STUDIJŲ KOKYBĖS VERTINIMO CENTRAS

VYTAUTO DIDŽIOJO UNIVERSITETO
STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS
NAUJŲJŲ MEDIJŲ MENAS
(valstybinis kodas – 612W63001)
VERTINIMO IŠVADOS
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EVALUATION REPORT
OF *NEW MEDIA ART*
(state code - 612W63001)
STUDY PROGRAMME
at VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY

Experts' team:

1. **Dr. Annie Doona (team leader)** academic,

2. **Mika Ritalahti,** academic,

3. **Dr. Peter Purg,** academic,

4. **David Quin,** academic,

5. **Vilma Samulionytė,** representative of social partners',

6. **Julija Paulauskaitė,** students' representative.

Evaluation coordinator -

Ms Natalja Bogdanova

Išvados parengtos anglų kalba
Report language – English

Vilnius
2015

DUOMENYS APIE ĮVERTINTĄ PROGRAMĄ

Studijų programos pavadinimas	*Naujųjų medijų menas*
Valstybinis kodas	612W63001
Studijų sritis	Menai
Studijų kryptis	Fotografija ir medijos
Studijų programos rūšis	Universitetinės studijos
Studijų pakopa	Pirmoji
Studijų forma (trukmė metais)	Nuolatinė (4 metai)
Studijų programos apimtis kreditais	240
Suteikiamas laipsnis ir (ar) profesinė kvalifikacija	Medijų meno bakalauras
Studijų programos įregistravimo data	2009 08 17

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INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	*New Media Art*
State code	612W63001
Study area	Arts
Study field	Photography and Media
Type of the study programme	University
Study cycle	First
Study mode (length in years)	Full-time (4 year)
Volume of the study programme in credits	240
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Bachelor of media art
Date of registration of the study programme	2009 08 17

Vilnius
2015

CONTENTS

Vilnius
2015

I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the evaluation process

The evaluation of on-going study programmes is based on the **Methodology for evaluation of Higher Education study programmes,** approved by Order No 1-01-162 of 20 December 2010 of the Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (hereafter – SKVC).

The evaluation is intended to help higher education institutions to constantly improve their study programmes and to inform the public about the quality of studies.

The evaluation process consists of the main following stages: 1) self-evaluation and self-evaluation report prepared by Higher Education Institution (hereafter – HEI); 2) visit of the Review Team at the higher education institution; 3) production of the evaluation report by the Review Team and its publication; 4) follow-up activities.

On the basis of external evaluation report of the study programme SKVC takes a decision to accredit study programme either for 6 years or for 3 years. If the programme evaluation is negative such a programme is not accredited.

The programme is **accredited for 6 years** if all evaluation areas are evaluated as "very good" (4 points) or "good" (3 points).

The programme is **accredited for 3 years** if none of the areas was evaluated as "unsatisfactory" (1 point) and at least one evaluation area was evaluated as "satisfactory" (2 points).

The programme **is not accredited** if at least one of evaluation areas was evaluated as "unsatisfactory" (1 point).

1.2 General

The Application documentation submitted by the HEI follows the outline recommended by the SKVC. Along with the self-evaluation report and annexes, the following additional documents have been provided by the HEI before, during and/or after the site-visit:

No.	Name of the document
1	A booklet of library data and statistics

1.3 Background of the HEI/Faculty/Study field/ Additional information

Vytautas Magnus University (VMU) was established in 1922. It has approximately 8700 students, 1000 employers and 70 professors. Is has 10 faculties. The New Media Art study

Vilnius
2015

programme is in the department of Contemporary Arts in the Faculty of Arts. The highest governing bodies of the University are University Council, Senate and the Rector's office.

The VMU Strategy for 2012-2020 states: to cherish creativity and art favourable culture, supporting and developing traditions, to disseminate the highest quality classical and modern art education and practice, to increase artistic and creativity's internationality, to reveal its authenticity and innovativeness among the global creative works, joining the networks of best art schools in the world, and preparing common creative projects and programmes.

The principle of Artes Liberales is highly treasured in the Vytautas Magnus University.

The VMU several premises in the area of Kaunas, and the New Media Art study programme also gives education on many different locations.

