June 30, 2020

The Dear CVAD Community,

I wanted to reach out to you in regards to the upcoming Fall 2020 Semester and the CVAD Galleries. We are closely following UNT’s response and return to campus plans. At this time, public gatherings are being limited, there is a need for social distancing measures, and invitations to visitors and non-UNT communities are restricted.

In light of this information, we have decided to close the CVAD Galleries to the public for the fall semester, with no public hours, access, or events. However, in keeping with the mission of the CVAD Galleries to support the educational mission of the university, enrich the aesthetic environment and serve as a cultural resource, we will continue to serve curricular needs and host graduate student exhibitions such as cumulative projects in M.F.A., M.A., and Ph.D. programs for installation and documentation only.

I will be in touch with these students directly in the next week, and have already reached out to department administrators. If you are a student for whom this might be applicable, please reach out to your department. I will coordinate scheduling, anticipating longer timeslots to allow for social distancing during installation and documentation which will be determined with each student. The galleries will light exhibitions, and conduct gallery documentation.

This decision was made after careful consideration and in consultation with the Dean’s Office. It is a tough decision to make, but we feel it is the right choice to ensure the continued safety of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

While the galleries may be closed to the public and for gatherings, we are diligently working on updating the collections’ catalog information into our updated database to provide information for faculty to incorporate into curricula. Additionally, we are also working to further develop accessible information for the Art in Public Places collection. If you are interested in collaborating with the Galleries or collections for your fall class, whether face-to-face or remote, we are happy to work with you. If interested, please reach out to me directly.

Planning for forthcoming exhibitions in spring, summer, and next fall has continued, which is typical as most exhibitions require a 1-2 year lead time. I am also still planning an exhibition of Matthew Ritchie’s work related to the forthcoming Art in Public Places sculpture outside of the Art Buildings. I hope to have these plans finalized and announced soon. If you have questions or concerns about these projects, please let me know.

This decision is for the fall and in response to a continually changing unprecedented public health crisis. I appreciate your cooperation and flexibility during this time. As always, our priority is to support the pedagogical mission of CVAD and to foster creative futures for our diverse student population.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to me.

Best,

Stefanie

Stefanie Dlugosz-Acton