Minutes of the Performance Arts/ Film/Video Advisory Committee  
Thursday, December 9, 2010  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Boardroom, 1000 Building  


Welcome and Introductions: Members enjoyed pizza and salad as they introduced themselves and spoke about their professional association in the acting and filmmaking business.

Minutes, roster and agenda were distributed with approval of the minutes after a quick review. Discussion briefly centered around potential use of funds allocated to the program from the Workforce office. A question was raised regarding having a Theatre Arts Festival here.

Tony chaired the meeting. [Note: a committee chairperson from the advisory committee membership will need to be appointed to run the meetings during the winter meeting.]

Announcements:
Ruth Gregory announced that the AAAS degree in Digital Film Production was approved this past October by the state. Ruth announced that they would have their first graduate this coming winter and that possibly 3 more student graduates by the end of the year.

SCAN NETWORK: Ruth indicated that the City of Seattle cut the funding of the SCAN Network. They still have the channel, but folks must bring them programming. They can no longer create it there.

NORTH SEATTLE CC: Since SCAN is located at 99 and 100th Avenue close to North Seattle, Tony suggested that some kind of partnership be explored. North Seattle Community College does not have a film program, but it does have a TV studio. Tony has been talking about working collaboratively with NSCC to develop a possible studio partnership or exchange so students could get the benefit of both their TV studio and our theatre and film program. Tony said he would talk with Doc about possible professional connections. A member noted that students often do consider four-year programs and we could become a feeder for these if our students get a well-rounded education and experiences.

Tony also reported that South Seattle and Seattle Central CC and Edmonds cut their theatre departments. Nevertheless, NSCC has a small black box theater that our students could utilize. Tony works collegially with Dawson Nichols, the Dept. Head at NSCC. They have the small black box and we have the big theatre.

SPLASH: Shoreline sued to do a Shoreline College Arts Festival which was a celebration of the arts. Jamie from Student Services is trying to promote this and students are really pushing it. It was believed to be happening around winter quarter. Faculty will contact Jamie to find out more details. An idea was raised that possibly advisory committee members could display their work
to students, that in the past there was music and that it would help to have a centerpiece activity that would both bring in revenue for student scholarships and showcase student work. There would be an all-day arts/film festival culminating in a special centerpiece event in the evening. Based on schedules, a Friday event would be optimal. Money could primarily be raised for the evening event.

Kris brought up the concern that our theatre needed a sound system sufficient for really good folks to be willing to show their films here. The potential costs of renting HD with a discounted rate would be about $1000 to $2,000. Megan’s fee would be minimal, about $250 for a screen fee.

Tony said that We want to be at the forefront of technology and the theatre arts. “ Suggestions for guest artists might be Megan Griffiths who had a showing of “The Off Hours” at Sundance. Tony wanted to be able to pay her to come. If any money is raised for student scholarships, he wanted to be able to expand scholarships to film students. This festival would need to be a major event to attract others from Edmonds to do their festival activities here.

TO DO: Tony will ask Megan about her availability in the spring.

CITY OF SHORELINE: Norma briefly explained her meeting with the Economic Director of the City of Shoreline regarding a potential dorm for our international students and a black box space at the bottom floor of the building, close to restaurants, etc. The space could be flexible with many uses which might be attractive in this community with its many local artists. Lindy added that Seattle University did a similar things.

TRAVELING SHOWS: Tony briefly mentioned that some shows that we do here could go on the road, i.e. and being a good experience for our students.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS: Ruth brought up the program’s desire to develop a $500 scholarship for film students, starting with the money raised for student scholarships last year when Lynn Shelton spoke. She passed around a draft application form with criteria, application procedures, and the application form on the reverse side. She asked committee members to critique the form. $500 would go to a student which could start next summer. Members reviewed scholarship criteria. Chelsea added that possibly a reel of their own work could be part of the scholarship package or at least at the end of the scholarship, somehow showcasing a student’s work. Lindy added that such would help donors more apt to donate. If a student did not have a film to show, they could showcase the other skills they use in the drama/film field. We train students to work on any film, not just their own. The program teaches them to do it all, so students could showcase different skills or aspects of what they learned.

Suggestion: for $500 the wording might include changes so that we could get students willing to show their work to donors or advisory committee members, to get them used to showing to folks outside the classroom. Tony noted that donors love to see students to talk with.