The Self-Evaluation report was prepared by the team consisting of seven members. The assoc. prof. dr. Rimantas Plunge was the head and the other members were: prof. Romuladas Pozerskis, lect. dr. Tomas Pabedinskas, assoc. prof. dr. Remigijus Venckus, social partner Gintautas Vaicys (Lithuanian artist association), student representative Giedrius Meskauskas and senior technician Laima Penekaite.

The study programme started in 2010. This is the first external evaluation carried out on the study programme.

1.4 The Review Team

The Review Team was completed according Description of experts'recruitment, approved by order No. 1-01-151 of Acting Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education. The Review Visit to HEI was conducted by the team on 6th October, 2015.

1. **Dr. Annie Doona (team leader),** *President of Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Ireland.*
2. **Mika Ritalahti,** *Silva Mysterium Oy producer and managing director, Finland.*
3. **Dr. Peter Purg,** *professor of University of Nova Gorica, SQAA evaluator, Slovenia.*
4. **David Quin,** *lector of Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology, Ireland.*
5. **Vilma Samulionytė,** *photographer, curator- project manager and secretary of board of Lithuanian Photographers Association, Lithuania.*
6. **Julija Paulauskaitė,** *student of Kaunas University of Technology study programme Phiolosophy of Media, Lithuania.*

II. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

2.1. Programme aims and learning outcomes

The Review Team agree that the programme aims and learning outcomes were well defined, clear and publicly accessible. The New Media Art study programme was established in 2009 (registration date 2009 08 17). The language of the programme is Lithuanian. The aim of the programme is "to prepare high quality new media art bachelors, media art practitioners, specialists who are able to use practical media art skills efficiently and act independently in the field of culture and creative industries related with new media, who are capable of creating, acting creatively and managing New Media Art processes efficiently". The programme aims and learning outcomes concentrate on the balance between individual initiative and teamwork. It emphasises the interdisciplinary in the new media art. The programme focuses on the development of a personality "in the broadest sense rather than preparation of new media artists in its narrow sense". In the programme a lot of emphasis is put on the interdisciplinary synergy and its students collaborate with other study programmes.

While designing the study programme significance was given to the analysis of and comparison with similar study programmes in Lithuania, other European countries and USA. The social partners, industry and potential employers were involved in the designing of the programme. The programme is in line with the State strategy defined in "Lithuania 2030" and LR minister of Culture's "The strategy for enhancement and development of creative industries 2009". As the result, a graduate of the programme "will be able to: independently create new technology-based art: photo, video, sound, computer graphics, multimedia art work".

The programme aims to educate people who can work in the new media art sector in a broader range of positions other than just artists. This was warmly welcomed by the social stakeholders and supported by the study programme definition of itself as educating "high quality media art specialists who are able to use practical media art skills ... in the field of culture and industries related with new media...".

The study programme is oriented towards Liberal arts tradition, which is one of the Vytautas Magnus University's strategic keystones, according to the senior management. This broad tradition was initially perceived as an issue by the Review Team but after meetings with the teaching staff, students and the social stakeholders the Review Team affirmed that it is strength.

The programme aims are published on AIKOS system, as well as the University website. The University also arranges regular "Open doors" days where it presents the programme's aims,

learning outcomes and possible graduate employability options to potential students of the study programme

The study programme has named seven outcomes which a graduate of the programme will have. These outcomes are clear and based on the common understanding of what a new media artist would need as a practitioner of this art. The learning outcomes are based on professional and academic requirements. The LO3, "To Initiate and manage competently creative new media art projects, relevant in Lithuanian and international art markets" is quite challenging. The review team felt that the breadth of this LO including the reference to international art markets is demanding at undergraduate level. The LO7, "To apply university education creatively in practical-artistic practices" is quite broad. The Review Team could not see how this could be assessed, e.g. what is meant by "university education" here. Does this mean a pedagogical approach, or critical thinking? Greater clarity is needed here.

The Review Team agree that learning outcomes and the programme aims are based on public needs and the professional requirements and needs of the labour market. The study programme reviews itself every second year to update the needs of the labour market. The study programme is first cycle programme and it prepares graduates also to continue to the second level studies in Lithuania or abroad. An essential part of the learning outcome is the creativity of the graduate. This is difficult to measure and highly depending on the entrants of the programme. This is a general challenge to any art study programme and not a sign of flaws in the learning outcomes.

