FINAL ASSESMENT REPORT
Criticism and Curatorial Practice, Faculty of Art

Prepared by:	Senate Quality Assurance Committee
Period of Cyclical Review:	July 1, 2015– June 30, 2017
Dean :	Dr. Vladimir Spicanovic
Program Review Team Lead:	Professor Johanna Householder
External Reviewers:	Associate Professor Barbara Fischer, Executive Director/Chief Curator, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery and the University of Toronto Art Centre, University of Toronto Associate Professor Lewis Nicholson, Faculty of Design, OCAD University

Part 1: Synthesis of Review Documents:

a) **Summary of Cyclical Program Review:**

This is the first institutional review of the Criticism and Curatorial Practice program since the UPRAC in 2009, and follows the new Institutional Quality Assurance Process implemented in 2011. The program review team was led by the CRCP program chair and included a small team of faculty teaching in the program.

The process involved extensive input from faculty, students and staff through information gathering activities such as mapping the program learning outcomes and course learning outcomes against the OCAD U Degree-Level Expectations; a detailed curriculum mapping exercise; SWOC analysis; student and faculty surveys; and student focus groups augmented by the collection and analysis of program-related data provided by the Office for Institutional Analysis.

The information collected in these activities culminated in the self-study brief document written over the course of the 2015/2016 academic year.

External reviewers received the self-study brief, and came to campus for an intensive two-day site visit February 6 and 7, 2017. They met with the program review team, faculty teaching in the program and students from all year levels. They also had classroom visits, met with the Gallery Systems staff and Library staff, as well as the Dean, Faculty of Art and the Vice-President, Academic and Provost. They completed their report on March 15, 2017.

Summary of external reviewer report:

Overall the external reviewer report was very positive, confirming that the CRCP program is consistent with OCAD U's mission and academic plan and well-positioned to continue offering an outstanding education. As well, the program's learning outcomes and requirements are clear and appropriate. Key issues and areas identified in the report were:

- Program-specific recruitment to enhance enrolment growth
- Augmentation of the curriculum with new course development and experiential learning opportunities for students.
- Support of the Program and development of its capacities with new faculty appointments
- Increased avenues for the Program and the OCADU Galleries System to develop both curricular and co-curricular offerings

Overview of internal response:

In light of the new Academic Plan (which had not been ratified at the time of the external review) the Dean and Chair have identified a number of areas to move forward on, several of which are already underway:

- The CRCP Chair now sits on the Admissions, Recruitment and Retention Committee and will work with the Admissions Office to develop Program specific recruitment strategies.
- The program committee is working to develop new curriculum to address the expansion of the curatorial field across multiple platforms.
- Giving priority to the Indigenous Hiring Plan to be implemented in 2017-18, a proposal for a dedicated faculty hire in CRCP will be brought forward in 2018-19.

Part 2: Strengths, Challenges, and Recommendations:

a) **Strengths and Challenges:**

Strengths

- The CRCP program is consistent with OCAD U's mission and academic plan and it is well-positioned to continue offering outstanding education to future generations of curators, artists and cultural practitioners.
- The CRCP program reflects a great deal of pedagogical innovation and creativity, and the objectives of the Program place interdisciplinarity, diversity and sustainability as priorities.

- CRCP faculty bring an incredibly diverse and varied research and practice-based expertise into the classroom. The quality of the faculty is also reflected in their exceptional professional outputs, including a number of teaching awards and nominations.
- The program is successful in drawing on the offerings of the University as a whole (studio courses, theory, art history, Indigenous studies, and art and social change). The program learning outcomes are clear, appropriate and in keeping with OCAD U University Degree-Level Expectations.
- The diversity of interests manifested by students—from critical writing to curatorial engagement in diverse areas of research—are evidence of the capacity of the program to foster individual interest and development.
- The Program's status as a unique undergraduate degree program, with no parallels, is a noteworthy asset for students desiring to move on to Graduate Studies in the field.

Challenges

- Lack of visibility in terms of showcasing the success stories of faculty, students and alumni on the website and in promotional materials.
- Increasing student enrolment in the absence of a strategic enrolment/recruitment strategy
- A lack of Program dedicated faculty, with ongoing dependence on cross-appointed, sessional and CLTA faculty.
- Scheduling and infrastructural coordination of curriculum, especially in relation to the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences and School of Interdisciplinary Studies (FoLASSIS).
- The lack of CRCP curatorial lab space and spaces for thesis exhibitions.
- Integrating student placements and coordinating curricular and co-curricular activities in relation to the OCAD U Gallery System.

b) **Recommendations:** .

