

November 20, 2018

Message to all CAM Faculty and Staff

Subject: **An intended future and how CAM will be future-ready**

From: Laurence Kaptain, Dean 

Dear Colleagues,

It seems like just a few days ago when Dean Carmon Colangelo of The Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts at Washington University addressed all of us in the Community Theatre. Since that time, we have also been visited by the noted economist and social scientist Ann Markusen, German artist Aram Bartholl, Peggy Dollaghan from Pixar, Michael W. Watkins the accomplished cinematographer, television director and television producer, and others. In addition, CAM faculty and staff have traveled the world, and undergraduate Visual Arts Student Livy Snyder completed her Peggy Guggenheim Museum Internship in Venice, Italy.

With this context, I want to share some information about two ways that CAM is addressing the future:

1) INTERNATIONAL STUDY: According to the SNAAP Survey of CAM Alumni (2011-15) only 13% of CAM students had an international experience. Associate Dean Laurie Baefsky and I will travel to Hong Kong for a week of meetings to investigate a potential semester abroad program. Laurie and I will be meeting not only with university officials—but with a prominent Denver resident who is from Hong Kong and is helping to position CAM for success in an area of the world that will have huge increases in jobs and investments in the creative industries.

CLUSTER HIRES: With purpose in its role as a creative catalyst in a public urban research university, The College of Arts & Media intends to hire seven tenure track faculty in the Departments of Music and Entertainment Industry Studies, Film & Television and Visual Arts—who will be a diverse group--that will provide the opportunity to diversify identities represented in the roster of faculty that better reflect the student body composition on a dynamic urban campus.

2) The intent is to hire five faculty by Fall 2019 and two more in Fall 2020.

The College of Arts & Media (CAM) envisions a world made smaller, and more fully human, by the artist's, designer's and scholar's interpretations of the human experience. CAM students enroll with passion for creative expression. The goal of the faculty, staff, alumni and community partners is to send them out into the world confident of purpose, ready to succeed. CAM students acquire the skills they need to excel in an academically rigorous, experiential learning environment energized by creative exchange, real-world experience and diversity of voice.

In addition to having notable and relevant specialization(s) in research and creative work, candidates will have professional affinities and the motivation to also teach, lead, model and conduct research and produce creative work across the three departments in CAM (music industries, film & tv and visual arts). Experience and/or aptitude in professional practice* is prime criteria for consideration, and an awareness/involvement to assure CAM graduates are future-ready to enter the creative industries. The expectations for these cluster hires will be civic engagement (to advance opportunities for students and attainment for faculty research and creative work), participation in student recruitment, and to be active and dynamic citizens of a culture that engages broadly with the community.

*persuasive speaking, networking, leadership, critical thinking, creative thinking, clear writing, project management, technological skills, financial and business agility, entrepreneurial skills, and interpersonal expertise