

## Arts Legacy Committee

Minutes of Zoom Meeting of March 29, 2025

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In attendance: Cedric Kam, Eric Hatch, Don Marcus, Roger Anderson, David Peck, Bob Ross, Jack Hopke, Jim Lawrie, Mark Waterhouse, Norm Silverman and guest Katherine Norton from Dartmouth's Advancement Office. Dave Gang and Jay Cary were unable to attend.

*The Arts Legacy Project of the Class of 1968 is meant to fund and advance the teaching mission of Dartmouth College in regards to the arts, with particular reference to the College Libraries, the Hood Museum of Art and the Hopkins Center for the Arts.*

- 1) David Peck, acting as facilitator, welcomed members of the Committee to the zoom meeting, as well as guest Katherine Norton from the Advancement Office at Dartmouth. Attendees all introduced each other.
- 2) The minutes of the meeting of February 8, 2025, were unanimously approved, after motion by Jim Lawrie and second by Jack Hopke.
- 3) Jim Lawrie provided a status report on the Arts Legacy Endowment. At our February meeting, we had approximately \$102,000 in the Wellington Fund. \$15,500 has recently been paid for the Kobayashi painting, adjusting the amount to approximately \$87,000, to which would be added \$4,500 in the ALC checkbook and \$4,000 (including the match) in recent donations in memory of Ron Weiss. Thus, we have an adjusted amount of approximately \$95,000. Project Green Light years 3, 4 and 5 are on hold, at \$5,000 each, or \$15,000, leaving the current discretionary amount of \$80,000.
- 4) One open issue is the \$8,000 pledged two years ago to fund the recording of the concert in Mexico. This has never been invoiced and could perhaps go away as an issue. **President Cedric Kam will contact Brian Messier, the Director of the Dartmouth College Wind Ensemble, and ask to resolve this open issue by May 1.** If we don't receive an invoice by the beginning of May 2025, we will conclude that there is no obligation to fund the project.
- 5) The check for the Osamu Kobayashi painting has been received by the gallery, and the painting now being shipped to the Hood Museum. It is expected to be available for viewing by classmates in Hanover when we gather there on May 17 for a Class Meeting.
- 6) A **Project Green Light (PGL)** update was provided by Don Marcus. PGL Year 1 student Sasha Aginor (professional name Sasha Lourdis) is still adding music to her movie *Munchies*. Don hopes to get a link to the movie to share with the Class. PGL Year 2, in Studio Art, has selected sophomore Helen Cui for her proposal to create a

“dark space” that could be installed in different parts of the campus. Her proposal was one of seven received. However, the Studio Art department has asked Helen to revise some of the details of the project, and she is now taking a spring semester class that should help. The overall process has been described as a transformative learning experience for the student so far given that Helen has revised her course of study to focus on studio arts rather than her original intention to focus on computer science and digital arts. We are working to set up a meeting with Helen Cui during the May 17 weekend.

- 7) Funding for PGL years 3 through 5 was briefly discussed. Don Marcus noted that Dean Samuel Levey has requested that the Class indicate their plans to continue, or not, by the early summer at the latest, to allow the departments to begin the process of advertising this honorarium program for an October kickoff for PGL year 3. The departments that remain to receive PGL funding are Music, Theater and Creative Writing. **Don Marcus will ask Dean Levey which department he would recommend for next year’s effort.**
- 8) There was continued discussion of the new **Creative Writing Program request for up to \$40,000 to fund a podcast booth**. Katherine Norton of the Advancement Office, who joined us at this meeting, provided a written description prior to our February meeting. She shared more details: This would be a new program, to go into rented space near the Black Visual Arts Center and would be serving as a pilot program over the next 3 to 5 years. Exactly who would use the equipment and how it would be used would evolve over the pilot period. Chairman Peter Orner is enthusiastic about this new program. Total capital budget for the program is \$750,000. Katherine also noted that the College agreed that a plaque noting Class of 1968 would be provided if we agreed to fund.

Discussion followed:

- Roger Anderson asked who might be the intended audience for the podcasts? He also felt the itemized expenses for the podcast booth were excessive
- Mark Waterhouse asked Katherine to explain how preparing a podcast would contribute to a student’s learning experience. Mark and other members of the committee felt the creative writing department chairman, Peter Omer, should have made the pitch, not Katherine.
- Jack Hopke asked whether this was to be a curricular program, or extracurricular as WCDR was for him. At this point: extracurricular, possibly curricular in the future depending on how the pilot program worked
- Bob Ross said the program request needed to address “how, when, where and why” and observed that what has been presented didn’t address all the necessary criteria.
- David Peck reported that both Jay Cary and David Gang, who were unable to attend, both indicated in their emails that they were disinclined to support this

particular effort. David also noted that both he and Katherine had tried since February 8 to get a faculty advocate to join this meeting but had not succeeded.

- After considerable discussion, David Peck, as facilitator, concluded that there was more skepticism and less support for this particular program request, and asked for a vote about how many were in favor of continuing to research about the program, and how many were skeptical or against moving forward. Final tally: 3 in favor of continuing, 9 against (counting the two emails noted). David closed discussion
- **David and the entire Arts Legacy Committee thanked Katherine Norton for joining the discussion**

9) Roger Anderson had shared two potential projects for ALC support; these were shared in advance with the Committee.

- One idea was to fund a violin soloist at a performance of Andres Martin's Morgante Violin Concerto at a Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra concert in 2026, during the reopening of the Hop. Roger and Norm Silverman heard this piece at a recent Indianapolis concert and found it absolutely wonderful. Roger was asked to see if the Indianapolis concert was recorded; and if so, share it with the Committee. Roger is working with Director Filippo Ciabatti, The estimate to sponsor a soloist would be \$5,000 including fee and airfare; Roger assumes the College would pick up the housing and meals. The Committee asks that if we support this idea that it be recorded, so it would have "extended shelf life". **The Committee unanimously approved Roger to move forward with developing the details and costs of this proposal**
- The second idea would be to support the College inviting Andres Martin as a Montgomery Fellow in 2028, the year of our 60th Reunion, and that we consider commission Martin to create a new violin concerto, at approximate cost of \$15,000, to receive a world premiere in 2028 at our reunion. **The Committee also unanimously approved Roger to investigate further his idea.**

10) The next meeting of the Arts Legacy Committee is tentatively scheduled for 11 am, Saturday, May 3. The purpose would be to update the Committee on ideas and developments since this March meeting, and in advance of the planned Class Committee meeting of May 17 in Hanover.

11) After a motion by Mark Waterhouse and second by Jim Lawrie, the meeting adjourned at 12:23 pm

Respectfully submitted,

David Peck  
Arts Legacy Committee facilitator