

## FILM-FDMA Advisory Committee Minutes, FALL 2024

**Date:** Wednesday, October 23, 2024

**Number of Attendees:** 32

**Called to order:** 12:05 pm

**Adjourned:** 1:40 pm

**Chairperson:** Alan Trever and Dani Belvin

**Recorder:** Jennifer Woods

**Location:** ATC 108 and Zoom

**Members present from industry:** Lycee Anaya, Vault Studios; Andrew Barrow, Instructor Amy Biehl HS; Kat Bloom, Vault Studios; Tiffany Cole, NM Film foundation; Anthony Conforti, MAC Charter School; Liz Marshall, IATSE Local 480; Cyndy McCrossen, CABQ Film Office Liaison; Erin Muffoletto, Comcast; Stephen Mullen, Cinematographers Guild; Oskar Peterson, IATSE Local 480; Tom Ragan, The Studio@WESST; Julius Roanhorse, National Indian Youth Council; John Rodarte, NM Academy for Media Arts; Mark Ryan, APS CTE; Melodee Saiz, APS; Ed Smith, Edit House Productions; Kira Sipler, AFMX; Mark Steinig, Maleko Grip; Ivan Wiener, AFMX

**Members present from CNM:** Katelyn Attanasio, FUSE Makerspace; Dani Belvin, Assoc. Adriana Casas, Facilities Project Manager; Kelly Diaz, Instructor; Brenden Kennedy, WCS Internships; Erin Johnson Krufft, Interim Dean; Jeanette Loera, Instructor; Noa Nunez, Instructional Support Lab Tech; Ashley Prelo, WCS; Andrew Swan, Instructor; Alan Trever, Instructor/Program Director; Jose Velez, FDMA Instructor; Jennifer Woods, Academic Technical Asst.

**Next scheduled meeting:** TBD

**I. Welcome/Introductions:** Alan started the meeting. The CNM faculty introduced themselves first, and explained a little about what they are doing this term. The other members introduced themselves as the meeting went on.

**II. Minutes:** Minutes from the spring 2024 meeting approved as written.

### **III. Reports:**

- 1. Railyard project updates:** Adriana Casas, project manager for the Railyard Project, showed photos and discussed what is happening. She described the floorplan and talked about construction. Asbestos remediation has been completed. All the old glass was removed, and there is new glass now. The windows will be operable and automated again. Utilities and sewer lines are being installed. Fire suppression and conduit are being installed. The interior slab has been torn out to make way for the new foundation and slab. Piers will be sunk in to the ground to support the sound stages. Steel girders in the interior have been repainted in their original color. The roof is fire-proofed. Alan said that the college is trying to collaborate with the South Valley communities in order to retain the historic aspect of the site. We are considering short documentary film projects, school art projects, interviews and guest lecturers. Adriana said the opening will be late spring 2026.
- 2. College Updates:** Alan is working on updating the program curriculum, with an emphasis on clarifying pre- and co-requisites. We are updating learning outcomes (attached to the spring minutes). He would appreciate feedback from the advisory members.

Erin reported: The college is still focused on workforce and community success. We will continue to focus on micro-credentials and digital badging. We are focusing on more hands-on training, and veering away



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from on-line learning. There are many capital projects happening at the college in order to update facilities and build new learning spaces, and integrating new technologies. There is a bond on the ballot at this year's election, which, if passed, will furnish CNM with money to continue upgrading facilities. This year, the FUSE Makerspace will be moved to Main campus and upgraded. Katelyn A. discussed this at the end of the meeting.

3. **Enrollment and Graduation rates:** Dani reported: Last academic year we had 10 AA degree grads, and AAS degree had 23 grads. The Crew certificate -there were 52 and Postproduction had 25. The digital media AAS degree had 23 graduates. As of last spring there were 87 majors for AA degree and the AAS degree has 115 majors. Film Crew certificate has 29 majors, and Post has 6 majors. In digital media there are 55 majors. Students graduate every term. We have a partnership with Rio Rancho schools for dual credit students in digital media.
4. **Equipment:** Alan said we have new equipment, and will be using more LED technology. We are going to purchase a dimmer mixing board, along with other electronic equipment. The union has expressed an interest in training for this. We are purchasing new camera systems and sound equipment. Our advisory members are stepping up to train our students on new technology. Alan asked the members for input on new equipment/training. The program has access to Perkins funding.

