

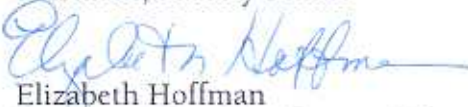
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Office of the Executive Vice
President and Provost
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Interoffice Communication

Date: July 28, 2009

To: Arnold van der Valk
President, Faculty Senate

From: 
Elizabeth Hoffman
Executive Vice President and Provost

Re: Proposal for a Department Name Change

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has presented the attached proposal to change the name of the Department of Music to the "Department of Music and Theatre." As has been our practice for previous name change requests, I ask that the Faculty Senate Executive Board review this proposal and provide comments to me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc: Michael Whiteford, Dean

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Interoffice Communication

DATE: April 28, 2009

TO: Elizabeth Hoffman, Executive Vice President & Provost

Mike

FROM: Michael B. Whiteford, Dean

SUBJECT: Support for department name change

I would like to add an enthusiastic endorsement to the request from the Music and Theatre faculty in our Department of Music to change the name of their department from "Department of Music" to the "Department of Music & Theatre". This is something that makes so much sense that many individuals (including those in the department) thought it had taken place years ago. This had never occurred and so just over a year ago, as part of an External Review, we asked the evaluators about whether a name change should officially take place. The response was unequivocally in support of doing this.

During the fall semester, the faculty voted unanimously to support the request. Early this semester the LAS Cabinet voted (without any dissention) to endorse the department's name change. (Please see the accompanying attachment from the department chair). A week later the LAS Representative Assembly added its fervent support. It is with pleasure that I add my imprimatur to this process.

Thank you.

CC: Michael Golemo, Chair
Department of Music



Interoffice Communication

DATE: January 26, 2009

TO: Michael Whiteford

FROM: Michael Golemo, Chair
Department of Music, Music Hall room 149

RE: Proposed Department Name Change for Music and Theatre

The faculty of the Department of Music requests that the Department Chairs of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences consider and support a change of name for the Department of Music to the Department of Music and Theatre. [REDACTED]

With this memo, we provide a rationale for the proposed changes as well as a summary of the approval process we have followed to date.

Rationale:

The Theatre unit, until 1992, had been a part of the Department of Speech Communications. In 1992, LAS Interim Dean David Glenn-Lewin encouraged moving the Theatre Program and faculty from the Department of Speech Communication into the Department of Music after receiving the support of both the Music and Theatre faculty. Although Theatre merged with Music at that time, the official title has remained Department of Music. In 1996, a Bachelor of Arts in the Performing Arts (with emphases in acting/directing, design, and dance) was added to the theatre curriculum.

Since that time, Theatre has remained a unit of the "Department of Music." This makes Theatre a difficult unit to locate, especially for prospective students, and Theatre has struggled without an identity of its own. Although Theatre is housed in Pearson Hall and Music is located in the Music Hall, there are several opportunities for collaboration between students and faculty, and the Professor-In-Charge of Theatre reports to the Chair of the Department of Music.

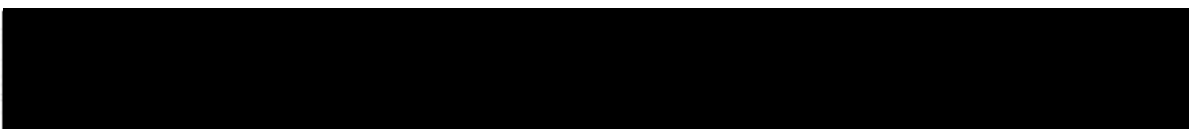
In March of 2008, the Department of Music underwent a college mandated external review. The evaluators were specifically asked to consider the current structure and organization of the Theatre unit:

Both music and theatre faculties seem to be quite happy with the current structure of the Music DEO and the Theatre PIC working together as needed and described. The departments are largely separate and would function academically and programmatically. In fact, it could be noted that the faculty and students would hardly notice a merged department in any way, and

that the only real proof that the two arts programs exist in one department is wholly administrative, observable only to administrators. As stated elsewhere in the report, this does not appear to represent any difficulties to either program...

The inconsistencies of listing the department's name do leave a casual observer wondering what the identity is for the theatre unit. This unclear identity could already be and might ultimately manifest itself in less-than-positive ways for theatre study at ISU. The visitors reiterate here their concerns that the institution arrive a single identity for the department and its component programs and make sure all publicity and dialogue observe that identity-- it is accurate to say that the visitors feel this program is clearly more like a Department of Music and Theatre than it is either a Department of Music or a Department of Performing Arts.

In this proposal there would be no change to the administrative structures of the two areas, no need for additional office space or facilities, and no expenses involved with this change.



Process:

After discussion, the faculty in the Theatre unit voted unanimously on September 16, 2008 to support the department name change to "Department of Music and Theatre." Similarly, on October 2, 2008, the faculty of the Music unit voted unanimously to support this change. The faculty of both music and theatre units are in unanimous agreement that our department needs a name to more accurately represent who we are and what we do.

This proposal has the full support of Dean Whiteford, who understands the history of the two units and the need for these changes and we urge you to support this proposal.