RESEARCH AND CREATIVE PRACTICE

Our research and creative practice is central to the Penn State research mission, valued for both its intrinsic merit and its significant role in University-wide collaborations and initiatives.

Arts and Design Research Incubator
Established Spring 2015

Stuckeman Center for Design Computing
New Director, Fall 2016

Borland Project Space
Established Spring 2015

Arts and Design Pedagogy Working Group
Established Fall 2015

COURSES AND ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Our courses and academic programs—in our disciplines and in the University’s General Education curriculum—are models of pedagogical excellence and innovation at Penn State and beyond.

- 70% of Arts and Architecture graduates have had a career as a professional artist.
- 41% of Arts and Architecture grads have served as teachers of the arts and design.
- 78% of professional artist graduates have also been self-employed.
- 90% of graduates would recommend Penn State to someone in their field.
STUDENTS

Students—regardless of major or program of study—identify “the arts” as influencing their decision to attend Penn State, and upon graduation understand arts experiences as having helped prepare them to succeed in their chosen careers and to be educated, humane citizens.

The Center for the Performing Arts hired Melissa Croushorn, student engagement coordinator and Performing Arts Council advisor. The college hired Wilna Taylor, Assistant to the Dean for Student Engagement.

The Classical Music Student Ambassadors integrate classical music into student life through activities such as dorm concerts, non-traditional venue performances, and informative performances.

School of Theatre faculty Susan Russell worked with Penn State Athletic Department’s New Student Orientation.

CULTURAL DESTINATION

Working in concert with University and Centre Region leaders and decision-makers, we will create a significant cultural destination for the Commonwealth in the Centre Region.

Our academic and professional units are working with other college, University, and local partners to present innovative programs that attract a diverse audience:

- Music at Penn’s Woods: Music in the Gardens
- Woskob Family Gallery/Downtown Theatre relationship with the Borough of State College and others
- Feasibility study completed for new museum of art complex in the Penn State Arboretum
GOAL #1
CREATE TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCES FOR ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS

53 students enrolled in Arts Entrepreneurship courses during the program’s inaugural year.
78% of graduating seniors report having been involved in an artistic project outside their area of study at least once per month.
65% of graduating seniors in 2016 participated in a study abroad program during their time at Penn State.
9% increase in underrepresented minority and international students between 2013 and 2015.

GOAL #2
MAXIMIZE VISIBILITY OF THE ARTS AND DESIGN AT PENN STATE

SOCIAL
The college gained 493 new followers on Facebook, 673 new followers on Twitter, and 235 new followers on Instagram since January 2015. A social wall was launched in May 2016 at social.arts.psu.edu: a feed of content from all of the college’s social media channels.

WEB
Arts and Architecture Research, the Palmer Museum of Art, Borland Project Space, and the Blue Band all have new/updated websites.

MEMBERSHIPS
Faculty and administrators are members of key national organizations, including the National Association of Schools of Music (Sue Haug, president), the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (Barbara O. Korner, board), National Council on Education in the Arts (Chris Staley, president), the College Art Association (Andy Schulz, board), Imagining America (Mallika Bose, board), and the Alliance for Arts in Research Universities (Barbara O. Korner, Graeme Sullivan, Andy Schulz).
GOAL #3
ENGAGE COMMUNITIES THROUGH RESEARCH, CURRICULA, AND ARTS PRESENTATION

Student engagement efforts include “Salon Conversations,” a series of moderated discussions addressing the arts and social justice issues, the Arts Ambassadors program, and a collaboration with Live It.

Arts and Design Research Incubator and Borland Project Space workshops, open rehearsals, lectures, and discussions contribute to culture that celebrates and supports arts and design research.

The Center for the Performing Arts and the Palmer Museum of Art foster community engagement through Classical Coffee Hour and other programs (CPA), and workshops, community days, and gallery talks (PMA).

GOAL #4
LEAD IN TECHNOLOGY IN THE ARTS AND DESIGN

The Visual Resource Center archived the Palmer Museum of Art’s collection in an online database.

The Blue Band is using new technology for tracking inventory and other data, and using iPads to share drill and other information with students.

e-Learning Institute, SoVA, and the Colleges of Communications and IST are launching an online bachelor’s degree in Multimedia Design.

Strategic Plan Update
Fall 2016

PennState
College of Arts and Architecture