1. Grow and strengthen the program by bolstering student enrolment management and recruitment in conjunction with the Admissions Office. Increase the public profile through promotional materials that clearly articulate the unique aspects of this undergraduate program within the broader educational landscape of North America.
2. Stabilize and renew the faculty complement.
3. Enhance the relationship between CRCP program and the OCAD U Galleries System, in particular in the area of professional skill development, research opportunities, and high impact practices within an A-level museum environment; and develop opportunities for experiential learning and student thesis projects (research and presentation).
4. Continue to expand and strengthen the curriculum in particular through the integration of Indigenous knowledges and content, new curatorial platforms, and media arts criticism and curation.
5. Increase communication platforms for students across the degrees to foster mentoring and peer relations among students, and strengthen faculty-student exchange; hold regular (formal or informal) gatherings to discuss the program and its opportunities in order to create a more close-knit community;

6. Enhance common work-study and exhibition spaces in conjunction with the Creative City Campus.
7. Develop a minor in CRCP to enable all students to apply the knowledge of professional curatorial processes to their work and the development of their careers as practicing artists, designers and those aiming for a job in cultural industries
8. Enhance exhibition initiatives and programs within the Gallery System, to heighten the progressive and unique role that CRCP plays in the city's arts ecology and beyond.
9. Review the proposed international guest curator program for a clarified relation to the undergraduate CRCP Program.

Part 3: Implementation Plan and Conclusion:

a) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

Recommendation and Proposed Actions	Outcomes and Indicators	Responsibility and Other Stakeholders	Implementation Date/Timeline
Admissions, recruitment and retention Grow and strengthen the program by bolstering student enrolment management and recruitment in conjunction with the Admissions Office. Increase the public profile through promotional materials more clearly articulating the unique aspects of this undergraduate program within the broader educational landscape of North America.	Clear strategy for student recruitment and outreach supporting stable enrolment	CRCP Program Chair Stakeholders: VCS Program Chair; ARR; Admissions and Recruitment Office	2019
• In collaboration with ARR committee and the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, develop a five-year plan for strategic recruitment and outreach in CRCP program.	Establish a working group led by program Chair. Periodic progress report(s) on consultation	Chair/ Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Chair (BA VCS)	Winter 2018
• Develop CRCP program view book or brochure and ensure that the achievements and research projects of CRCP students, graduates and faculty are disseminated and		Chair, Associate Dean, Outreach& Innovation, Director, Marketing	Spring 2019

publicized on the OCADU website. • Increase enrolment by increasing access to and visibility of CRCP aligned courses in First Year.	CRCP view book/brochure and updated OCAD U website content featuring program, and news from faculty, students and alumni	and Communication, Admissions & Recruitment Office Chair in collaboration with First Year Chair and faculty	
Human resource requirements Stabilize and renew faculty complement: • Develop a proposal for a new hire in 2017-18 in harmony with the University Indigenous Hiring plan - to be realized in 2018-19 • Revisit all existing cross-appointments involving CRCP and including FoLASSIS faculty, and develop a three year cross-appointment plan involving both fixed and rotating faculty assignments. • Appoint an administrator or a Student Programming Assistant for the OCAD U Gallery System to generate new opportunities and streamline curriculum involvement. • Develop profile for a CRCP designated hire in 2018-19 for 2019-20.	Job description to be included in the Indigenous Hiring Plan Job creation, posting, training in collaboration with the FoA and the Galleries System.	Stakeholders: Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Chair, Director, Faculty Relations, VPAP Office Dean of Art, Dean of LASIS, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and CRCP Chair Stakeholders: Faculty in Art and LASIS; Dean, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, CRCP Chair, and Director of OCADU Galleries System Dean, Assoc. Dean, Chair, faculty.	2017-2019 2018 for 2018/19 school year 2018-2019

Curriculum development; Academic and strategic priorities Enhance relationship between CRCP program and the OCAD U Galleries System; in particular in the area of professional skill development, research opportunities, experiential learning, high impact practices within an A-level museum environment, and clarify opportunities for student thesis projects (research and presentation): • Establish a working group involving faculty, students and gallery representatives to develop a strategy for integration of CRCP program within OCAD U galleries with a specific focus on experiential learning placements for students as well as exhibition programming	Introduce an experiential learning requirement at the 3rd year level for all CRCP students. Review existing gallery/museum based placements for CRCP students. Outline a set of directions and developmental goals by spring 2018 including a proposal for a new course that is aligned and integrated within the Gallery System	CRCP Chair; Curator, OCAD U Galleries; Experiential Learning Office/CEAD; Associate Dean, Outreach& Innovation Stakeholders: students, OCAD U Galleries System; Task Force on Experiential and Workplace Integrated Learning	Fall 2017 Fall 2018 2018-19 2017-18
Curriculum development Develop a proposal for a new core course building upon the current 2000 level "Museums, Galleries, and Alternate Spaces." Develop a minor in CRCP to allow the multi-levelled student body to bring knowledge of gallery and curatorial professional processes to their work and development of careers, for practicing artists, designers and those aiming for a job in the cultural industries: • With input from faculty, students and alumni, develop a new minor in	 Implement Minor with clear program guide and pathways for students' learning Information session on new minor	Chair, faculty, CICOF CRCP Program Chair; program faculty, CICOF Stakeholders: Students, Alumni and BA in VCS	2017-2018 2019-20

