

BFA 3: Student Issues

Issue	Next Action	Outcome
The EDT workstations/labs don't have any Chinese/Asian sample/instrument sets. It would be useful to sound designers to have access to these.	Jim will raise this at the next department meeting and see if it can be included in the next capital expenditure bids.	The 'Ethno World 5' World Music Instrument pack has been installed on the sound lab and edit suite computers. List of the available instruments is here: http://goo.gl/TEvRS The samples are in Kontakt, which can be run as a virtual instrument in Logic and Live.
The Music Appreciation I & II courses don't feature enough music from the greater Asian region, and don't feature enough contemporary/pop music.	Jim will look at the syllabi for these courses and raise the issue at the next department meeting.	This subjects can be added to the courses, but it means spending less time on other areas during the class. Albert will discuss the various genres with the students at the start of the course and decide which areas to focus on
If the Effects Processing and Mixing course was offered to Sound System Design majors earlier in their studies (BFA2 or BFA3 Sem A) it would be more beneficial	Jim will discuss this with Wa to see if it is possible.	We will move this to the 2nd half of BFA2/4YD3 Sem A
Sound System Design students sound take the Pop Music Recording Techniques course, as this would help them prepare for experience with live mixing, which is usually not covered by APA Productions.	Jim will discuss this with Christopher, Albert and Wa to see if it is possible to fit this course into the Sound System Curriculum, perhaps as an elective.	This can be taken as an elective course by Sound System Design and Sound Design students. There should also be more room for elective students on this course, now that the Pro-Dip programme has ended.
Sound System Design majors should take Sound Design I & II in BFA2 instead of BFA3, and vice-versa. This would be more beneficial, especially for productions and projects.	This was discussed by the department staff previously and was thought to be a good idea, but seems to have fallen through the cracks in our most recent curriculum changes. Jim will discuss with Christopher and Wa and see if this can be implemented.	
Moving lights owned by the department are often damaged in some way due to mishandling. Junior students could be taught careful handling and rigging of moving lights in rigging classes in 4YD1 or 2, and later be taught moving light maintenance.	Jim will raise this at the next department meeting. Jim will discuss with the Lighting teachers and the BFA1 Students	
In some studio shows there are no students assigned to Production Electrician roles. It is felt by the BFA3 students that BFA1 students could be Production Electrician on simpler studio shows.	Jim will raise this at the next department meeting and with the BFA1 students at their next assembly.	As BFA1/4YD2 students will only have had 1 lighting production experience as crew in Foundation/4YD1 year, the department feels they will not have enough experience to handle the Production Electrician role.
Some directors (for example the current opera director) are not supportive of the learning experience of the student designers. Such directors will bypass the student designer and make requests directly to the faculty supervisors. Also they don't follow the academy production procedures.	Jim will discuss this issue with Christopher, the Dean and the Production Manager to see what can be done to prevent this in the future.	The Production Manager is preparing a briefing package for potential directors to explain the academy processes and procedures to them before they sign contracts. Christopher will follow up with the Production Manager to see what the status of this is.
Graduation projects are more time consuming than the students realized, especially when project supervisors reject initial project ideas and the students need to develop their ideas further. More emphasis/work on the graduation projects should happen in BFA2.	BFA3 students should visit the next BFA2 assembly to reinforce how time consuming the graduation project is. To help students get started quicker, BFA2 students could be required to have their project ideas approved in principle by their supervisors at the end of the BFA2 year. Jim will raise this at the next department meeting	
Organizing student workstations by discipline rather than by year may be more beneficial.	The 4Y1, BFA1 & BFA2 students can be asked about their preferences and can take a vote on whether they would like to change the organization for the next academic year.	