



March 6, 2021

Dear Members of the Faculty Development Committee,

Thanks to your support I was able to present my paper, “*Empowering Student Participation through Padlet*,” as part of the panel, “*Changing Gears, Shifting Priorities: Re-thinking Pedagogy and Possibilities*,” at the College Art Association’s 2021 Annual Conference. My pre-recorded lecture was available for 6 weeks on the conference website and I participated in a live Q&A on February 12 with my fellow panelists.

My paper was all about how my pedagogy shifted in response to the pandemic and offered ideas for how other instructors could use Padlet to benefit their own teaching. The Q&A session was well attended and featured a lively conversation about pedagogy amongst the panelists and the audience. I met several scholars for the first time with whom I am now in conversation.

In addition to my own session, thanks to the conference registration I was able to watch dozens of other sessions—in fact far more than I’d have been able to attend in person at a live event. I also attended a half dozen live Q&As for other panels and was inspired by and learned a great deal from them. Perhaps most important was a talk titled: “The Fabric of Cultures: Decentering Fashion History Through the Practice of Collaborative Curating,” by Laura Downing Peters of Columbia College in Chicago. Her experience diversifying her own teaching and curating an exhibition with students have inspired some ideas for my own pedagogy in my new Global Fashion History course.

As the premiere annual collegiate art conference with more than 4,000 art historians, artists and publishers in attendance, CAA is always a valuable professional platform and networking experience. Presenting on such a prominent stage was a boon to my professional standing in the field and to FIT’s reputation as a leader in innovative, interdisciplinary, student-centered education.

Thank you so much for your support,

Justine De Young
Assistant Professor
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