The Review Team confirms that the name of the programme, its leaning outcomes, content and the qualifications offered were compatible with each other. However, the realm of new media art is very wide. The field of new media art is developing fast, new sub genres are born regularly, and the trends vary. To include all these new trends in the curriculum is a challenge. The programme needs to confirm that all fast developing areas will also be included in it.

2.2. Curriculum design

The Review Team is satisfied that the programmes curriculum design meets legal requirements. The study programme is a four years programme on the first cycle. It consists of 240 ECTS. The study field subjects are 184 ECTS, general university studies are 56 ECTS. Optional subjects are 52 ECTS and practice is 15 ECTS altogether. The final thesis is 15 ECTS.

The scope of the programme is sufficient to ensure the learning outcomes. The study programme divides its study objects in four categories (A-D). The majority of the studies are on category C, 184 ECTS. This group is the study field subjects. The other categories are more

general studies. The studies in group A (obligatory) and B (optional) are the ones that contribute to the liberal arts tradition of the University. The studies in group D (not less than 12 ECTS) are optional studies, which makes it possible for the student to specialize in some area of the new media art. The optional courses are on the semesters 4, 5, 6 and 8. The student has two courses available to choose from.

The number of credits in a semester is inconsistent. The fourth semester consists of 27 ECTS, 32 ECTS on the third and eighth semester. The Review Team suggest the study programme harmonize these to be 30 credits each semester.

The content and the methods of the subjects are appropriate for the achievement of the intended learning outcomes. The study programme starts from the basics (e.g. Photography) and continues logically. The self-management and creativity skills are achieved in the last year. There is no unnecessary repetition in the modules.

The students felt that the order of some studies was illogical, as they were taught video editing before shooting. This production work flow disharmony could be countered by use of the prerequisite system. On the other hand, it may actually be better for the student's development to first understand the needs of editing before shooting, to be prepared to shoot material properly.

The content of the subjects in programme is consistent with the level and type of the studies; all the essential topics are covered. The content of the programme reflects the latest achievements in art and technology. The New Media Art study programme lists the areas it covers: "photo, video, sound, computer graphics, multimedia art works". These are areas which have many sub-genres and/or practices. The Review Team suggest that the study programme ensures the most recent forms of the new media art, such as bio art or robotic art, even hacktivist practices, are included in the curriculum to ensure the achievement of the word "new" in the title of the programme.

The programme has two courses of practice. On the first semester student has "Cognitive practice" and on the seventh semester "Pre-graduation practice". Although both are named as a practice, the first practice is more like a visit rather than real practice. The SER team pointed, that the English translation of the first practice course may not be helpful.

In the course the students visit different institutions and meet various artists; then a report in expected from the student. The purpose of the course is to give the student a broad perspective on what new media art is and can be, so it is essential part of the programme and it is well located. It is a bit unconventional to call this practice, but according the students and the alumni the course prepares students for various possibilities in the area and thus is useful.

Many of the courses include a creative project. The Review Team was confirmed that the balance of theoretical and practical studies is adequate to ensure the intended learning outcomes. The balance between technical and creative skills is good.

The design of the curriculum is clear, rational and ensures the meeting of the intended learning outcome of the programme. The students told the Review Team that they are highly encouraged by the interdisciplinary studies and co-operations between the teachers and other staff.

The area of new media art is wide and it is a challenge to cover it all with enough depth. The team suggests that the study programme considers adding more optional studies in the curriculum for a student who wants to become an artist or a specialist in a specific area of new media art.

The study programme has a course named Special Course, the content of which is not defined but varies from year to another. It represents the open part of the curriculum. It is meant mostly for the visiting teachers. The purpose of the course is to teach "special points and ways of applying new media in the different fields of culture". This course aims to ensure that the latest trends and achievements in new media art are included in the curriculum. However, the course is optional, and if the student wants to choose course e.g. Basics of Visualization s/he is not able to attend this course. The Review Team suggests considering changing the status of the Special Course to obligatory and ensure the transparency of the programming, its topics and guest lecturers.

The final thesis of the study programme is called Final Creative Project and consists of theoretical and practical parts. It is evaluated by the Committee of Defence, which consists of university teachers, artists/researchers of the new media art and the representatives of the social partners. The practical part of the thesis assesses the student's ability to express art in the field of new media art. The theoretical part is the comprehensive description of the creative project. Some samples of the theoretical parts of the final theses the Review Team was presented with were seriously lacking in quantitative skills. All in all, the thesis is adequate and sufficient to ensure the artistic quality of the student as well as his/her theoretical skills.

