to the validity of last years input with respect to the Perkins funded project that we are in the final stages of implementing. The importance of the recommendations in regard to changes made in the program and/or curriculum and/or equipment. The decisions to move to more "industrial" machines and equipment to ensure students (who will be seeking employment within the industry) were properly trained on the equipment, as established at last years Advisory meeting(s).

Program Outcomes:
Current Program path and revisions-
 COR's were updated as of Spring 2011 and implemented in Fall 2011. Each course has been revised and requires new textbooks as well as projects. The corrections have asserted a clearer path through the program. Each course adds to the info from the prerequisite. We have scaled back the number of courses offered because of staffing. An overview of each course was given to introduce the committee to the changes and the "path" to completion. All syllabi are written, based off of the COR, by the Dept



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chair. Modifications will be made at the end of this semester when the three instructors will meet to recommend improvements or deletions.

Current Enrollment numbers and trends-

There has been a slight decrease in enrollment, especially in the beginning courses (CT105 and CT110). Students understand that the repeatability of courses, per program adjustments, is no longer an option. Each sewing courses except CT105 has a pre-requisite and must be completed to move forward. We have had some trouble with students being allowed to sign up for CT110 without completing CT105, but it is believed to be getting better and will eventually be fully corrected. It is also believed that students are seeing the changes in the program and are beginning to understand that the CT program is a strong, much improved curriculum/project based program, and not a "hobby-craft" program as it had been dubbed in previous years.

Possible completers (both certificate and degree) for 2011-2012-

Due to some confusion with reference to what calendar year the students declared CT as a major; each eligible student has been counseled and sent to apply for graduation. There has been some confusion with the lack of electives that the program now has to offer, that students have enough credits to graduate. The department chair is assisting each individual eligible student with the process. Our completer numbers should be substantially higher in the next few semesters.

Curriculum Updates and Input from Industry:

The general consensus from the group was to have three courses added to the program. 1. History of costume with sketching (fashion illustration) included 2. Merchandising and retail 3. CAD patternmaking with Adobe (computer-generated) design. There were also suggestions of fashion photography, Apparel production and manufacturing, and a real need for a costuming class. We have a unique proximity to LA and the costuming/wardrobe industry is so close, but is not covered in the current curriculum. A brief overview was given as to a community resource class to be given to certify our students on the Gerber CAD system, once it is operational. It was made very clear, that no more classes could be offered or even developed with the current staffing limitations of the 3 adjunct instructors.

Internships or work experience opportunity (specifically employment criteria):

New to this semester was the development of 3 internships/work experience opportunities that came to us. Paperwork had been started as of the meeting date to establish a class for work experience. There were also offers of paid employment as well. The need is there as most colleges offer work experience while universities require internships for graduation. Leslie Baker (Interior Design faculty) would be assigned to head up this class section.

As a group, we defined the criteria for work experience/internship eligibility. The group concluded that a CT student should be at the CT200 level or above to be eligible to apply. Thus allowing for commitment within the program. Students who have shown a general knowledge and have excellent attendance will be considered before a student who is average in attendance and participation. Some students will be allowed to find their own work experience positions if the 3 we have are not what they are looking for. A general overview of how these internships was made available for the possible employers present at this meeting. It's such an important improvement to the program!

Comments from Industry Participants/Open Forum:



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Each employer as well as each current student or graduate was given a questionnaire upon arrival. The prospective employer form asked questions on what they, the employer, were looking for in an employee. They were also asked to list the 3 most important criteria when hiring a graduate were. Top of each employers list was promptness and a desire to work. Each employer had different criteria depending on what their field was/is. The ability to communicate effectively as well as a thorough understanding of all equipment/machinery needed for apparel construction. (**see above)
The students were asked if they felt prepared for a career upon graduation, what courses would you have needed, and what courses you learned the most from. They were also asked for their overall impression of the Clothing and Textiles-Fashion Design program. Overall, patternmaking, textiles, tailoring and alterations were the strong courses, with costuming; merchandising, as well as industrial concepts was needed. The overall impression was to continue to improve based off of industry needs as well as add classes. Two particularly great points were to include more full-scale in classes such as flat pattern and draping, and a huge need for fashion sketching/illustration. The students needed more practice on working with clients as well as industry overviews (who does what). (**see above)
Both groups agreed that more industry tours were needed or other field trips as well as more work experience positions. Being able to communicate and interact was crucial, as well as devotion to the trade.

Spring Fashion show (May 23rd 2012 in front of APL in quad area):

All participants were invited and encouraged to attend this year's Fashion Show.

Request for ideas for additional resources and Future plans:

grants, field trips, guest speakers, donations-

A Perkins proposal will be generated again this year for additional equipment as well as computers/software. The group's input is crucial to this proposal! The department chair will look into field trips to industry sites as well as the possibility of new work experience opportunities.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Letter head was used

Clothing and Textiles-Fashion Design- Advisory Board
Prospective Employer Questionnaire

If you were to hire an AVC Clothing and Textiles-Fashion Design graduate for employment, list your top three criteria the potential employee should possess for employment within your company/store. (Please keep in mind what industry/custom work/field the candidate would be applying for)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What, in your opinion, traits/experience/skills should Clothing and Textiles-Fashion design students possess upon graduation.

What class or classes should a student take or (potentially) should be offered in order for the student to be well-rounded and ready to accept employment upon graduation?

Do you feel students could benefit more from internships/work experience or full/part time paid employment (within the fashion field) while attending school?

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Student Questionnaire

1. What is the main reason you would decline an internship/work experience opportunity?

2. Do you feel prepared for employment within the Fashion Design or Merchandising field upon graduation?
 - a. If yes, what skills do you feel are your strong points? Which classes best prepared you?

 - b. If no, why not? Which classes would you have liked to have been offered?

3. In what field will you be looking for a job?

4. Give your impressions/opinions of the Clothing and Textiles-Fashion Design program at AVC (please be honest).



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Attendance Record: [March 2, 2012]

Print Name	Affiliation/role	Signature
Melissa Ramiro	Faculty Chair	Melissa Ramiro
CHLOE DYKEMORSE	INSTRUCTOR	Chloe Dykemorse
Amanda Mills	Costume Designer	Amanda Mills
Lindsey Sewalson	Graduate/Community member	Lindsey Sewalson
RAMIRO, JULY	FIA	July Ramiro
Elaine Swickard	OWNER OF THE SEWING ROOM	Elaine Swickard
DARWIN HARRISON	OWNER OF BELTS IN THE BATHUB	Darwin Harrison
FRANK HARRISON BELTMAKER	"	Frank Harrison
Lari Mow	Brooks Brothers White House Black Market	Lari Mow
Nayma Karamane	Kuki's Bridal	Nayma Karamane