

## UNSW Art & Design and The University of Sydney, Sydney College of the Arts

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Why are the University of Sydney and UNSW proposing this potential new arrangement?**

As announced previously, the University of New South Wales, the University of Sydney and the National Art School have been exploring opportunities since last year for a closer association between the three institutions, with the aim of strengthening the delivery of visual art and design education in NSW.

Recently UNSW and the University of Sydney announced they have signed a Heads of Agreement between the two institutions as the basis for negotiations of a final agreement. The intent is to ensure that undergraduate and impacted postgraduate coursework students currently studying at SCA will have the opportunity to continue their studies at UNSW Art & Design at our Paddington campus. Under the proposed agreement, arrangements will be made for HDR students on a case-by-case basis. All University of Sydney students will be able to graduate with a Sydney degree.

This proposed arrangement between UNSW and the University of Sydney aims to build on the strengths of both institutions and help to ensure a strong future for visual art and design education in NSW through a greater concentration of students and resources.

#### **What is the Heads of Agreement?**

The Heads of Agreement is a commitment by UNSW and the University of Sydney to work through the details of the proposal in order to come to a formal and binding agreement. Both universities are committed to working to achieve a final agreement to be signed later in 2016.

#### **What does this mean for UNSW Art & Design students?**

The degree programs of current UNSW Art & Design students will not be affected by these proposed changes. Those coursework students who choose to join us from the SCA can be accommodated at the Paddington campus and will make an invaluable contribution to the vibrancy of UNSW Art & Design and campus life.

#### **What does this mean for UNSW staff?**

There is no proposal to reduce UNSW Art & Design staff numbers as a result of these changes.



### **When will these proposed changes take effect?**

It is envisaged that the proposed changes will be operational from Semester 1, 2017.

### **What does this mean for the ongoing discussions with the National Art School (NAS)?**

The tripartite discussions involving UNSW, Sydney and the NAS are ongoing, and are focused on exploring options to put NSW at the forefront of art and design education and research in Australia and internationally. The proposed agreement between UNSW and the University of Sydney is an important development in those discussions.

### **What are the next steps?**

Discussions continue between UNSW and the University of Sydney to further develop details of the formal agreement.

If a formal agreement is signed by the University of Sydney and UNSW, both universities will work cooperatively to ensure a smooth transition.

Regular UNSW student and staff communications will include ongoing updates and provide opportunities for discussion with students and staff in the Art & Design faculty.

The University of Sydney is undertaking its own consultation and change process with SCA staff and students. Information about these processes will be shared directly with SCA staff and students.