2.3. Teaching staff

The Review Team agree that the study programme is provided by staff meeting the legal requirements. The number of teaching staff and the teacher-student ratio is sufficient to satisfy the intended learning outcomes. The teaching staff of the study programme consists of four professors, eleven associate professors, four lecturers and an assistant. Ten of the professors are

doctors. The one non-doctor is an accredited artist. Four professors with a doctorate are also accredited artists. Two lecturers are doctors and two accredited artists.

The qualifications of the teaching staff are adequate to ensure the learning outcomes. There are active and acknowledged artists among the teachers. Students and alumni assured the Review Team that the teaching staff are highly qualified, well-motivated, research active and involved in creative and artistic practice. In the study programme there were 51 students in the beginning of the year 2015.

The acknowledged artists in the programme are photographer Prof. Pozerskis, the winner of many international awards and the Lithuanian National Culture and Art award, media artist Assoc. Prof. Plunge, the winner of Siauliai City award. The Review team was convinced that while being respected artists, the teachers of the study programme are also pedagogues of high quality who can teach their own area of speciality in a way that supports students learning.

The SER of the study programme states that the changes in the programme staff 2010-2015 were minimal. This is a sign of a good working atmosphere in the department. But it can also be a threat for the study programme. However, since the curriculum includes a lot of basic courses, the low turnover rate is not alarming. The programme has invited several visiting lecturers to ensure maximum choice for the students.

The internal mobility of the teachers is on a good level. In the years 2010-2015 17 teachers have participated in study abroad. However, there are big differences between the years; in 2012/2013 seven teachers went abroad and in 2014/2015 only one. The teachers the Review Team met claimed this is mostly due to the nature of their part time contracts. The study programme is advised to consider balancing the outgoing and incoming study visits.

The teachers are visiting Universities, Academies and School of Arts mostly in Europe (Finland, Poland, Estonia, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, France, UK, Portugal and Turkey). Only few of the Institutions have had more than one teacher visiting. The study programme or the Department or Faculty could consider developing a strategy for internationalization and establishing a closer relationship with one or two of the most important strategic partner universities/study programme instead of many.

The teachers actively participate in courses and seminars to ensure their professional development. The level of pedagogical skills among the present teachers of the study programme is at a good level. However, the study programme should pay attention to ensure the updating and enhancing of the teachers pedagogical skills by creating opportunities for all, also the part time and the possible new teachers to gain education on didactics.

The research and practical research the teaching staff carries out is directly related to the new media art. 2013-2014 Assoc. Prof. Plunge and Lecturer Pabedinskas participated in the

"Invisible Communities: Cases of Community Art" project; Prof. Staniskyte and Assoc. Prof Pukelyte participated in the project "Expansion of Communication Competencies of Cultural Institutions in the Context of the Society of Know-how and Creativity".

2.4. Facilities and learning resources

The Review Team agree that study programme's facilities for class room learning are proper and adequate. The premises at the main building of the faculty at the address Muitines g. 7 are recently renovated and of high quality. There are enough rooms for lectures and individual works. The rooms of faculty management are located in this building. The study programme has recently acquired the new cameras and post production facilities which are placed in Muitines g. The arrangement of these facilities requires completion. The faculty is developing the lending procedures for equipment hire and for its maintenance. The equipment of the study programme is sufficient in quantity and of high quality.

In the address Vileikos g. 8 are the facilities for video production technologies, motion capture etc. These facilities are of high quality and more than adequate to meet the needs of the study programme. The location of the Vileikos g. is a bit outside town almost, and it may not be easy for a student to travel between the two locations. The teaching staff explained to the Review Team that in order to address this issue, on a day when education is given in the Vileikos g., the whole day is designed to be spent there, so the students are not required to travel between locations during one day.

The study programme does not currently have adequate studio facilities for film or video production. In 2016 the situation will be improved when new premises in the Putvinskio g., with the 240 m2 studio for film-making and two sound recording studios, will be launched. The Review Team didn't visit the new premises, because the construction is still very incomplete but viewed the exterior. The location of these facilities is closer to the main building in the Muitines g. compared to the Vileikos g., but there is still approximately half an hour walk. Of paramount importance will be the need for the Estates and Facilities team to ensure the efficient use of the studio facilities. The faculty is also advised to develop a strategy and implementation plan to ensure the sustainable updating of the facilities.

