

March 5, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Jackie Wiggins
Chair of Music, Theatre and Dance

From: Susan Awbrey
Chair of University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction

Re: Proposals for BFAs in Theater and Dance

Thank you for attending UCUI's meeting on February 20, 2007 to discuss the following proposals: 1) Proposal for the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre, and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Design and Technology, and 2) Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. The committee appreciates the time that you took to answer questions and elaborate on the written documents. UCUI members felt that the addition of BFA degrees would enhance the university's reputation and would be an asset to the Oakland University curriculum. However, the committee members feel that the following areas in the proposals should be clarified or explanations expanded prior to the proposal going to the University Senate.

- Since the case is made that the majority of students entering the new BFA programs will come from the existing BA programs, a brief survey of current students should be included to substantiate interest in the BFAs and need for them.
- Since the proposals indicate that BFA programs will attract high achieving students to Oakland University's programs, the data from the above student surveys should be assessed to determine whether high achieving students are more likely to enter the BFA programs.
- A rationale section is needed that identifies the need for new faculty based on the needs of the programs rather than the more general needs of the department as a whole.
- A paragraph should be added that explains the change in name from BA in performing arts to BA in the areas. Did this have COI approval?

The committee has received your revised copy for the BFA in Dance that has addressed the following corrections:

- Different numbers of required credits i.e., page 25 says 138 credits; page 10 says 134
- Page 28, general education per semester should be 4 or 8 credits not 6 credits since OU has 4 credit courses
- Pages numbered incorrectly: page 29 missing

Again, UCUI is very supportive of the development of the BFAs and appreciates in advance your willingness to address the concerns noted. Thank you.