#### IV. Old Business: None

**V. New Business:** Ashley gave an overview of the WCS, Workforce and Community Success division at CNM. The WCS assists students and employers with a number of resources. Ashley can help employers post jobs on the free website. Brenden is in charge of internships. There is a pool of money available to help employers pay for interns, and he can walk an employer through all the steps. Ashley is at [aprelo@cnm.edu](mailto:aprelo@cnm.edu). Brenden is at [bkennedy17@cnm.edu](mailto:bkennedy17@cnm.edu).  
Alan said we are always open to suggestions for curriculum changes from our advisory members.

**VI. Reports from Industry Members:** Mark S. from Maleko said earlier in the meeting that he is responsible for supplying rigging and grip for film shoots. He is looking to provide training for students interested in manufacturing batteries that can be used on set, which will be a renewable resource. He will be building AI studios in the state and abroad. Ashley mentioned that he is welcome to come to classes to talk with students directly. Healthcare is a big issue for film workers because it is becoming increasingly expensive and there is almost never enough money to cover healthcare needs of workers. He mentioned the Screenwriters Convention in November (he sent the flyer out to advisory members).

Liz M. with the Union said there are over 70 classes now. She has High school students, who are now going to apply to be on the overflow lists. Netflix is a partner.

Anthony C. said that Tom Ragan with WESST hosted several of his students this summer, as paid interns, developing films. His students told him that this work-based learning was "transformative". Big shout-out to Tom. He is also in partnership with Rep. Hearndon to do a documentary on the mental health crisis among adolescents. This will be presented at the Kimo Theater on December 7.

Tiffany C. is the Executive Director for the NM Film Foundation. She supports independent film makers with an emphasis on above-the-line. She does on-going training for business. She has an above the line working group that meets periodically.

Tom R. said this summer he had six HS interns who worked directly with a WESST client to produce a short film. He plans to keep it going. He is still working on funding for a recording studio, which will have its own internship program. November 3 is the Albuquerque Film Crawl.

Mark R. with the Career enrichment Center said (through the Chat) that he is expanding dual credit offerings through CNM. He would appreciate it if advisory members could provide internships, guest speakers or field trips. Contact Mark at [mark.ryan@aps.edu](mailto:mark.ryan@aps.edu).

Kira S. said that the AFMX festival was last September. It was a great success, and students got free tickets. The festival provides students with important work-based learning opportunities. She is working on year-round programming.



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Ivan W. said that students need to get extra credit from CNM. He considers AFMX a place where students can start building networks and relationships with people who can help with their careers.

Cyndy M. said that there are opportunities for film makers globally that never existed before. Labor costs are an issue. Unions are important. Albuquerque is in a great place to foster independent film makers, and at the moment there are 130 permits given out since July. The average is 45 -50 permits a month. There is a new studio in town- LA Castle Studios from Burbank, located on Alameda.

Julius R. said that the National Indian Youth Council is a state-wide institution, and works with IATSE. He wants to work with APS, and does a film Expo every year. He is expecting 600 students this year. He has offices in Albuquerque, Farmington and Gallup.

Lycee A. from Vault Studios said Vault does streaming audio, and she would like to become an intermediate studio for film students. She is looking to partner with other entities. Kat added that Vault Studios is a 501 3C entity. Kat and Lycee want to work with the community in order to keep students/film makers here in NM.

Steve M. said IATSE has been doing a great job. He is willing to help students looking to get into camera work.

Ed S. said that he had been involved in sports and documentaries. He started Edit House 25 years ago, and he has ten employees. He is a film advisor for the new CTE facility that is being built in Rio Rancho. He is also on the State's CTE committee. He offers internships.

Melodee S. Business Community Liaison with APS, said that she has partnered with Catharsis Media for internships. Local 480 has partnered with Catharsis. She invited all the advisory members to get into the classrooms to talk to students. Several high schools are engaged in work-based learning. She has 500 paid interns in fields such as automotive, E-sports media, STEM, and robotics. [Melodee.saiz@aps.edu](mailto:Melodee.saiz@aps.edu).

Katelyn A. with the FUSE Makerspace said she has funding for alumni of CNM and APS staff to join FUSE. Funding is available for digital media programs and deep dive coding boot camps. [kattanasio@cnm.edu](mailto:kattanasio@cnm.edu)

**VII. Adjournment:** 1:40 pm