The study programme has 7 classrooms with seating capacity varying from 20 to 80. In the SER the study programme signified the need for a large media auditorium (30 places) with good sound and video facilities. The Review Team supports this aspiration.

The arrangements of the practice are at a good level in the study programme. The practice coordinator is responsible for the arrangements. A student can also choose a place independently. During the practice the student's work is monitored by the tutor and mentor.

The Library study programme students can use is the VMU library. The library is new and well equipped. During the weekdays the library is open 8-21, but it is also open during weekends 9-18. The library takes into consideration the teachers requirements when ordering new books and periodicals. The VMU has licensed 17 databases recommended by the New Art Media study programme.

2.5. Study process and students 'performance assessment

The Review Team agree that the admissions procedures for this programme are well founded. Entrants for the study programme have to take an entrance examination. In the examination the entrant has to perform photographing and storyboard tasks. The examination tests entrant's artistic skills and visual/artistic literacy. The mark in the entrance examination is weighted 0.7 (the rest are 0.1 for the final mark and 0.2 for Lithuanian language).

The study programme receives a lot of applications. The high number of applications ensures the high motivational level of the admitted students as well as high artistic quality. However, the dropout rate of the student is somewhat high. The study programme has accepted 63 students altogether, out of which nine have left the programme. The study programme has analysed the reasons behind the dropout rate; these appear mainly due to the changes in personal life. The students who drop out are usually those whose entrance points were low, and thus were not able to get financing by the state for their studies. The admissions criteria are well defined, and result in applications from motivated students with artistic competencies.

New students of the programme are familiarized with the studies and programme aims in the first week of their studies. All the information is available also on the website prior to the students commencing their studies. The teachers are easily approached by the student if he/she needs some additional information on the study programme.

The informal ways of communication are well established. Student involvement and feedback needs further development; many students were not aware of, or involved in the student representation system that is in place on university level e.g. the students were not aware of who was their representative on the Study Programme Committee. A more systematic approach to student representation, including a review of student surveys is recommended.

If a student has problems in his/her psychological life the student can get free psychological help from the VMU Psychological Clinic. Students can also access spiritual support. The University has a sports centre, which offers a variety of sporting activities. The level of support for students is adequate.

The study programme uses Moodle learning environment and First Class intranet system widely in its communication. Information within a course is delivered efficiently both from the teachers to the students and vice versa.

The study programme actively encourages the students to participate in different creative activities. An annual media art festival "VMU Media Art Days" has been arranged since 2011. In the festival the students can establish connections to the media art scene of Kaunas and present their own art. The latest media tendencies are presented in the festival; every year the students organize photography and video art exhibitions where they present their own artistic works; this helps prepare them for working conditions after graduation. The study programme is encouraged to establish better connection to the social stakeholders in the creative industries to include advertising agencies, studios, publishing houses and such. This connection should not only be in the Kaunas region, but in other parts of Lithuania and abroad.

Arrangements for practice are on a good level. The practice coordinator helps the students find places for practice if needed. The students confirmed to the Review Team that they are content with the arrangements. The national institutes like Init TV, M. K. Ciurlionis National Art Museum, Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum and such, employ the students temporarily to carry out their practice. Since the pre-graduation practice is carried out in the last semester, the practice arrangements are a good way for the employers to acquaint themselves with soon to be graduates.

In the years 2010-2015 fourteen students of the study programme participated in international mobility study programmes. This is 22% of the accepted students. Due to the nature of the study programme and the realm the rate could be higher. There are limited resources available in the institute for student mobility; the number of incoming students also low. This may be due to language issues. As the study programme is encouraged to develop a strategy for internationalization, it should also include the development of an action plan to increase the outgoing and incoming student numbers.

The University has scholarships available for students. Since 2010, 81 student scholarships have been given for the study programme. Most of the scholarships are encouragement scholarships but there are also social and mobility scholarships available. Students can also be given tuition fee exemption or reduction or accommodation tax relief.

