

Norco College

Music Industry Studies (MIS) Industry Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, March 13, 2026

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Operations Center-OC-106 Norco College

Call to Order

The Music Industry Studies (MIS) Industry Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Faculty welcomed committee members and industry partners and reviewed the purpose of the annual advisory meeting to evaluate program effectiveness, discuss workforce trends, review curriculum, and gather recommendations to strengthen student success and industry alignment.

Committee Members Present

- Kim Kamerin
- Brady Kerr
- Joel Numa
- Ben Palispis
- Michael Snyder

Note Taker: Elizabeth Kim-Rastello

Annual Program Update

Faculty provided an overview of the Music Industry Studies program and highlighted accomplishments from the past academic year. The committee noted continued program growth with a 3% increase in overall enrollment and a 50% increase in spring enrollment

compared to the previous year, bringing the program close to pre-pandemic enrollment levels. Ensemble participation also increased significantly, reflecting growing student engagement. Recent facility improvements included the successful installation of the microphone and PCM camera in the Little Theater and repairs to the theater lighting board. Faculty also shared that the State of California approved the new Music Industry Studies Transfer Model Curriculum and a new Music Industry Studies certificate. In addition, Norco Music celebrated its 30th album release, demonstrating continued student achievement through authentic recording and production experiences. Music ensembles and the Live Sound course were relocated to Building W7 to accommodate instructional needs while future facility improvements are explored. Faculty also discussed that online dual enrollment offerings generated limited student interest and will continue to be evaluated.

Industry Trends and Workforce Needs

Committee members discussed current changes within the music industry and identified emerging workforce trends that should continue to influence curriculum development. Industry representatives shared that employment opportunities remain strong in post-production while immersive audio technologies, particularly Dolby Atmos, are becoming the new industry standard across major streaming platforms. Members also discussed expanding opportunities for professional songwriters in international music markets such as J-Pop and K-Pop, while acknowledging contractual barriers that often limit student participation in commercial songwriting projects. The committee also recognized the renewed interest in physical media, including compact discs, as a growing niche within the music industry.

Curriculum Review

The committee conducted a comprehensive review of the Music Industry Studies curriculum and discussed strategies to better align instruction with current industry practices.

Faculty recommended retaining MIS-200 in the catalog for one additional academic year while enrollment and curriculum needs continue to be assessed. Committee members strongly supported expanding internship opportunities with industry partners, and Joel Numa volunteered to provide internship placements at his professional recording studio to strengthen work-based learning opportunities for Norco College students.

Course Updates

MIS 12 – Live Sound

The committee discussed returning the Live Sound course to the Little Theater beginning in Fall 2026 to better simulate professional concert environments. Members recommended emphasizing traditional drum microphone techniques rather than relying on drum triggers in order to better prepare students for industry expectations. Concerns were also expressed regarding the acoustics and learning environment of the current W7 instructional space.

MIS 13 – Studio Recording Workshop I

Faculty and industry advisors discussed the growing demand for Dolby Atmos production and agreed that remodeling the recording studio to support immersive audio should become a program priority. Committee members also explored maintaining traditional stereo monitoring capabilities while expanding instructional opportunities in Atmos production.

MIS 2 – Songwriting

Committee members supported continuing the successful hybrid format of the Songwriting course and recommended increasing student recording experiences within the studio. Faculty discussed creating collaborative projects between MIS 2 and MIS 13 students that would simulate authentic recording sessions, allowing students to gain experience working as both performers and recording engineers while developing professional communication skills.

MIS 3 – Digital Music Production

Faculty identified the need for students to access software libraries, loops, and production files outside of campus laboratories. The committee recommended creating a secure institutional cloud storage solution to improve student access to instructional materials. Kim Kameran offered to investigate institutional cloud storage options that would support remote learning.

MIS 7 – Introduction to Music Technology

Committee members recommended broadening software instruction to familiarize students with multiple Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs), including Logic Pro, Ableton Live, and Pro Tools. The possibility of offering the course online was discussed, provided students have access to appropriate software platforms.

Equipment and Technology Priorities

Industry advisors identified several equipment needs necessary to maintain alignment with current professional standards. Priorities included installation of a Dolby Atmos monitoring system, additional studio speakers, improved acoustic treatment, infrastructure upgrades

including new wall ports, replacement drum microphones, and continued technology enhancements within instructional laboratories. The committee also discussed replacing unsupported notation software and maintaining current production software utilized throughout the industry.

Future Program Development

The committee expressed strong support for continued expansion of the Music Industry Studies program through new certificates and specialized training opportunities. Members discussed the potential creation of a Dolby Atmos certification to provide students with an industry-recognized credential. Additional discussion focused on expanding Pro Tools certification opportunities and developing new career pathways that reflect emerging workforce demands within the music production industry.

Committee Recommendations and Action Items

The committee recommended the following actions for the upcoming academic year:

- Continue aligning Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) with revised curriculum.
- Finalize the new Music Industry Studies pathway and industry-recognized certificate.
- Develop written justification and pursue funding for the recording studio renovation project.
- Explore external funding opportunities with Dolby industry consultants.
- Coordinate technology upgrades supporting Logic Pro libraries and software access.
- Install OBS broadcasting software on the Little Theater production computer.
- Expand instructional use of the Little Theater sound system and Yamaha digital console to increase student experience with live audio production and broadcasting.

Adjournment

The committee concluded by reaffirming its commitment to supporting Norco College's Music Industry Studies program through continued collaboration, curriculum innovation, investment in industry-standard technology, expanded internship opportunities, and experiential learning that prepares students for careers in today's evolving music industry.

Minutes Prepared for:

Norco College Career & Technical Education

Music Industry Studies Industry Advisory Committee