

Description of Proposal

Imagine your excitement when discovering a storage closet full of old forgotten dusty boxes ... the thrill of opening one for the first time ... the surprise when you find out they contained snippets of research from a Western professor from the 70s... .

Our goal for the annual student-run exhibition tied to Professor Kirsty Robertson's Introduction to Museum and Curatorial Studies class (VAH/VAS 3385), which will be held in the ARTlab in the Visual Arts Centre in February 2015, is to showcase this professor's life's work through displaying his found belongings. These include the professor's notes, files and artefacts, all seeming to indicate the presence of cryptids – in this case, what unbelievably seem like “lake monsters” -- in Lakes Huron and Erie. From looking through these boxes students were inspired to put on an exhibition about the professor's life and research. In order to mount this exhibition, we are respectfully requesting \$2060.00 from the Student Donation Fund.

Right away, the students of the class were intrigued by the contents of the boxes. As the students learned about archives and archiving, they began the process of cataloguing his belongings. Already the students have discovered the professor's name: Dr. Arthur Nestor. Students have also confirmed his interest in cryptozoological creatures, but there are still many mysteries surrounding his life, and the reason for his seeming departure from Western. Through this exhibition, the class will provide the answers to these mysteries. We predict that this exhibition will be just as or more successful than previous years, in part because of the palpable intrigue surrounding the exhibition.

Anticipated Benefit to Arts and Humanities Students

Through this exhibition, the class is not only targeting the interest of visual arts students, but capturing the imagination of the whole Faculty of Arts and Humanities along with the London community. We believe everyone can be part of discovering Professor Nestor's story. The audience will come to the exhibition driven by their curiosity and full of questions, which will be answered after the opening. This exhibition will benefit the students of the class directly through the experience of organizing and curating, which provides excellent hands-on experience. Students will gain experience in fundraising, promotions, catalogue design, research, communications, entrepreneurship, team work and archiving. Students will get to work directly with professionals in the Museum and Curatorial field and gain a chance to put on an independent student exhibition. This experience gives students the knowledge of the process of organizing and curating an exhibition which will enable them to use these transferable skills. This annual student-run exhibition has had favourable outcomes in previous years, attracting a diverse range of people, both student and community members, to an activity central to the mission of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Judging from these results

we expect another great success for the students, community and Faculty --- as well as blowing the dust off a forgotten legacy linked to Arts and Humanities.

Amount Requested

\$2060.00

Breakdown:

Vinyl for wall text	400.00
Supplies for installation (nails, wire etc)	160.00
Reception	300.00
Paint supplies (to repaint the walls post-installation)	300.00
Photocopies posters and ads	100.00
Exhibition contents and found objects	600.00

Catalogue printing (we are working with Creative Services at Western University to produce a professional catalogue. This catalogue will be sold for a modest sum at the show, with funds donated to next year's class. As in past years, catalogues will additionally be handed out at Fall (2015) and Winter (2014) preview, and sent to art history undergraduate departments in Canada to advertise the Museum and Curatorial Studies major. Design has been donated in kind from Creative Services, and these costs are for printing 250 copies of the full-colour catalogue; rates are based on previous years of printing the catalogue).

1400.00

Image permissions for the catalogue (we would like to include several works by Canadian and international artists in our catalogue. Following rates established by CARFAC (Canadian Artists Representation Fee Schedule), we have calculated this sum for copyright for 4 images @ \$81/image and have allowed a further \$376 for reproduction rights for the same 4 images).

700.00

TOTAL:
3,960.00

Current Funds

Visual Arts Department
1000.00

Donation from catalogue sales/students in VAS/VAH3385 in 2012-13 150.00

TOTAL: 1150.00

Projected Other Funds

Donations from other departments etc. 400.00

Funds from events organized by VAS/VAH3385 students 300.00

Donation from the ArtLab for reception 100.00

TOTAL: 750.00

We are thus requesting \$2060.00