The student assessment criteria and processes are clear, adequate and publicly available. The students were aware of the criteria as well as procedures. The evaluation of student's performance in creative tasks is carried out by the subject teachers sometimes together with a professional of the subject area. The evaluation criteria are available on the Intranet and Moodle learning environment. Across VMU as a whole there is a rule according to which the final exam

has to be at least 50% of the final grade. The teachers and the students of the study programme felt that this may not be appropriate for evaluating courses which include creative elements. A less rigid system for assessing students' performance in the study programme is needed.

Students get feedback from the teachers regularly. The teachers discuss with the student of the students' performance and progression on the studies. In feedback sessions teacher and student also discuss the aims that has been failed to achieve. The students declared that they are content with the level and depth of the feedback from the teachers and felt that their progress is monitored regularly.

The students and the alumni felt that their voices are heard while developing the study programme. A feedback from the student to teacher is collected by the surveys. Not many of the student told they had filled and returned the survey. The study programme should re-establish a formal way of collecting feedback. The returning of the survey should be obligatory.

According to the SER, 60 percent of the graduates are employed by the creative sector and 20-25 percent proceed to MA studies. Some of the graduates work as freelancers. Some of the graduates are employed by the University, Culture House or design studio. Some graduates are well known such as the audio-visual art group BIONICS. The alumni confirmed that the study programme prepares them with good skills and knowledge to enter working life.

Work placement opportunities appear good in the cultural sector but less so in the creative industries e.g. studios, agencies, publishing houses. The study programme is encouraged to establish better connections to the social stakeholders in the creative industries, especially with those pertaining to the new media realm.

2.6. Programme management

The Review Team agree that responsibilities for decisions and monitoring of the implementation of the programme are clearly articulated and management structures are in place and working well. The most important role in relation to responsibility for the study programme is carried by the New Media Art Study Programme Committee (SPC). The committee has six members; the head of the Contemporary arts department, one professor, one lecturer and one associate professor of the department, one social stakeholder and a student. The Committee member confirmed that it meets 2-3 times a year. In the SER the study programme has the option to set up groups for the solution of specific problems, this option hasn't been used so far. The team suggests that the SPC takes a more proactive role in monitoring and developing the study programme by meeting more often or using the formatting of special groups.

The overall quality system in VMU is good. The University has the Centre for Quality and Innovations. The SPC presents at least once a year a report to the Chair of the FA and the

Dean of the FA with recommendations for improvements; this is usually done in March. The report includes all observed shortcomings during the academic year.

The SPC carries out a self-evaluation every three year together with the FA. In this evaluation all aspects of the programme are assessed. The conclusions are presented to the Faculty Council.

At the end of each academic year the students are requested to express their opinion about the quality of teaching by means of a survey. One of the weaknesses of the study programme is the low number of replies to the survey. Only one of the students the Review Team met had filled out the survey, but no one had filled out surveys regularly. The Faculty is advised to urgently look for ways to improve the survey response rate.

There is also a teaching quality assessing questionnaire "Dekis" available for the students. The system gives an assessment of teacher's didactic activity. In the Dekis the students' anonymity can be ensured. An online alumni survey is conducted once a year. 6-7 seven months after graduation all the alumni are invited. Some 40 percent answered on average.

A sustainable system for the development of teachers should be established, especially pedagogical skills for future teachers of the study programme to ensure the quality of teaching.

The teacher's voice is heard through departmental meetings. In the meetings study programme implementation is discussed. The SPC members often attend the meetings and act as a link between the Committee and the teachers. It is important that the study programme ensures that in every departmental meeting at least one SPC member is present.

The social stakeholders participate on the final thesis defence committee as members. The SPC has a stakeholder member. Most of the ways the Study Programme collects feedback are informal. A more formal way of getting the feedback from the stakeholders and social partners is suggested.

The Collection of data from alumni is done mostly via face-to-face meetings and on-line discussions. In the SER the study programme proposes more systematic collection and monitoring of Graduate's career destinations and progress. The Review Team strongly supports the initiative.

It is suggested that the study programme considers the formation of an advisory board to facilitate more structured communication between the programme and the stakeholders. This board could potentially serve the whole department too if it is deemed useful. The board should include curators, museum representatives, critics and such, both in the cultural sector and in the creative industries.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Review Team recommend a review of the **learning outcomes** to ensure their consistency and clarity; the Review Team noted that LO3 and LO 7 learning outcomes were too broad.

