

**Question Period**  
January 14, 2013

Submitted by Senator Jones

**Question regarding Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) program status**

I have been told that the Department of Art has a 3-year review coming up in June 2013; that a re-naming as "The Department of Art History and Art Conservation" is under consideration; and that the BFA program is "at risk" because it is no longer a Department or in a Department.

Would the Provost please inform Senate about what is projected for the BFA program and what opportunity Senate will have to consider its status?

**Answer provided by the Provost**

I referred this question to Alistair MacLean, the Dean of Arts and Science, since I suspected the question related to the decision in 2011 to separate the BFA program from the Department of Art. I was correct in this suspicion. The Dean responded as follows.

“Any request to rename the Department of Art would have to originate from that Department. Whatever discussion may have taken place, no request to rename the Department has been received by the Faculty of Arts and Science. Any such request would have to be approved by Faculty Board and Senate.

“The BFA Program is not ‘at risk’ by virtue of not being in a department. The Faculty of Arts and Science has had many examples of stable programs that reported directly to the Faculty Office.

“With effect from 1 April 2011, the BFA Program was separated administratively from the Department of Art and reports directly to the Dean of Arts and Science. This arrangement will be in effect until 30 June 2014. It is reviewed annually but, if no alternative structure is put in place before then or other resolution affecting the future of the Program is made, a decision will be made during the 2013-14 academic year as to the future governance of the Program. Should that decision require approval by Faculty Board or Senate the appropriate motions will be brought before these bodies.”