

Fashion Design Program Review

Faculty of Humanities, College of Arts

Dean's Summary

Submitted by:

Dr. Jacqueline Nolte, Dean of the College of Arts

Accepted by:

Senate in March 2015

Academic Planning and Priorities Committee in February 2015

**Program and Unit Review: Fashion Design
Dean's Summary Report**

Dr. Jacqueline Nolte

February 2015

In October 2014 the External Review Committee conducted a site visit as part of a Program Review of the Fashion Design Department. Members of the External Review Committee (ERC) included two members from other Canadian universities and one internal member from another area.

Central recommendation

The central recommendation of the External Review Committee was that the Fashion Design (FD) Diploma be discontinued. The External Review Committee noted, "It is the view of the external review committee that the program is currently not viable given the difficulty in recruitment and retention of students." And again, "...a diminishing demand for a diploma in fashion design has resulted in an untenable position for UFV: the program cannot sustain ongoing support and funding. Therefore, as a diploma, there is no future for this program."

The Dean and the Department have accepted this recommendation, which was shared with College Council in January 2015. Accordingly, what is being proposed to APPC is a discontinuation of the FD Diploma Program in accordance with Policy 222. The Program Discontinuance Policy (222) was approved by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee in June 2014, by Senate in October 2014, and by the Board of Governors in January 2015. This policy requires the following categories to be considered: Demand; Capacity; Program Output; Financial Impact; Reputational Considerations.

This recommendation is not a reflection of the passion and commitment of the Fashion Design faculty and the many very good learning opportunities that are offered to Fashion Design students. The Review Committee noted these departmental strengths but suggested that if Fashion Design programming were to continue to be offered it be done so in a different form to that of the current FD Diploma.