Fine Arts Review Committee Meeting Minutes

**Fine Arts Review Committee Members**
Walter Buford, Illinois Arts Council  
Douglas Stapleton, Illinois State Museum  
Stephanie Roberts, Truman City College  

**Other Attendees**
Shawn Jackson, Truman City College  
Kate Connor, Truman City College  
Eugene Devine, Truman City College  
Linda Norbut Suits, Capital Development Board

- The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m. when Linda Norbut Suits began passing around the sign-in sheet. The meeting began with introductions.

- Everyone in attendance then received a score sheet and agenda. Ms. Suits explained score sheets are for the convenience of the Fine Arts Review Committee (FARC) members and are not collected at the end of the process. The selection of the winning design should be based upon aesthetic quality, suitability and relevance, skill, and past performance.

- Ms. Suits then explained that FARC members would sign a memorandum memorializing the selection.

- She then explained the Illinois Arts Council concurrence process. The selection will not be finalized until the Chair of the Illinois Arts Council signs off on the selection. After Ms. Suits receives the concurrence she will then contact the artists and place the winner under contract.
• The presentations began with the introduction of Allison Svoboda. Ms. Svoboda began by showing examples of her previous work.

• She then presented Crescere, which means to grow in Latin, is a crescent shaped sculpture illustrating the expanding knowledge of the students at Truman College. The college’s unique student body is extremely diverse, coming from 160 countries, speaking 90 different languages. The reflective polished steel represents these students bringing their own diverse backgrounds and experiences into the classroom thereby enriching the school. Symbolizing this growth, Crescere creates an extending wing of movement toward a future of possibilities. The sculpture is placed to follow the desired pathway between the main building and parking garage where most students pass daily. The reflective surface follows the student’s movements encouraging interaction. Benches repeating the pattern of the crescent are arranged along the sculpture to encouraging viewers to sit and “reflect.”

• The sculpture is made of polished stainless-steel. Each of the 14 modular segments will be water jet cut and have a mechanical connection the steel posts. The posts are set into concrete footings below the permeable bricks to give the effect of the sculpture floating. The benches will also be placed into footings.

• The Committee members asked Ms. Svoboda about the lighting details and how they would be wired. She explained what her lighting designer had suggested for type of lighting and where they could be tied into the building’s electrical system.

• The Committee thanked Ms. Svoboda for her time and she left.

• Mr. Garber was brought in, set up his maquette, and was introduced to the Committee.

• Mr. Garber presented Seeds of Thought, four seed-like forms that the Truman community could not only view but also interact with them by touching, resting and even sitting on them.

• Each seed form will be welded out of approximately 300-400 stainless two-inch round steel bars that would be all individually sanded. Three seed sculptures would range in sizes from 20”-24” high, 38”-42” long and 24”-32” deep for the closer grouping of three. Their lowest heights above the ground would vary from 15”-18” making them conducive for seating to people of different height. They would be set at least five feet from each other satisfying ADA requirements. The fourth piece would be approximately ten feet away and approximately 20” high by 22” long by 18” deep.

• The only maintenance required would be a yearly washing with a hose and mild detergent.
• The Committee asked about the weight of the pieces and Mr. Garber responded that the heaviest weighed approximately 500-600 pounds. The also asked if the pieces would be hot in the sun and Mr. Garber said that they would not be.

• The Committee thanked Mr. Garber for his time.

• The Committee adjourned at 12:00 p.m. for lunch

• The Committee reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

• Mr. John Adduci, the final artist to present, was introduced to the Committee.

• Mr. Adduci presented his proposal Place to Place which consists of two dancing houses wreathed by El tracks. The work is inspired by local architecture and features cheerful physicality and bold gestures. Cut-out windows encourage interactivity and provide “frames” for Instagram-ready photographs.

• Standing at 11’ x 15’ x 7’, Place to Place would be fabricated from aircraft quality aluminum with concrete footings in the existing brick pavers. A small boom truck will be used for installing the sculpture, which arrives in three pieces with each house weighing under 800 pounds. No lighting is planned—the sculpture’s grind makes it self-illuminating as it picks up ambient light. Maintenance is nominal, and the sculpture only needs annual washing with detergent, a task that can be performed without special skills.

• The Committee asked Mr. Adduci about his timeline for the project and he stated that given his current schedule, he could see it being installed in late fall.

• The Committee thanked Mr. Adduci for his time.

• The Committee was very pleased with the high quality of the proposals. Each artist presented a well thought out and highly competent proposal. They then reviewed all three proposals and maquettes. They weighed the merits of each piece, its aesthetic quality, and suitability for the space.

• After discussion the Committee selected Mr. John Adduci for the commission.

• The selection memorandum was passed around and signed by all FARC members and attendees.

• Ms. Suits explained the next step would be to send their selection to the Chair of the Illinois Arts Council for concurrence. After the documentation is returned from the Arts Council Ms. Suits would call each artist with the results and then place Mr. Adduci under contract to create the piece.

• The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.