Committee for Art in Public Places

Major Topics

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I. Introduction

The Committee for Art in Public Places is a decision-making body in matters regarding the creation, placement, and care of works of art erected or installed, either permanently or temporarily, in public places on the University campus, as defined in this regulation. No work of art shall be erected or installed in places on campus that, by this regulation, have been designated as public places without the approval of the Committee.

The Committee is not expected or permitted to judge the content of works of art that are submitted for placement in public places. Rather, the Committee’s jurisdiction is limited to the context for their placement, as informed among others by concerns for placement aesthetics and safety, as well as concerns for the durability of the art materials over time.

This Administrative Regulation is not intended to create a designated or limited public forum on its campus, but rather to establish a process by which the University engages in its own government speech through the art it displays on its campus. For the University’s regulations governing public forums and free speech areas please see Administrative Regulation 9:1, Regulations Governing Time, Place, and Manner of Meetings, Demonstrations, and Other Assemblies.

I. Entities Affected

This Administrative Regulation applies to all members of the University community, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and visitors.

II. Definitions

A. Art in Public Places/Public Art
Art in Public Places means works of art that purposefully contribute to the experience of spaces open to everyone in the university community (faculty, staff, students, and visitors) both indoors and outdoors. “Art in Public Places” puts emphasis on the work whereas “Public Art” includes the practice that thoughtfully and effectively considers the context for art in public as well as the community interaction with that process.

B. Work of Art

Work of Art means creative expression in any form (including but not limited to historical memorials, monuments, sculpture, murals, and mixed-media displays) that are physically or visually accessible to the public through temporary or permanent installation. Works of art do not include “signage”, as defined in Signage on Campus Guidelines.

C. Temporary

Temporary means thirty-one (31) calendar days or less.

D. Public Places

Public Places means all outdoor spaces on the University campus and prominent areas within campus buildings, such as lobbies and atriums.

III. Committee Membership

A. The membership of the Committee shall consist of individuals from the faculty, staff, students, and alumni of the University appointed by the President. Individuals selected for service on this Committee shall have demonstrated interest or professional expertise in the creation, design, planning, or interpretation of public art.

The Committee shall consist of:

1. A member recommended by the Vice President for Facilities;
2. A member recommended by the Assistant Vice President for Campus Services;
3. A faculty member recommended by the Dean, College of Design;
4. A faculty member recommended by the Dean, College of Engineering;
5. A faculty member recommended by the Dean, College of Fine Arts;
6. A member recommended by the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs;
7. Ex officio, voting member: Director of the UK Art Museum;
8. Ex officio, voting member: Director of the School of Art and Visual Studies; and
9. At least three (3), but not more than six (6) at-large members.

B. The chair shall be appointed by the President from the membership of the Committee.

C. The Committee members, other than those with student or ex officio status, shall have staggered three-year appointments. Student members are appointed for a one-year term and may be reappointed.

D. The Committee may create subcommittees to initiate or facilitate its work.
E. The eight (8) committee persons specifically identified above in A.1-8, in addition to being members of the committee as a whole, shall also constitute an expert sub-committee on technical matters. Technical matters include, but are not limited to, concerns for safety, installation engineering integrity, the suitability of materials contained in the artwork within the context of the work’s proposed placement, and other placement considerations such as the suitability of the proposed placement from the perspective of the campus master plan.

F. The Committee or subcommittees from time to time may appoint non-voting Community Advisory Members to assist the Committee. Community Advisory Members shall be chosen based on their interest or professional expertise in the creation, design, planning, or interpretation of works of art.

IV. Committee Responsibilities

A. The Committee is responsible for developing and publishing its procedures for soliciting, receiving, reviewing, and approving proposals for works of art to be located permanently or temporarily on campus in public places.

B. The Committee is responsible for developing and publishing, in conjunction with appropriate University officials, recommendations on general statements of principles and guidelines for the acquisition, placement, maintenance, and removal of art in public spaces on campus. These guidelines should be consistent with "Art on Campus" Guidelines published by the Association of Art Museum Directors University/College Museums.

C. In reviewing proposed works, the Committee shall consider:
   
   1. Issues of permanence, design, quality of construction, security, proposed materials, durability, methods of installation, workmanship, liability, and maintenance.

   2. Location and placement of proposed works, including but not limited to consideration of visibility and public access, public safety, environmental impact, and relationship to buildings, other works of art, campus walkways, and traffic patterns. The committee shall consult with proper University authorities regarding the appropriateness of placement and context of any proposed work in order to ensure that the selection and placement of works of art is consistent with the overall campus plan.

   3. Whether the content of the work is appropriate for its placement and campus context. The Committee shall review the placement and context in consideration of the University’s missions, vision, and values. The Committee may choose to weigh the aesthetic or historical importance of the work, its originality, significance of the artist, and/or the contribution of the work to the educational mission of the University.

D. The Committee is also charged with promoting works of art on campus by proposing and advocating funds for specific projects and the maintenance of existing works.

E. The Committee shall review issues or concerns raised by members of the university community regarding placement of works of art on campus.

F. The Committee shall maintain written minutes of meetings and, on request or as appropriate, shall prepare special reports for the President.

G. The committee as a whole shall meet at least once every fall and spring semester. Subcommittees shall meet as needed.
References and Related Materials

"Art on Campus" Guidelines published by the Association of Art Museum Directors University/College Museums

Signage on Campus Guidelines

Revision History

New Administrative Regulation, No prior versions

For questions, contact: Office of Legal Counsel