SPECIAL REPORT

OF THE

GRADUATE COUNCIL

concerning

CREATION OF THE PUBLIC ART AND ENGAGEMENT CONCENTRATION IN THE MASTER OF DESIGN DEGREE
(#8996)

Presented at the
817th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
November 17, 2022

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

GRADUATE COUNCIL

Evelyn Ashley, Joseph Black, Ana Caicedo, Robert DeConto, Jennifer Friedman, Traci Hess, Alexandra Jesse, Neal Katz, Bernhard Leidner, Robert Maloy, Anthony Paik, Sarah Pfatteicher, Sarah Poissant, Darrel Ramsey-Musolf, Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Memnun Seven, Patrick Sullivan, Corine Tachtiris, Jacqueline Urla, Tilman Wolf

GRADUATE COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION
The Graduate Council recommends approval of this proposal.
I. Concentration

1. Title: Master of Design in “Public Art and Engagement”
2. Proposed Starting Date: 9/1/2023

II. Proposal Development

A. Briefly describe the Proposal

The Master of Design in Public Art and Engagement is a graduate program in The Department of Architecture at UMass Amherst that emphasizes transdisciplinary creative research and practice. We seek individuals from diverse backgrounds with an interest in bridging art, design and public space. As contemporary artists expand their practice to become more contextual in site-specific public art and social practice– designers, architects and landscape architects have ventured into making more conceptual work known as urban interventions, installation art, and speculative fictions. This cross-pollination has opened multiple avenues for creative partnerships and knowledge exchange with a particular emphasis on social and environmental justice.

B. Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the proposal.

Program was developed by Professor Sandy Litchfield, in consultation with Professor Eldra Walker (director of the Master of Design program). It was endorsed unanimously by the Architecture faculty on 3/6/22

III. Purpose and Goals

1. Describe the proposal's purpose and the particular knowledge and skills to be acquired.

Public art plays a critical and formative role in shaping communal spaces. The civil and environmental disturbances we face today call for intelligent creative makers to engage with the public sphere in an effort to build a more just, inviting, and equitable world. In collaboration with communities and the lands they occupy, artists and designers are uniquely positioned to envision and create spaces that offer meaning and connection.

The MDes program in Public Art and Engagement offers a unique opportunity for advanced study in creative place-making, place keeping, and public monuments.

IV. Resources

1. If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

The proposal will require no additional resources, as students will take existing courses in Architecture and related subjects.

Curriculum

Provide a curriculum outline showing degree program requirements, requirements of any existing concentrations, requirements of proposed concentration, and how they relate. You may include this outline and any additional documents as attachments below.
CURRICULUM (36 credits)

History 6 credits

ARCH 597D ST-History & Theory of Preservation
ARCH 630 Philosophy of Arch & Design
ART-HIST 627 Contemporary Art
ART-HIST 645 Architecture Now
ART-HIST 671-675 Great Themes in Art
ART-HIST 743 20th Century Architecture
ART-HIST 782 Museum Studies
LARP 661 Cultural Landscapes: Documentation, Values and Policy
LARP 663 Heritage Landscape Management
HIST 662 Museum and Historic Site
HIST 661 American Material Culture
HIST 697U Landscape and Memory
Other courses as approved by advisor

Technology 9 credits

ARCH 540 Analysis and Representation I
ARCH 541 Analysis and Representation II
ARCH 610 Material Research and Design
Other courses as approved by advisor

Practice/Research 6 credits

ARCH 597P On Color
ARCH 597K Design for Climate Change
ARCH 670 Research Forum
ARCH 530 Design Engagement
ARCH 530 Design Engagement
ARTS-EXT 508 Creative Economy and Placemaking
ARTS-EXT 500 Arts Management
ARTS-EXT 511 Grant Writing for the Arts
ARTS-EXT 509 Greening Your Nonprofit Arts Organization
ART 689 Introduction to Visual Culture: Theory and Practice
Other courses as approved by advisor

Studio 9 credits

ARCH 500 Grad Design I
ARCH 501 Grad Design II
ARCH 600 Grad Design III
ARCH 597M Drawing the City
LANDARCH 603 Heritage Landscape Studio
LANDARCH 630 The Theory and Practice of Public Participation
LANDARCH 662 Cultural Heritage Policy and International Sustainability Practice
ART 560, 561, 562 Grad Sculpture

Capstone or Thesis  6 credits
ARCH 699 or 799

MOTION: That the Faculty Senate approve the Creation of a Public Art and Engagement Concentration in the Master of Design Degree., as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 23-023.