CRCP in 2018-19, for implementation in 2019-20			
Physical resource requirement Enhance common work-study space: • Develop and update a request for dedicated work/hub space for CRCP students/faculty within the context of Creative City Campus development	The proposal for dedicated CRCP space included in Creative City Campus plan	Stakeholders: CCC Representatives Chairs, Associate Dean, Outreach & Innovation, Dean	2017-2020
• Establish additional learning capacity and student placements within the newly renovated Ada Slaight Gallery at 100 McCaul.	Active CRCP student placement(s) and CRCP contribution to Ada Slaight Gallery programming	Director of the Gallery System, Experiential Learning Office, CRCP Chair, Associate Dean, Outreach & Innovation, Dean	2018-19
Quality of educational experience; Curriculum development Increase communication platforms for students across the degree to foster mentoring and peer relations among/students (and strengthen faculty-student exchange) in support of their navigating through a complex environment; include regular (formal or informal) opportunities to exchange and discuss the program and its opportunities, and to create a more close-knit community: • Clarify the links and pathways between FoA and FoLASSIS CRCP program offerings • Assess the logistics of scheduling and students'	Revise First Year CRCP related courses. Update program guide. Sustained dialogue with FoLASSIS faculty. Encourage FoLASSIS	First Year Chair, Electives Working Group, CRCP faculty FoLASSIS faculty,	2017-19 Spring 2018

progression through learning levels in tandem with the recommendations to involve CRCP curriculum components throughout the Gallery System. • Undertake conversation about the role and learning outcomes of writing in CRCP curriculum with consideration of the recommendations made by Writing Across the Curriculum steering committee.	faculty to see the courses they teach as integral to the CRCP Program. Report on logistical/scheduling issues Report to CICOF and refined course offering and learning outcomes	Associate Dean FoLASSIS. Chair, OCAD U Scheduler, Associate Dean FOLASSIS. Chair, CRCP faculty; WLC	ongoing Summer 2018 ongoing
Quality of student experience Review the international guest curator program for clarified relation to CRCP: • Assess all existing guest curator programs with consideration of OCAD U Galleries and partnerships with other art organizations/museums such as AGO, ROM, The Power Plant.	Report/presentation to CRCP program committee and CICOF	Director/curatorial team OCAD U galleries, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs; Chairs CRCP and CCP, Dean of Graduate Studies	2018-20
Curriculum development Continue to strengthen the curriculum through integration of Indigenous knowledge, new curatorial platforms, and media arts curation. Create exhibition initiatives and programs in the Gallery System, heightening the progressive and unique role that the CRCP plays in the city's arts ecology and beyond • Ensure that program objectives and learning outcomes are aligned with revised Degree-Level Expectations and the	Revise program learning outcomes in relation to new DLEs as needed.	Chair, CRCP program/curriculum committee, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, CICOF Director and Curator(s) Galleries System	ongoing 2019-20

guiding principles of a new academic plan			
• Develop a plan for focused curriculum discussion and development that responds to the recommendations (i.e. writing curriculum, expanded/experiential professional practice curriculum, Indigenous perspective in curating, etc.	List of discussion/focus points for curriculum development		Spring 2018 and ongoing
• Present the program review recommendations to Curriculum and Innovation Committee of Faculty (CICOF) this fall and seek further input on implementation strategies.	CRCP IQAP review Presentation to CICOF and to Program faculty including faculty from FoLASSIS and other programs in Art, Design and Grad Studies as appropriate.		Winter 2017/18

b) **Conclusion:** The Senate Quality Assurance Committee (SQAC) was provided with the documents pertaining to the Criticism and Curatorial Practice cyclical review, including the Self-study Brief; the responses of the Dean of Faculty and the Vice-President, Academic and Provost; the External Reviewer Report; and the program review team's Internal Response Report. The committee recommended this final report to Senate for approval, which occurred on November 27, 2017.