2. The Review Team recommend the commencement of discussions with the Faculty and the University to enhance the **assessment criteria** to enable a better fit with the assessment needs of artistic programmes with an element of practical outputs.

3. The Review Team recommend the fully incorporation of the **creative industries** as social partners in the study programme for the practice and common projects elements.

4. The Review Team recommend that the introduction of a more systematic system for the collection of **students' feedback** should be developed.

5. The Review Team recommend that a strategy and implementation plan for the **internationalization of the programme** should be formulated.

6. The Review Team recommend that a s**ustainable** procedure for the updating and maintenance of **equipment** should be strategically developed.

7. The Review Team recommend that consideration be given to the introduction of Incentives to enhance the **pedagogical skills** of the teaching staff should be offered.

8. The Review Team recommend that the setting up of an **advisory board** should be considered to more closely link the study programme, the social partners in the cultural and creative sector, and the employers.

IV. SUMMARY

The *New Media Art* study programme is a good strong programme, with a clear need and important role in the culture and the region of Kaunas. The teachers of the programme are qualified, well-motivated, research active and involved in creative and artistic practices. The students are motivated, the alumni and the social partners are satisfied with the programme.

The Vytautas Magnus University liberal arts tradition is a wide and solid base for the study programme. The programme aims are solid within an overarching framework.

The final theses, including the creative work are of high quality. The graduates of the programme find employment in the field of media art. However, the creative industries should be more closely involved in the study programme.

The curriculum, the content of the subjects and the methods of teaching are appropriate for the achieving of the intended learning outcomes. Some of the learning outcomes, the LO3 and LO7, are too broad.

The staff of the study programme consists of acknowledged artists and established researchers. The teacher's mobility is on a good level. A sustainable system to update the pedagogical skills of the teachers should be considered in the future.

The facilities and the equipment in the study programme are updated to fulfil the requirements and demands of the contemporary photography and video production. The equipment is of high quality and this will be further enhanced by the opening of new studio facilities in 2016. The premises of the study programme are immaculate.

The students are constantly monitored by the teachers who are easily approached. The connection between the teachers and the students is very good. A more systematic method to collect feedback from students is needed. The students participate in a range of creative activities.

The programme management structures are clearly defined and well-articulated. A more systematic structure to collect feedback from social partners is suggested. Greater involvement of the creative industry in the development of the study programme is recommended.

V. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme *New media art* (state code – 612W63001) at Vytautas Magnus University is given **positive** evaluation.

Study programme assessment in points by evaluation areas.

No.	Evaluation Area	Evaluation of an area in points*
1.	Programme aims and learning outcomes	3
2.	Curriculum design	3
3.	Teaching staff	4
4.	Facilities and learning resources	4
5.	Study process and students' performance assessment	3
6.	Programme management	3
	Total:	**20**

*1 (unsatisfactory) - there are essential shortcomings that must be eliminated;

2 (satisfactory) - meets the established minimum requirements, needs improvement;

3 (good) - the field develops systematically, has distinctive features;

4 (very good) - the field is exceptionally good.

Grupės vadovas:
Team leader: **Annie Doona**

Grupės nariai:
Team members: **Peter Purg**

                     David Quin

                     Mika Ritalahti

                     Vilma Samulionytė

                     Julija Paulauskaitė

Vilnius
2015

**VYTAUTO DIDŽIOJO UNIVERSITETO PIRMOSIOS PAKOPOS STUDIJŲ
PROGRAMOS *NAUJŲJŲ MEDIJŲ MENAS*
(VALSTYBINIS KODAS – 612W63001)
2015-12-31 EKSPERTINIO VERTINIMO IŠVADŲ NR. SV4-385 IŠRAŠAS**

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V. APIBENDRINAMASIS ĮVERTINIMAS

Vytauto Didžiojo universiteto studijų programa *Naujųjų medijų menas* (valstybinis kodas – 612W63001) vertinama **teigiamai**.