ACTION ITEM: Committee voted to approve the draft scholarship application form with slight changes in wording.
TO DO: Ruth indicated she would ask the Foundation for the appropriate wording.

Ruth Follow-Up: The Foundation stated that they have rectified the situation with the photos not being released in the release wording that students applying would have to sign. They said that we could not force students to release work that they will create in the program if they were to receive the scholarship. So that wording did not change. Rather, they suggested, we just have to follow-up with the students as they progress through the program. This shouldn’t be an issue since the program is so small.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS: Tony asked committee members to identify possibilities for student internships.
1. Kris and Lindy Boustedit: next feature film in Leavenworth. They want students for a 21-day shoot with a $200,000 budget. LA talent and Seattle talent will in the film. Mid-April is expected date. They will also need actors for small acting roles.
2. SIFF: student internships. How do we get students interviewed? Students should talk with Kris Boustedit for advice.
3. Seattle Film Office: they need interns and they pay.
4. Shoot for Seattle Channel: only require an AA in video production for their interns.
5. Children Audio books, Voice over work, a paid position
7. WA Film Works is always looking for interns. Unpaid.
8. Juice Lady cookbooks. Used our students to film webisodic commercials.

Tony asked about creating our own interns, but other faculty noted that their purpose was to get our students off campus, out of their comfort zone and to meet new people and make their own contacts. Faculty discussed how students work harder for others rather than their teachers with whom they have already developed a rapport.

WASHBOARD SCHOLARSHIP is a scholarship organization for students. Scholarships like the one discussed tonight could be advertised on Washboard. They are looking for more commercial student driven work.

NIFTY for talented youth: In April or May, under 21 years of age, students can get their work out there. The faculty will encourage students to send their reels. Faculty might consider requiring students to attend NIFTY which is usually a long weekend. It would be excellent exposure to them about what kinds of work students are producing. It will be a requirement for the advanced class.

TO DO: Tony will send Norma a list of happenings and events for our students. Faculty will look at setting up a list serve of students by contacting TSS.

SEATTLE MARATHON: George reported that 2 of our students worked the marathon and produced a two minute video to post on their website. Tony noted that our students work on professional shoots. With the latest equipment, they can now become hirable as entrepreneurs with their professional tools in a backpack, making them portable as cameramen.
VOLUNTEERS and GUEST LECTURERS in our classes fall quarter:
Payment for guest speakers is typically $50 to $100 depending on what number of classes folks attend. Faculty cited workforce money allotted to the program for paying stipends. Norma asked if they filmed their guest speakers. Faculty then shared the guest speakers they used this past quarter.

Kris:
- Cheryl Cowan, a premier script supervisor who just had 3 films completed for Sundance
- Matt Shelton, a historian of audio engineer
- Jason Nold who has done 2 films at Sundance and who is an associate cameraman
- Beth Barret, Seattle film festival Director of Programming

Jesse:
- Fran Gow? Teen Speak, the I Speak Commentator. Jesse also described the I Speak collaboration he has with ESL faculty Lauren Wilson who has done this previously. Faculty discussed students now coming up with original scripts/stories and creating larger monologues telling their personal stories. In spring they are work shopping stories into performance, possibly showing these at Shoreline Shorts.
- Seattle Children’s Theatre

It was also suggested that the faculty invite Ernie an actor to speak with students. Acting students need to understand the historical aspects of theatre. Acting and stage work are connected, often with acting on stage for enjoyment but working in films to pay the bills.

It was also suggested that we bring in directors and others to talk to students about what they look for in work ethic.

Norma described a Music Tech final project that required students to present their work in an envelope ready to be mailed to a recording office, i.e. a genuine product that they would mail out…

Many students are also shy and do not show off their work. Faculty agreed that the more the students hear feedback from professionals, the better they can learn.

LIGHTING: It was suggested that we make our students learn lighting by making them light something for VHS.

New Cameras: Faculty reported that the 3 new cameras were used by alumni crew and student crew for Watch, a film about...................... George and Dave Golden are editing this and should have it ready for SPLASH.

WINTER MEETING: Goal for the winter meeting is that the students get closer to the advisory committee members and actually show off their work while members provided professional feedback.

Respectfully submitted,
Norma Goldstein