



Dear Students,

The Art & Design Student Council and I recently met to discuss the potential changes between the SCA and UNSW.

I appreciated the feedback from the Council about your questions and concerns and I would like to address the ways that you will and will not be affected.

I understand your concerns about the adequacy of communication with UNSW Art & Design students. We are committed to improving this through regular meetings and discussions so we can listen and share information.

The Art & Design Student Council has agreed to organise the first meeting session during the first weeks of Semester 2. This session will provide us with the opportunity for open dialogue.

My meeting with the Student Council also made me realise the need to correct some inaccuracies in recent media stories around the changes, and I would like to address these.

Therefore, I hope the following information answers many of your questions and concerns raised about our campus, and your teaching and learning experience:

What will change and how will these changes be managed?

- Additional students from SCA may enrol to study at the Paddington Campus from Semester 1, 2017.
- UNSW Art & Design's Paddington campus can accommodate more students. The capacity of the Paddington Campus is 2,300 EFTSL (equivalent full time student load). The current student load is 1,903 EFTSL. We will be listening to you and monitoring any resource or space pressures throughout to make sure that your learning and teaching continues to be of the highest quality.
- Increased numbers of students from the SCA will require scheduling of more classes. However, class sizes will remain the same.
- UNSW Art & Design will provide more teaching staff to teach these additional classes.
- More students will require additional library resources. More UNSW resources will be provided to the library to address these needs.
- Academic advice and support will be available to help transitioning students from the SCA.



What's staying the same?

- UNSW Art & Design is not changing its degrees and will stay the same. Our Fine Arts programs will continue on our Paddington campus.
- The number and type of UNSW Art & Design courses will stay the same. The number of electives on offer will stay the same.
- Our class sizes will stay the same. Increased numbers of students from the SCA will require scheduling of more classes, however, class sizes will remain the same.
- You will have the same AD lecturers. UNSW teaching staff will not change.
- UNSW will maintain counsellors and support staff. Additional support will be available to help transitioning students from the SCA.
- UNSW Art & Design's Paddington Campus incorporates an unmatched range of facilities and resources such as tools and equipment, workshops, studios and production facilities; however, unfortunately the Paddington campus cannot accommodate glass facilities.
- UNSW's academic calendar will not change as part of this transition. However, as part of UNSW's long-term 2025 strategy the university is considering changing its calendar in the future. Discussions around possible changes to the academic calendar are ongoing and students are encouraged to continue to provide their feedback.

What are the benefits?

- Greater diversity among the student community including a larger group of fine and contemporary art students.
- More staff and more resources to support the transition with a continuing focus on high quality learning and teaching.
- Currently some classes do not run because of low student numbers; more students may mean that is possible to run some of these classes.
- UNSW is a welcoming creative community; these fellow students will be your peers in the professions you will enter in future.

What will I notice that is different and how will I be affected?

- Late enrollers may find their class choices reduced. As always we recommend you enrol as soon as you can so you have as many options as possible.
- While we will be listening to you and monitoring any resource or space pressures throughout the change, access to workshops and making spaces may feel more congested at peak times. As always we recommend you make your work throughout the semester, and please avoid leaving your work until the last minute.
- I know we will welcome the new students and staff from the SCA to our creative community. However we all need to be aware that changes can cause some uncertainty and potential stress for both current and transitioning students. We will all need to look out for one another, so please come forward if you need help.



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Art & Design

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. I am committed to improving communications around this process by listening to you, meeting and working with students and providing information.

Do not hesitate to contact me or the UNSW Art & Design team about your ideas or questions.

You may also contact Lynn Greenwood, Faculty General Manager (l.greenwood@unsw.edu.au), **Tel** +61 (2) 8936 0666.

Sincerely,

Professor Ross Harley
Dean UNSW Art & Design