

Arts Breakout Session (2:30-3:30 PM, June 22)

Discussion moderators: Assistant Professor Mark Laver, music, and Professor Eric McIntyre, music

S&B Reporter: Seth Taylor

- McIntyre and Laver noted that “what we don’t have a lot of is answers,” but they are eager to listen to students and help advocate for students.
- If students have ideas about how they want their ensembles to proceed, Laver encouraged students to reach out.

Music Ensembles

- Questions remain about chamber music groups.
 - ◆ “There’s definitely interest in making sure something happens,” said McIntyre, but public health comes first.
- If there is a jazz ensemble, it will “probably” be online, said Laver (Laver directs the jazz ensemble).
 - ◆ He said the same goes for other music ensembles and theatre.
 - ◆ Theater productions will be online, said McIntyre.
- “My first concern, as someone who directs music ensembles, is to get musicians working together to create art,” said McIntyre.
- How access to instruments will work is another question that is ongoing.
 - ◆ Instrument sharing will not take place “for the foreseeable future,” said McIntyre.
 - ◆ “Some instruments are riskier than others,” noted McIntyre. Some drain water onto the floor; some can’t be played without a mask.
 - ◆ McIntyre hopes that some instruments will be made available, though.
- McIntyre noted that using outdoor spaces to accommodate socially distanced ensembles has been discussed.
 - ◆ Professor Rommereim has been one of the ones discussing this in particular.
- There are efforts to bring cohorts of students on to campus with “common interests” as soon as F2. That could include music ensembles.

- “We’re looking for flexible solutions” as to how to get creative, artistic work done without being together in person, said McIntyre.
- There is no new Director of Chamber Ensembles.
 - ◆ There’s been a “hard” hiring freeze, but the Dean’s Office is aware of gaps in employment said McIntyre.

Music Lessons

- Music lessons will be “easier” to accommodate than classroom courses, schedule-wise.
- McIntyre said that the “most likely scenario” will be that lessons proceed remotely.
 - ◆ Some faculty don’t feel comfortable in one-on-one lessons (some do).
 - Some faculty have health concerns that won’t allow them to teach in person.
 - Some faculty have advocated for as much in person instruction as possible.
 - ◆ He noted that the faculty are working to develop a lesson-plan that will make remote music lessons better for students.
- It’s not yet known how credit will be awarded for lessons on a 7.5 week term.
- Faculty concerns are also being considered.

Studio Art

- Laver and McIntyre couldn’t provide confirmation on whether art studio classes are going to be considered “high-touch.”
 - ◆ He said he doesn’t think anything will be “required” to be in person.
- McIntyre acknowledged that studio art classes would suffer from issues of inequity if classes were not held in person.
 - ◆ The Studio Art Department is “on the front lines” fighting to address those issues now, according to McIntyre.

Senior Recitals

- Senior recitals and MAPS - required for honors for some majors - have not yet been determined.



- ◆ McIntyre recommended that students reach out to their individual advisors to start planning now
- ◆ Some of these projects may be able to be done in person in the spring; some may have to be done remotely.
- ◆ In the previous semesters the faculty did accommodate online performances, so that may continue.
- ◆ Laver noted that the College and the faculty are committed to ensuring students continue to meet their graduation requirements.

Bucksbaum

- Bucksbaum is not open to faculty or students right now.
- McIntyre said he's hoping faculty will have "limited" access within the next few weeks.
- "We will have to accept the fact that certain spaces on campus will have to be mothballed for the foreseeable future," said McIntyre.
 - ◆ This could include practice rooms, etc.