

Garth Amundson
ART 495: Professional Practice Seminar

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Now Installed, Commissioned Photo Mural in Parks Hall by WWU Art Students

Bellingham, WA (October 12, 2010)- Western Washington University's Art 495 Professional Practice class, Fall 2009, was given the opportunity to work with CBE and create a site-specific photographic installation that is displayed at Parks Hall on campus. It highlights the collegial environment and dynamic between students and professors in the College of Business and Economics. This dynamic exchange is an example of how departments across campus can directly benefit from working together. This type of dialogue will undoubtedly inspire future collaborations between the departments on campus.

After reviewing an extensive proposal, Assistant Director of the College of Business and Economics Daniel Purdy and his colleagues commissioned this artwork. Purdy then worked side-by-side with the Art 495 Professional Practice class. The fundamental objective of the project was to reflect the goals and direction of CBE's mission statement, "to provide a global perspective, knowledge of information technology, and the ability to apply economic and business principles." The Art 495 class consists of students from a variety of concentrations, including Photography, Painting, Drawing, Performance, and Mixed Media and focuses on exposing students to a multitude of practical experiences which will prepare them for professional careers after leaving the university. The class was broken into teams, and each team was responsible for a different aspect of the project, from shooting the photographs, to design, printing and production.

The project is now installed on the first floor landing of Parks Hall. It is composed of twelve photographs that represent the six different departments of the college and show the interaction of students and professors. The photographs are digital pigment prints on canvas, stretched on frames, and mounted to the wall. Six of the images will be 30-by-36 inches, and the remaining six 18-by-30 inches and is a permanent installation.

The Art 495 class was taught by Garth Amundson and focuses on teaching graduating art students how to survive as practicing artists. The class consisted of Michelle Newman, Katie Johnson, Sarah Brown, Kelli Waugh, Andrew Figgs, Adam McRae, Meg Coulter, Bryna Hoffmeister, Fiona Shearer, Shelly Browder, Maryann Miyashiro, Davor Svetinovic, Moe Miano, and Cooper Eaton, with Dana Ollestad as Classroom Assistant.

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