School of Culture and Creative Arts Strategic Plan

Our Purpose and Distinctiveness

The distinctiveness of the School lies in its engagement with a comprehensive spectrum of creative arts and cultural practices (Music, Film, Television, Theatre & Performance, Art, Photography, Digital Media) supplemented by expertise in cultural policy. The complementary nature of our subjects underpins the School’s status as an international centre in research and teaching that integrates a focus on artistic practice with critical and theoretical reflection at the highest level. Extensive public engagement and local, national and international connections place the School in an ideal position to be the ‘cultural face’ of the University and to contribute championing the city of Glasgow as one of the world’s major cultural centres.

Key Themes

People
Research excellence
Excellent Student Learning Experience
Wide-ranging Public Engagement and Outstanding Impact

People: goals and objectives

Support staff (in all categories and grades) to achieve their career aspirations and realise their full potential

- retain our excellent staff and attract exceptional new talent
- foster effective leadership that aims at excellence in all our units
- promote a consultative and dialogic mode of leadership
- offer round-the-year career development advice to all colleagues
- deliver effective, supportive and developmental P&DR, probation and ECDP processes
- encourage staff engagement and empowerment
- use School Council as a consultative and reviewing forum
- improve communication so that information ‘flows’ both ways (up and down) in the School
- involve staff in consultation on School-based decision making
- foster collective responsibility in the running of Subjects and the School
- make collegiality and mutual respect core School values
- use the development and delivery of collaborative courses as a catalyst for establishing cross-School collegiality
- remote this ethos through School-wide ‘away days’
- ensure that a transparent and equitable workload is in place
Research Excellence: goals and objectives

- Produce world-leading outputs
- nurture world-class quality through research mentoring, critical & collegiate feedback and P&DR
- further enhance quality through regular subject and School based discussion and reflection on key research areas that are driving outputs.
- draw on School (and broader) expertise and rigorous selection to optimise publication profiles
- further develop and take full benefit of practice-led research
- significantly improve output quality for REF2020 in all our units

Capture significant grants from diverse sources

- take full advantage of TRM and ArtsLab support for individual projects
- develop cross-School, Cross-College and cross-University bids, assisted by the College’s proposed co-location
- focus on applications to international funding bodies
- maintain and enhance our world-leading research environment
- support disciplinary excellence and interdisciplinary developments through a series of School-based activities, events and networks
- support and develop our national and international research collaborations
- raise further the School’s profile by hosting a major international interdisciplinary conference
- continue to nurture the community of our PGR students
- support the full integration into the research environment of our post doctoral researchers.
- take maximum advantage of REF reviews to identify and support strategic strengths in our units and across the School

Excellent Student Learning Experience: goals and objectives

- enhance the learning, teaching and social environment
- further develop research-led teaching
- further develop innovative teaching methods through increasing use of practice and work-based learning
- further enhance Graduate Attributes development within our provision
- further develop and promote our diverse range of assessment strategies, including assessment of practice-based courses.
- upgrade and modernise practical teaching spaces in the context of the University’s Estates Plan
- achieve consistent high satisfaction ratings in the major student surveys
- develop collaborative course and programme provision
- achieve a ‘critical mass’ of collaborative cross-School courses on UG and PGT levels
- develop School-wide ‘umbrella’ PGT programme
- develop School-wide new UG programme pathway
- develop innovative and competitive specialist PG programmes
- take advantage of the Kelvin Hall project to develop programmes that offer cutting edge knowledge in relation to collections, archives and curatorial practices.
- further develop the work-based learning opportunities within our programmes, including enhancing our work placement provision.
- expand our provision of ‘practice as research’ doctoral programmes
Wide-ranging Public Engagement and Outstanding Impact: goals and objectives

Make the School the ‘cultural face’ of the University

• take full advantage of the Kelvin Hall development working closer with partner organisations
• develop thematic cross-School cultural events attracting popular attention
• extend our partnerships with national and international cultural organisations
• maximise the social relevance and impact of our research
• use our expertise to intervene and influence cultural policy-making nationally and internationally
• further develop our KE activities and improve the recording and publicity of such activities
• identify ‘impact clusters’ in the School and develop them for world-leading case studies in REF2020
• contribute to enhanced and novel uses of archives, collections and other data resources
• align our research activities with the resources accessible to us through our strategic partners
• develop innovative and collaborative ways of showcasing material from such collections and archives
• contribute to novel ways of organising archival material

20/10/2015