

ASACR 7

Office of the President
June 10, 2014

Members, Board of Trustees:

CHANGE IN NAME OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT:
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the change in the name of the Department of Theatre to the Department of Theatre and Dance, in the College of Fine Arts, effective July 1, 2014.

Background: The Department of Theatre was formed as its own unit in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1967, although theatre has been a dynamic part of the University of Kentucky student experience since 1911 when it was housed in the English Department. The Department of Theatre has been an active and vital component of the central Kentucky arts scene.

In November 2009 the Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion in the College of Education voted to suspend its Dance minor. At that time, the Department of Theatre began the process to introduce Dance into its curriculum. The Dance minor, which was approved by the University Senate in November 2011, has become tremendously popular with UK students, representing majors from eight colleges across campus. The Dance program has quickly become a high point for recruitment, research/performance, outreach and pedagogy in the unit.

The Interdisciplinary Certificate in Musical Theatre was approved in April 2013, and includes Dance courses as a large component of its curriculum. The Dance program has strengthened the rigor of the Acting program and is the source of newfound physical strength for actors on stage.

The Department of Theatre faculty seeks to recognize the significance that the Dance minor plays in the programming, curriculum, and student body by including “Dance” in the Department name. Changing the name of the unit to the Department of Theatre and Dance will better communicate the scope of the program, and benefit the recruitment efforts both on and off campus.

The proposed change has been approved by the faculty of the Department of Theatre; reviewed and recommended by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee and the Senate Council; and endorsed by the University Senate. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____