October 13, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: College of Fine Arts Curriculum Committee

FROM: Bones Carpenter, Acting Chair

RE: Proposal for Plan B, Master of Art, Art History

Please find attached a Request for Change in Masters Degree Program form. The Art Department voted unanimous approval of a new Plan B (examination option) degree track for the Master of Art in Art History at our September 12, 2003, faculty meeting.

We judge it will be a useful choice for students who have no interest in a research career in art history, but do want to achieve and demonstrate Master's level competence in the knowledge, theory and methods of art history.

Without this option, such students currently leave the program after completing the course work. The Plan B track will improve students' success in completing the degree and contribute to the professional qualifications and opportunities of those interested in art related careers other than Ph.D. art historian at a research university.

Thank for your deliberations.
REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM

Program: Master of Art, Art History, Plan B

Department/Division: Art

College: Fine Arts

Degree Title (Old): Bulletin pp 56

CIP Code: M50-0703

Accrediting Agency (if applicable):

I. CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. Number of transfer credits allowed
   (Graduate School limit: 9 hours or 25% of coursework)

2. Residence requirement (if applicable)

3. Language(s) and/or skill(s) required

4. Termination criteria

5. Plan A requirements*
   no change

6. Plan B requirements*

7. Distribution of course levels required
   (At least one half must be at 600+ level & two thirds must be in organized courses)

8. Required courses (if applicable)

9. Required distribution of courses within program

10. Final examination requirements

   (if applicable)

   1. Graduate course work of at least 30 credit hours.

   2. Foreign language reading competency in German and one other language.

   3. Satisfactory completion of final comprehensive exam.

   6 of the minimum 30 required credit hours may be taken in related areas such as anthropology, historic preservation, history, literature, philosophy, studio art, or women's studies.

* If there is only one plan for the degree, plans involving a thesis (or the equivalent in studio work, etc.) should be discussed under Plan A and those not involving a thesis should be discussed under Plan B.

NOTE: To the extent that proposed changes in 5, 6 or 8 above involve the addition of courses in other programs, please submit correspondence from the other program(s) pertaining to the availability of such courses to your students.
II. RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S)
If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.

Adding a Plan B option to the MA in Art History Program will accommodate students who wish to earn a degree that qualifies them for careers in visual arts fields that do not require a Ph.D., such as positions in galleries, museums, art organizations, arts administration, or studio programs where ability to teach art history surveys would be an advantage.
It is most suitable for those who pursue the MA for the sake of deeper foundation in knowledge, theory and methods of art history without planning a career in Ph.D. research.

Signature of Approval:

[Signature]

Department Chair

[Signature]

Dean of the College

Date of Approval: 10/13/03

Date of Notice to the Faculty: 10/28/03

*Undergraduate Council

Date

*University Studies

Date

*Graduate Council

Date

Academic Council for the Medical Center

Date

Senate Council

Date of Notice to University Senate

*If applicable, as provided by the Rules of the University Senate

ACTION OTHER THAN APPROVAL

Rev 11/98