Eil. Nr.	Vertinimo sritis	Srities įvertinimas, balais*
1.	Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai	3
2.	Programos sandara	3
3.	Personalas	4
4.	Materialieji ištekliai	4
5.	Studijų eiga ir jos vertinimas	3
6.	Programos vadyba	3
	Iš viso:	**20**

* 1 - Nepatenkinamai (yra esminių trūkumų, kuriuos būtina pašalinti)
2 - Patenkinamai (tenkina minimalius reikalavimus, reikia tobulinti)
3 - Gerai (sistemiškai plėtojama sritis, turi savitų bruožų)
4 - Labai gerai (sritis yra išskirtinė)

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IV. SANTRAUKA

Studijų programa *Naujųjų medijų menas* yra gera ir stipri programa, aiškiai reikalinga ir atliekanti svarbų kultūrinį vaidmenį bei svarbi Kauno regionui. Šios programos dėstytojai yra kompetentingi ir motyvuoti, aktyviai dalyvauja mokslinių tyrimų ir praktinėje kūrybos bei meno veikloje. Studentai taip pat motyvuoti; alumnams ir socialiniams partneriams ši programa patinka.

Vytauto Didžiojo universiteto laisvųjų menų tradicija yra platus ir tvirtas šios programos pagrindas. Programos tikslai yra realūs, nustatyti remiantis bendra sistema.

Baigiamieji darbai, įskaitant kūrybinį darbą, yra kokybiški. Programos absolventai susiranda darbą medijų meno srityje. Tačiau į studijų programą reikėtų labiau įtraukti kūrybines industrijas.

Vilnius
2015

Studijų sandara, dalykų turinys ir mokymo metodai yra tinkami, kad būtų galima pasiekti numatomus studijų rezultatus. Kai kurie studijų rezultatai – 3 ir 7 – yra pernelyg platūs.

Šios studijų programos dėstytojų kolektyvą sudaro pripažinti menininkai ir mokslininkai (tyrėjai). Dėstytojų judumo lygis yra tinkamas. Ateityje reikėtų pagalvoti apie ilgalaikę dėstytojų pedagoginių įgūdžių atnaujinimo sistemą.

Šiai studijų programai įgyvendinti skirti materialieji ištekliai yra atnaujinti ir atitinka šiuolaikinės fotografijos bei vaizdo medžiagos gamybos reikalavimus ir poreikius. Įranga yra kokybiška; padėtis dar pagerės 2016 m. atidarius naujas studijas. Studijų programai skirtos patalpos yra nepriekaištingos.

Dėstytojai nuolat stebi studentus ir yra lengvai jiems prieinami. Dėstytojų ir studentų santykiai labai geri. Reikia sukurti sistemingesnį studentų grįžtamojo ryšio teikimo metodą. Studentai užsiima įvairia kūrybine veikla.

Programos vadybos struktūra aiškiai apibrėžta ir suformuluota. Patariama sukurti sistemingesnę socialinių partnerių grįžtamojo ryšio teikimo tvarką. Rekomenduojama labiau įtraukti kūrybines industrijas į šios studijų programos tobulinimo procesą.

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III. REKOMENDACIJOS

1. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja persvarstyti **numatomus studijų rezultatus** siekiant užtikrinti jų darną ir aiškumą; vertinimo grupė pastebėjo, kad 3 ir 7 rezultatai yra pernelyg platūs.

2. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja pradėti diskusijas su fakultetu ir universitetu siekiant sustiprinti **vertinimo kriterijus**, kad jie geriau atitiktų meno programų vertinimo reikalavimus ir praktikos rezultatų elementus.

3. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja į šią studijų programą įtraukti **kūrybines industrijas** kaip socialinius praktikos ir bendrų projektų partnerius.

4. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja nustatyti sistemingesnę **studentų grįžtamojo ryšio** teikimo tvarką.

5. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja parengti **programos tarptautiškumo didinimo** strategiją ir jos įgyvendinimo planą.

6. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja nustatyti **tvarią** strateginę **įrangos** atnaujinimo ir priežiūros procedūrą.

7. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja apsvarstyti galimybę teikti ir diegti iniciatyvas, skirtas **pedagoginiams gebėjimams** stiprinti.

Vilnius
2015

8. Vertinimo grupė rekomenduoja, kad, siekiant glaudžiau susieti šią studijų programą, kultūros ir kūrybinio sektoriaus socialinius partnerius bei darbdavius, būtų įsteigta **patariamoji taryba**.

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Paslaugos teikėjas patvirtina, jog yra susipažinęs su Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamojo kodekso 235 straipsnio, numatančio atsakomybę už melagingą ar žinomai neteisingai atliktą vertimą, reikalavimais.

Vertėjos rekvizitai (vardas, pavardė, parašas)

Vilnius
2015