

Bi-Lateral Agreement

Emily Carr University of Art + Design & North Island College

Preamble

Since 2005, North Island College and Emily Carr University of Art + Design have collaboratively offered a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) at the Comox Valley campus of North Island College. This program was developed to recognize the thriving arts and cultural communities in the North Island region and the long history of strong relationships between the two institutions.

This bi-lateral agreement represents a commitment from both institutions to strengthen and grow their partnership. From the success of the collaborative BFA program, ideas for other educational and service collaborations have emerged. The establishment of this bi-lateral agreement is intended to guide the exploration and development of collaborative programs, services and activities between the two institutions.

Vision

To expand opportunities for students to pursue art and design education through both North Island College and Emily Carr University of Art + Design and to build a partnership that enhances the capacity of both institutions to collaboratively serve student learning needs.

Principles of Collaboration

The working relationship between North Island College and Emily Carr University of Art + Design has been characterized by these fundamental principles of collaboration:

- Mutual recognition that the needs of students are paramount;
- Open communication, discussion and dialogue;
- Mutual respect for the autonomy of each institution, including recognition and respect for the educational values, policies, collective agreements, strategic plans and operational processes of each institution;
- Equitable division of resources to support collaborative activity; and,
- Commitment to the joint planning of collaborative activities, particularly with respect to any program, service or policy changes that affect existing partnerships.

Both institutions agree to continue to observe these principles in their pursuit of future collaborative endeavours.

Range of Collaborative Activity

Consistent with the vision of each institution, North Island College (NIC) and Emily Carr University of Art + Design (ECUAD) will be innovative, flexible, adaptive, and future oriented in the pursuit of their collaborative endeavours. Thus, the collaborative reach of this partnership will include, but not be limited to:

1. Planning

NIC and ECUAD will:

- a. Share student transition and success data and will develop recommendations for improved student transition between the two institutions.
- b. Seek ways to contribute to each other's planning efforts, such as strategic, educational, and service planning.

2. Student Access and Mobility

NIC and ECUAD will:

- a. Develop innovative strategies to increase student access to the art and design educational opportunities provided by both institutions.
- b. Seek ways to increase opportunities for NIC and ECUAD students to engage in the learning opportunities provided by each institution. Initiatives may include coordinated efforts in distributed learning, summer institutes, lecture series, etc.
- c. Make every effort to facilitate access by students enrolled in any joint or collaborative program between NIC and ECUAD to programs and services consistent with those offered by the partner institution.
- d. Develop innovative registrarial and student service practices to support the mobility of students between institutions, including the exploration of a dual admissions agreement.
- e. Examine opportunities for facilitating student transfer from external institutions into the joint EC/NIC degree program.
- f. Work together to increase student awareness of collaborative efforts through marketing and recruitment initiatives.
- g. Explore opportunities to collaborate on the international education initiatives of both institutions.

3. Program Development

NIC and ECUAD will:

- a. Commit to exploring models of joint program development that serve the interests of both institutions. Innovation will be sought in the development of programs, pilot projects, one time offerings and other learning opportunities that reflect the strengths of each institution.
- b. Jointly plan the development of collaborative programs, including consideration for the operating costs, capital costs and FTE implications associated with these programs. All collaborative programs require approval of the respective governing bodies of each institution.

- c. Explore the development of joint programming to enhance aboriginal learning opportunities.

Scholarly Activity

NIC and ECUAD will:

- a. Work together to identify opportunities for mutually beneficial research partnerships to investigate and provide leading edge educational programs, initiatives and approaches, and to support application to research funding sources.
- b. Collaborate to provide faculty of both institutions access to institution sponsored professional development opportunities and to provide joint professional development opportunities where mutual interest has been identified.

Liaison and Coordination Mechanisms

1. A NIC/ECUAD Steering Committee with appropriate membership will be developed to oversee the implementation of this bi-lateral agreement.
2. The appropriate Deans will meet on a regular basis to ensure quality control of collaborative programs, identify and problem solve any delivery issues, to review student success in these programs and to explore new opportunities.

Communication

1. In addition to the above liaison and coordination mechanisms it is recognized that there will be a need for continuous communication between the partners relative to activities that have potential impact on the mandate/mission of the partners.
2. Partners to this agreement will endeavour to inform each other well in advance of taking steps to plan activities or programs and will attempt to resolve potentially conflicting interests in a collaborative manner.

Legal Effects

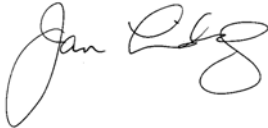
This agreement is a non-binding agreement and nothing herein shall be construed as creating any rights or obligations on the part of or in favour of any party, save and except for the obligations set forth below in the section entitled Financial Liability, which obligations shall each be binding upon the parties and shall be governed as to their interpretation and effect by the law of the Province of British Columbia. The parties will attempt to negotiate definitive Agreement(s) generally consistent with the activities identified within this agreement.

Financial Liability

This agreement does not impose any financial liability or responsibility on the parties with respect to the

costs of any other party. Each party to the agreement shall be responsible for its own costs of undertaking the activities contemplated by this agreement unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

The Terms of the agreement shall be effective as of September 1, 2010 and are valid until written notice to terminate. The specific Terms and continuation of this bi-lateral agreement will be reviewed annually by both parties. Either party may terminate the agreement at any time upon providing written notice to the other party. The agreement can be amended only by an instrument in writing signed by both parties.



Jan Lindsay, PsyD
President
North Island College



Ron Burnett, RCA
President + Vice-Chancellor
Emily Carr University of Art + Design