

BOLDLY REIMAGINING UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM Student Focus Group Notes

Wednesday, April 3 at 3PM

CONSERVATORY 101

ATTENDANCE

Faculty: David Zerull, Keith Salley, Scott Hudson, Matt Oltman

K. SALLEY – STUDENT'S KNOWING HOW TO COLLABORATE – IN DISCIPLINARY

• Address Entrepreneurial skills.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS MOST EXCITING OR IMPORTANT ABOUT THIS INITIATIVE FOR CONSERVATORY STUDENTS?

- Inspiration for Student Performance Week
- Performance Forum can seem like a burden (students contemplate sitting for an hour when they could be practicing or doing other things.) *needs to be more mandatory, also be as important as other courses.
- Theatre Degree No professional class until second year, (didn't know the concepts of a resumes, internship applications,). To be a
 pre-professional. *Need to have specific teachers that can work on "Soft skills"
- Provide descriptions (end goals). Would be more meaningful.
- Build collaboration where all voices would to be heard (interested projects like visual marketing and how it can be used in other aspects).
- Good presenters, better tech when needed issues with tech makes presentations unbearable at times.
- Will it replace health issues? Sometimes helpful, sometimes not.
- Group projects with a presentation at the end could facilitate collaboration
- How do we work within grade levels, programs, across the whole conservatory?
- Needing a good team (faculty) to be able to focus on projects or groups
- Everyone needs a be allowed to speak (huge disconnects between departments).
- Embraces creativity, openness, think holistically, not as competitive all the time.
- Hard to break out of your group, work outside of your own group/community (dancers, theatre, voice) steps to reach Student Performance Week helped with this
- Each day/class, different subjects, interaction and participation instead of a lecture environment. (opening your eyes to the whole conservatory)
- Creative involvement come back with a new skill at end of semester
- There is going to be students who don't care but majority of others will be willing to expand the program, a plan that isn't set and allows growth.
- Part of the education, a big change is what is needed, embrace change.
- School is special in the way we grow, the talent we have and the connections
- *Already fostering collaboration, some groups are here late hours working together but are hitting barriers. Student groups are working on this concept, needing more support. (theatre is very supportive)
- K. Salley Composer writing to create collaborating for performances among programs
- · M. Oltman Faculty collaborations can be difficult within their own schedules, so understand the barriers for students
- Digital media could be included instead of just actual performances.
- · Finding learning gaps that can foster growth
- Improve, less by the script/book build confidence. Less pressure
- Set tracks can block creativity, need to focus more outside the "academics"
- Schedule Already on their schedule, time is already open so why only once a month, more time to work on the collaborations, channel more skills
- Working towards core values, how these would relate within programs. Content, performers, audiences. (venue)
- Successes include the basics like calendar usage, grant writing as well as the "fun stuff"



BOLDLY REIMAGINING UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM Student Focus Group Notes

Wednesday, April 3 at 3PM

HOW DOES THE COLLABORATIONS (HANDS-ON) WILL REALLY HELP STUDENTS IN THE FUTURE?

- First semester, survival skills, last semester soft/life skills
- Alumni as presenters on how the real world affected them after school

WHAT ARE THE THINGS THAT COULD MAKE THIS INITIATIVE ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO ARE THINKING OF APPLYING TO OUR CONSERVATORY?

WHAT ARE YOU MOST CONCERNED ABOUT WHEN IT COMES TO THIS INITIATIVE?

- For high school seniors, pushing collaboration between majors because offers a chance to embrace all areas if a student is interested in other aspects of SU.
- Concern/ pitfall Collaboration can be "forced" it needs to be a platform
- *To work on projects support and platforms are needed to embrace you, without collaboration does not happen.
- Embrace their thoughts, they fear their dreams, plans will be ignored
- *Don't be shy, you have to be involved. (be an artist) (Why is each point important and how to show that grades are not just the goal).
- You need to fully understand why they are important.
- Needs to be part of curriculum
- More we promote the more open minded people will be here.
- To work on a project, there needs to be engaging, having options (topic selections).
- Don't over prescribe it. (not what do we have to do, what can we do).
- Change of everyone's culture, not just Cons 101 but also with the faculty.
- Students need to be on board, fighting their plan. Embrace skills.
- · Commitment and investments are what strengthens our skills.