BFA 1 & 2: Student Issues

Issue	Next Action	Outcome
Room booking information (especially T461) should be more accessible, so students know who has booked a room. Being able to book rooms online would be helpful, as students don't know what to do if Joseph is not in.	All EDT rooms should have a Google calendar showing the bookings, Jim will ask Joseph to distribute the URLs to students. Jim will raise the possibility of online booking at the next department meeting.	The EDT rooms are available on a Google calendar on the EDT website. The link is http://www.christopherjohns.com/EDT_Department/EDT_Calendar.html
On the EDT website there are broken links and some of the forms are not accessible.	Jim will check with Christopher on the status of the EDT website	Students are requested to contact Christopher directly with information on any broken links
When MFA students take BFA courses along with BFA students, the BFA students feel that the MFA students are holding back the rest of the class, as the teacher has to spend more time explaining the basic concepts to them, as they have no experience in the subjects. BFA students feel they are not getting all they should be from the course as a result.	Jim will raise this issue at the next department meeting.	This is a balancing act between covering content appropriate to the knowledge level of the students. Alternative methods of delivery can be explored by the teachers
BFA3 lighting major students feel that the major lighting courses are too intensive when delivered over a 7 week period. They feel they do not have time to digest and reflect on the courses content and projects. They feel that spreading the courses over 14 weeks would be better	Jim will pass this on to lighting teachers for their consideration.	As per Jim's comment
There should be more of an introduction to Music Recording in 4YD1 & 2		The department have prepared 2 new introduction to recording courses to be added to the 4YD2 curriculum for next academic year
There is not enough content on Pop recording in BFA2 year Music Recording Major outside of the Pop Recording Techniques 1 courses.	Jim will pass this onto Albert for his consideration.	As per Jim's comment
BFA1 students would like to have access to a wider range of Microphones for their work on assignments and projects. Students are unclear on what is available and what can be borrowed from Music Recording	Jim will raise this at the next department meeting to get clear details of what is available to whom.	BFA 1 students have access to a range of microphones stored at Bethanie. Microphones from the EDT Touring equipment are stored at WanChai and are also available for booking in the normal way
Technical Direction major students are concerned about what they have perceived as poor performance from students in the 4YD1 year. Students want to know if there will be some equivalent of the Foundation to BFA application process in the 4 year degree.		This issue has been raised both within the EDT department and the TEA school as a whole. The Dean and the school are aware of the issue and there are ongoing discussions about what to do long and short terms.
Notes, powerpoints and other material provided in the Civilizations II course are not very helpful, often consisting of only uncaptioned pictures. Extra online notes seem to just be copied from the course textbook. The final exam is an essay-writing type, but the essay questions are provided in advance, so the students don't understand why the assessment is an exam and not just a regular essay assignment. Also the weighting of the final exam seems unfair, as students report that people who have missed enough classes to receive warning letters have received an overall A grade for the course, due to their performance on the final exam.	Students are strongly encouraged to detail all these concerns in the comments sections on their SFQ feedback forms at the end of the course, and not simply just tick in the multiple choice sections. SFQs are one of the most significant and powerful processes the academy has for improving the quality of courses. As similar concerns were raised last year, Jim will enquire if there is anyway for the department or school to highlight these are recurring issues with the Liberal Arts department.	Liberal Arts courses are not an area of the curriculum that EDT has influence upon. As stated previously students should make full use of the end of course SFQ procedure to express their opinions
BFA1 students feel that the 8-hour teaching Monday's are too intense, and they don't have time to digest all the material. They feel that 2x 4hour sessions over 2 days would be better. Also they feel that the homework for all the courses seems to come at around the same time.	Jim will raise this issue at the next department meeting.	This issue was discussed at the EDT Dept meeting. The rationale behind a full day at Bethanie was to reduce the amount of time students spend traveling between WanChai and Bethanie. If student prefer more traveling, but shorted days, this can be timetabled.
BFA1 students feel that the Fundamentals courses can be too basic for the students wishing to major in the respective areas, and too complex for those who wish to major in other areas. 'Catching up' the non-major students makes the classes to repetitive for the major students.	Jim will raise this issue at the next department meeting.	This is a balancing act between covering content appropriate to the knowledge level of the students. Alternative methods of delivery can be explored by the teachers
The limited resources in the Bethanie LX lab mean that practical classes are too repetitive between the foundation and BFA1 years.	Jim will pass this on to lighting teachers for their consideration.	The EDT Department is aware of the problem and has put in Major Capital Bids to purchase new equipment for all Bethanie Labs.