

# Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration

## Unit Assessment Plan

### 2004-2005

#### Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

##### Mission Statement:

The Master of Fine Arts (MFA) program in arts administration seeks to provide a practical interdisciplinary education that develops well-rounded generalists, employable in any of the arts disciplines as professional arts administrators. The MFA program provides a solid curriculum of national standard which focuses on practical applications and philosophies of nonprofit management.

Professional assistantships, individual tutorials, and direct access to master teachers are combined to create a practical learning methodology that is consistent with SUU's mission of providing scholarly activities, personal service, and a personalized learning environment. The MFA program aligns itself well with SUU by utilizing faculty and professional guests who exemplify excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional contributions to the field of arts administration. This creates an exhilarating environment which enhances learning, stimulates and enriches faculty and students, and provides a pathway for the continuance of lifelong learning.

As a regional university with a service-learning component, Southern Utah University's mission is aimed at creating partnerships with public and higher education, government, business and industry. The MFA program provides services to both the public and private sectors through professional assistantships with the College of Performing

#### Program Intended Educational Outcomes:

1. Students learn from faculty members and professional guests who exemplify excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional contributions in the arts administration field.
2. Rotation assignments provide students with practicum experience in a variety of administrative capacities.
3. Students demonstrate their understanding of the principles and practices of arts administration and successfully apply critical and analytical thinking to practical problems.

#### Means of Program Assessment and Criteria for Success

- 1a. The MFA program will hire, promote, and tenure faculty members who are qualified and have demonstrated teaching excellence.
- 1b. The MFA program will insure sufficient faculty development resources to provide each faculty member with the ability to stay current and relevant within the field of arts administration.
- 1c. Faculty assessments will be conducted based on student and peer evaluations.
- 2a. Faculty and assistantship supervisors will be assigned to offer expertise and professional practicum experience to students.
- 2b. Graduating MFA students will successfully complete six semesters of practicum as assigned through professional assistantships.
- 3a. Students will have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and earn a grade of C or higher in each of the MFA graduate courses to graduate.
- 3b. Students will average at least 80% on Student Assessments completed by rotation supervisors.
- 3c. A Mid-Program Review will be conducted with each student to chart progress from the point of admission and provide feedback and goals for future performance.

and Visual Arts as well as with affiliates such as the Utah Shakespearean Festival, the American Folk Ballet, and the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery.

These partnerships, in addition to other local and regional opportunities in the arts, enable students in the MFA program to apply their scholarship first hand in a professional working environment. Contributions made by students of the MFA program significantly benefit Southern Utah University and the region through service activities which link the campus with the community and open a door to the arts administration world at large.

**Goal Statement:**

The MFA seeks to develop graduates who can balance administrative structure with artistic process to effectively ensure the artistic integrity and fiscal responsibility of arts organizations

4. Students intern with a professional arts organization to apply principles taught in coursework and observed in rotation assignments.

5. Upon completion of the program, students will be employed in jobs relating to their degree and focus.

4a. Students will receive positive feedback from final internship supervisors, who are currently working as managers in professional arts organizations.

4b. A final MFA Defense committee will critically review the educational and practical work (including the capstone internship) completed by each student and decide if a degree should be granted. 100% of students will be granted a degree based upon this review.

5a. All students will be surveyed upon graduation to determine job placement and degree of preparation.