

Arts Legacy Committee
Minutes of Zoom Meeting of September 12, 2023

In attendance: Cedric Kam, Jay Cary, Don Marcus, Eric Hatch, Ron Weiss, Roger Anderson, Mark Waterhouse, David Peck, Jim Lawrie and Dave Gang

The Arts Legacy Project of the Class of 1968 is meant to fund and advance the teaching mission of Dartmouth College in regards to the arts, with particular reference to the College Libraries, the Hood Museum of Art and the Hopkins Center for the Arts.

- 1) David Peck, acting as facilitator, welcomed members of the Committee to the zoom meeting. He noted that the primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Project Green Light (PGL), which Don Marcus and Jay Cary have been working on over the past months. Recent discussions with Dean Samuel Levey have brought clarity to the draft proposal, which had been shared in advance with the Committee.
- 2) Don Marcus reviewed the project: a \$25,000 five-year commitment, \$5,000 per year, to support a student artist in the preparation of an independent, creative Project in the Arts. Don then shared an update he had received from Dean Levey on September 11 the Arts Advisory Council, which represents 5 departments including Studio Art, Music, Film and Media Studies, Theater and Creative Writing, is interested in welcoming and supporting PGL. They do see the multiyear project as more important for process and experience for the student artists involved, rather than a focus on a completed product. The student(s) would remain owners of the intellectual property created, which is College policy.
- 3) Discussion followed:
 - Roger Anderson suggested this could be a team of student artists, not just a single student, and wanted assurance that this could be under the oversight and supervision of faculty.
 - Eric Hatch noted that performance art could be recorded for posterity, should funds allow.
 - David Gang and Jim Lawrie supported the proposed rotation among the five art departments.
 - Ron Weiss and Jim Lawrie noted the difference between this proposal (experience and process, rather than a tangible product) as different from past projects supported by the Arts Legacy Committee...not necessarily bad, but “drifting” a bit. How does this fit with our mission statement? Note: mission statement repeated at the top of these minutes
 - Jay Cary noted, and supported, that we have built into the proposal a 2 year escape clause
 - Jim noted that there are sufficient funds in the Arts Legacy Fund to support this proposed project.
 - Eric and others noted that our past experience with Dartmouth is that the College insists on retaining control of projects.

- Roger suggested that Departments pick 3 or 4 possible projects and submit them to ALC for selection. Group felt that the College would not agree to that, given their insistence on control.
- It was suggested that Classmate knowledgeable in the art discipline be allowed to participate in the selection of the project. We will ask that of the Arts Council.
- Roger proposed that the first two department's PGL be first Film, in honor of classmate Peter Werner, and second, Theatre. The group supported that proposed sequence.
- Don Marcus reported that Dean Levey had no preference on either of the two proposed schedules in our draft proposal. One purpose of any conceptual schedule is to align the conclusion of a PGL project with a planned Class mini reunion in Hanover, in either October or May.
- **The sense of the Committee: to recommend to the Class Committee support for offering the College a proposed Project Green Light initiative, a five commitment of \$25,000, or \$5,000 per year, with an opt out option after two years.**

Subject to further refinement with the College, through Dean Levey and the Arts Advisory Council. Our questions will be:

-The Arts Legacy Committee and Class of 1968 would like to participate at appropriate steps in the project. What are our options?

-Can a member of the Class participate in the selection of the Project?

-Can we request that the first two years be Film and Theater?

-How is project agreement documented? Who would prepare contract?

Next Steps:

Confer with Dean Levey between now and Class Committee meeting of October 7 to obtain closure on open issues. Possible shared zoom meeting to discuss

Reconvene Arts Legacy Committee to share results of discussions with Dean Levey

- 4) David Peck then moved discussion to the **Book Arts donation** suggested by Roger Anderson, which had been shared with Committee in advance of the meeting. The proposal, endorsed by Sarah Smith, manager of the Book Arts program, would purchase 3 wood typefaces, plus a cabinet to house them. The cabinet should include a plaque noting that the Class of 1968 had provided the funding. **After discussion, motion by Mark Waterhouse, second by Cedric Kam and unanimously approved to recommend to the Class Committee to fund the project at a not-to-exceed level of \$3,000.**
- 5) There was early discussion of supporting, in some way, the Pioneer Valley symphony for a spring concert: Roger Anderson has developed a libretto, Ron Weiss is in the symphony. Jim Lawrie and others felt this needed further discussion, as this potential

project is not directly supporting the College, or its students and faculty. For future discussion.

- 6) No specific followup meeting was scheduled, but will be once more detail on Project Green Light is developed for review and approval for the Arts Legacy Committee.
- 7) Motion by Jim Lawrie, second by Ron Weiss and unanimously approved to adjourn, at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Peck
Arts Legacy Committee facilitator