

**College of Fine Arts
School of Art Planning Seminar
Thursday 2 February 1995, 2nd floor, F block**

(In association with the Professional Development Centre)

1. Review of the Strengths and Weaknesses of the Different Areas

A. DRAWING

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross relationship in studio art. • Good traditional base. • Wide range of expertise for P/G students. • Diversity of career ambition among U/G students. • Diversity of opinion/approach. • Staff publicly demonstrate own practise. • "Small is beautiful". • Fowlers Gap field trips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of time/resources (mostly financial). • Lack of moral and resource support of staff. (Staff divided on this.) • Inability to attract sufficient high quality P/G students. • Diversity of opinion/approach. • Inflexibility of part-time employment/timetable structure. • Lack of part-time employment/timetable structure. • Lack of interdisciplinary opportunities. • Fowlers Gap field trips. • "Discrete" classes discourage fluid work practises. • Declining physical resources/conditions for staff. • Increased work load.

B. PAINTING

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of areas. • Good traditional base • Wide range of expertise for P/G students. • Diversity of opinion/approach. • Staff publicly demonstrate own practise. • Diversity of ambition among U/G students. • "Small is beautiful"/ • Fowlers Gap field trips. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as for drawing.

C. 4 D STUDIES (Video/Film/Sound/Multimedia/Performance)

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of graduating students. • Postgraduate student profile. • Ability to attract research grants. • Progressive and flexible. • Initiation of new course content that influences CoFA. • Many disciplines within the 4D area. • Course structure. • Quality of students attracted • Fractional teaching staff. • Unit links with theory units. • Profile of teaching staff, Australia and overseas. • Complexity of area. • Community involvement. • Important role that the area plays in contemporary art practice in Sydney, because of its unique position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor communication. • Isolation – physical. • Unhealthy work spaces. • Lack of space for students. • Lack of staff for administrative duties. • Work load not evenly shared. • P/G honours supervision not compensated for. • Lack of time to prepare classes. • Lack of information from above. • Constant change of staff. • Not enough time to liaise with fractional staff. • Large work load because of complexity of area. • Separation of support staff and area creates extra administration. • Feeling of marginality from rest of college. • Budgets and equipment. • Level at which support staff employed. • Having to support whole college. • Crisis management.

D. PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIES

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of graduating students. • Commitment to communication within area, excellent. • Willingness to accept responsibilities and undertake additional workload. • Liaison skills with management, administration and other areas. • Relationship with technical staff excellent and non-hierarchical. • Course structure and its reassessment. • Attendance at conferences • Ability to be interdisciplinary and philosophical and cont. visual arts issues and practice. • Profile off staff external to CoFA, which attracts students and sponsorship. • Supportive environment for staff and students. • Attendance at conferences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical isolation. • Lack of student work space. • Willingness to accept responsibilities and undertake additional workload. • All postgraduate supervision not compensated for. • Lack of development /preparation time for teaching, (due to overwhelming administrative and working party loads, committees etc.). • Expectation to be 100% competent in all aspects of administration and teaching. • Not enough time to liaise and communicate to part-time members of staff. • Level of remuneration tor technical staff is not equitable with duties undertaken.