

Dec 21,2025

Meeting Notes from ADVISORY COMMITTEE Nov. 21 2025

https://santarosa-edu.zoom.us/rec/share/OkkEjipMyJYNe-101GirQWoSVy6ZDL3fHZ2A67G4CB7GnrOviNQ518cq3mr0y1s.AEC9-FgnMr_UQwwn?startTime=1763769537000

(Link to recording above)

COLLEGE: SRJC

DEPARTMENT: STEM

PROGRAM: INTERIOR DESIGN

Coordinator: Shari Canepa

Chairperson: Robert Grandmaison

Admin: Ann Schott

Advisory Chair:

Michelle La Voie,

Voting Members:

Christina Pratt (not in attendance)

Bettina Schoefer

Andy Bannister

Lauren Brandwein (new Member)

Also in attendance:

Amy Merkel (new internship person)

Rachel Smith

MEETING BEGINS at 4:20 PM

New Committee Member

Lauren Brandwein

<https://rhdesignstudio.com/>

INTRODUCTION OF OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

April 25, 2025

Previous meeting notes reviewed and accepted

(once Michelle got here)

Agenda

Introduced Lauren and she introduced herself and her company which is in Santa Rosa.

Introduced Art to the members. Art's been with us for 47 years so far.

Amy talked about the internship program i99. She works on both sides employer/employees.

Don't do placement but facilitate. Spoke to our members how internships work for their possible job hiring.

Paid employment is encouraged

Members hired our students and talked about various students that got jobs.

Website has Advisory Committee photos

<https://interior-design.santarosa.edu/advisory-committee>

Should we add a blurb about each member?

Vote to send blurbs about themselves-bios.

I will send reminder by e-mail.

Big issue to deal with:

Losing students to on-line Colleges

Lauren feels that AI and on-line is a hot topic

Michelle thinks that on-line is necessary for us to compete.

Bettina says on-line classes is inevitable.

Saddleback and Canada College

All members agree that we need to be harder at grading

Andy feels we shouldn't accept a "C" as a transfer grade.

Lauren agreed that high standards are important.

All members wanted us to limit the acceptance of other colleges

The question is can we do anything about this?

Michelle would like students to only take classes we don't give

Bettina says students need to take classes in our college mostly

Art suggest we see their work before we give them JC credits

Shari to talk to the administration and report back.

Who wrote the rule is the question.

Taking too long to complete a certification/degree is bad for business

Bettina pointed out

Bettina asked what the average ages of the classes

Art says he has 1/3 reentry students 1/3 are young 1/3 between

Bettina suggests that we concentrate on the younger ones

Shari says 2 problems:

Smart teenagers will go directly for their BA

Experienced adults are employable sooner.

*Actionable item: get the word out to the high school students

Reducing classes being given each semester we are running every third semester

K&B INDE 122

Interior Illustration. INDE 67

Studio (Capstone class) INDE 71

Just to let you know what is coming up for the Spring

ID COURSES SP2026

History Shari Monday 5-8 on-line

INDE 20 Jim Thursday 6-9 on-line

20 Art Wed 2-5

Materials 63 Art Wed 10-1

INDE 50 Thursday 12-5

Correction on Committees roster

Confirming this is the 2025-26 list, to be approved by the BOT:

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation	Email
Bannister	Andy	Earthtone Construction	andy@earthtoneconstruction.com
Brandwein	Lauren	Rock House Design	lauren@rhdesignstudio.com
La Voie	Michelle	Interior Designer	colordaze@yahoo.com
Schofer	Bettine	Premier Kitchens and Bath	bettina@pacific.net
Sutter	Jennifer	Trope Group	jsutter@tropegroup.com

OPEN FORUM

Your thoughts as industry leaders

Question to the Committee:

1. **How many classes do you think students should be allowed to take off campus.**
 - a. **Vote at the discretion of the instructors**
 - b. **1 class but like the petition with high standards**
2. **We thin A & B 's only but need more info**
2. **Should every class have field trips as a component of their class**
3. **How important do you think guest speakers are to the learning experience**
 - a. **Everyone thinks it's important to have speaker 2 people for sure but must be pertinent**
Art thinks he has only time for only one a semester
4. **Should internships be mandatory as part of the curriculum**
Lauren loves the idea of internships
Andy is worried about actually getting an internship
Suggests construction companies
Monitor internships see how it goes
Michelle thinks it's should be an elective
***Shari will send a historical list to Amy**

AJOURN MEETING

Approve the minutes by Michelle and everyone

Lauren abstains

Vote to adjourn the meeting

Follow up

Video version of Zoom Meeting for review:

Meeting Notes will be sent.