**Film and Screen Media**

**Minutes of Staff Meeting held on Thursday, 21st January 2016**

**Windle Auditorium, UCC**

2.00pm

**Attendees:** Dr Gwenda Young (GY) Chair; Professor Laura Rascaroli (LR); Dr Armida de la Garza (AdlG); Mr Dan O’ Connell (DOC); Dr Abigail Keating (AK);

Deborah Fitzgibbon(DF) **Minutes**

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| GY opens the meeting with the following updates under  **Chair’s Business**:   1. Of two pitches for 2 new lectureships for FSM one has been granted. The new details will be worked through shortly and the post will be advertised as a soon as that is completed. 2. Dr Barry Monahan (on sabbatical leave this semester) asked for the point regarding the Schull showcase to be raised. He has suggested Carmel Winters for presenting the student Showcase in Schull next May. GY puts it to the group present. LR raised the point that the screenwriter-in-residence could be asked to do that every year, if they attend Schull, alternatively other festival guests could be asked. AK said it is good to have female representation too as many of the students are female. It was decided to give Carmel Winters first refusal this year. 3. GY continued giving an update on the Windle Building. FSM understands the refurbishment will not commence until this summer. Plans for Windle have just been submitted for approval. A possible venue for FSM is being considered but its availability has not yet been confirmed. | **Action by:**  **LR/GY**  **BM**  **LR/GY** |
| **Minutes of last Meeting** (24th November 2015)  There were no revisions. |  |
| **Updates from Coordinators**  **Year 1 [AK]**  AK told the group that she had a meeting with the 8 x mentees BAFX1 students. Some of the students reported having personal issues that are impacting their studies.  LR/GY reported there is a timetable clash between FSM and German, concerning a double hour on Wednesday afternoons. Only one student is affected at present. German has found a solution for next year, but changes cannot be made mid-semester.  **Year 2 [GY]**  The last meeting with the students was before Christmas. Feedback revealed some issues, but is perhaps a matter of adjustment. Students are feeling very stresses, unable to cope. When asked if it has to do with course work, essay submissions etc., students said they are happy with the BAXII course and delighted with the chance to mentor at the Cork Film Festival, and the stress has rather to do with personal issues. GY advised staff to be aware of this. Staff can encourage students to avail of the UCC Student Counselling service for support in these personal issues.  **Year Abroad [AdlG]**  AdlG reported that there has been an increase in interest. She has held an information session, reminding students of the deadlines involved. Three students hope to travel, although there are no specifics of preferences for which destination just yet. AdlG will remind students of deadlines again shortly and keep in touch with the three interested students. LR handed to AdlG the complete list of second year students who have opted for the BA FSM International.  **Year 3 [LR]**  LR had a very positive meeting with the students before Christmas. There were no serious issues, the group are happy with only a few small requests. The clash with FX3007 has been resolved by GY. There is some apprehension about the workload in semester 2 and they are aware of the big final practical project. A discussion about how to file/retain practical work that exists online only then took place. Films/videos are currently submitted via CD/DVD/USB key and made available to the Extern. GY was concerned about future appeals, especially in the area of web-based projects. AK advised that students in her courses are asked to submit via Turnitin any text on a website as a Word document, but the issue of how to preserve the website was raised. DoC suggested a possible “screen-grab” and/or Google Archive for submission and a “Dropbox” type portal could be created. LR suggested a private-set Vimeo channel for the Extern Examiner and for filing audiovisual material. Barry Reilly will be asked to look into it. It would be a “Staff Only” access.  As the topic discussion closes GY advised the group that all year heads will be meeting student reps soon again.  **Research Seminars**  Chris Berry is confirmed, as guest speaker for Monday, 29th February 2016. A list of lunchtime speakers has been sent to the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures on request of the School Research Officer. They will take place approximately every 6 weeks, between 12noon and 2pm on the day to facilitate flights. AdlG advised that the CACSSS meeting/seminar room is a good alternative venue for these events. | All Staff  AdlG  LR/BR  AK/GY/LR |
| **Master Classes**  Clare Langan has been invited. She is enthusiastic and FSM awaits to hear back from her with a date.  There was a general discussion in the group about possible speakers, including Cilian Murphy, Maurice Seezer, Amy Huberman, Sarah Greene and Fiona Shaw. AK would like to have some female speakers for gender balance. GY and AK discussed the possibility to ask members of the Rebellion television show group to come to FSM.  GY spoke about the reception that CACSSS had for Artists-in-Residence 2014-2015. Carmel Winters was celebrated at this. The College does not appear to have plans for a similar reception this year, but it would be important to honour Gerry Stembridge publicly and showcase his work. GY will talk to Gerry about a suitable date/time for such an event. DoC also mentioned the possibility of doing a short documentary with the screenwriter about his own activities and time in UCC. Maybe something retrospective could also be done with Carmel Winters. Such an endeavour would help maintain and strengthen the good relationship between FSM and the Arts Council. If anyone has anything they would like to ask Gerry, for the short video, please let DoC know. | AK  GY  DoC/All Staff |
| **Teaching and Learning [LR]**  LR advises the group that the FSM semester 1 marks are ready to be uploaded to ITS. There were a few borderline cases. There was a discussion then about mark borderline cases: should they be dealt with locally at discipline/department level or let them go to the exam boards? Semester 1 marks are considered provisional until finalisation then when the Extern Examiner visits. LR mentions that there is an override function on DMIS to raise the mark without disturbing individual element marks. |  |
| **Industry Links**  GY informed the group that she anticipates meeting the Schull Film Festival Committee group soon. It is envisaged that BAFX1 students will be involved again.  Meanwhile she will meet James Mulligan on Monday next. He is very keen to develop links with UCC and for contact throughout the year.  There has been very positive feedback from David Puttnam as well – he is keen to retain ongoing contact with FSM UCC. Regarding his module, FX3007, GY will send DF an email to send to students involved regarding deadline for change of mind for registration. This is on foot of poor attendance at the workshops, which AK mentioned. More than half the group did not attend despite having received ample notification emails.  (AdlG departs from meeting).  AK intends to arrange a “drop in” session on the following Friday to accommodate those who have missed the workshops, of which there were only two. AK is anxious for this module to proceed well with direction if possible as she fears it could go awry given the engagement level so far.  LR/GY spoke then about meeting Lisa Brett in relation to student placements. Lisa advises FSM to be careful organising placements, whilst they are very attractive and interesting for students they can backfire if they are not properly run and substantial.  DoC asked if there was any update on the Apple training centre for education. GY told the group that Apple has sent a contract to UCC which has been back and forth on several flagged issues that must be looked at and worked through for clarity. It will be an educational centre rather than a professional one. It will be open to all programmes and free to FSM MA students but there will be a fee for others with extra for the examination.  GY advised that a decision was made that the Film Artist in Residence will be involved at MA level, and will only teach one module at BA level. This is in response to Arts Council’s preference for the Film Artist in Residence to be an artist in residence and not a ft lecturer. | GY  AK |
| **MA**  LR/GY told the group that the major changes form for the MAFX have been submitted. A core module has been included as previously discussed, as well as placement elements. The Apple course included as well, although not for credit. The anticipated positive outcome is expected in February. Then there will need to be a strong marketing campaign and effort to launch this new MA including off-site visits to IT colleges etc. An Open Evening is likely. DoC suggested using the practical element of the course as a USP. |  |
| **Date of next meeting:**  Thursday, 18th February |  |
| **AOB**:  None |  |