

March 6, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Susan Awbrey, Chair
University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction

From: Jackie Wiggins, Chair
Department of Music, Theatre and Dance

Re: Proposals for BFAs in Theatre and Dance

Please extend our thanks to the Committee for their support of our proposal. Responses to their suggestions are below.

- 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.

Response:

We have created the questionnaires that are attached to this response. We are presently distributing them to our current majors and will forward the resultant data once they are collected.

- 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.

Response:

Some of the questions are designed to tease out this information, e.g., asking respondents about their current performance involvement and asking for their GPAs.

- 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.

Response:

This information has been added to the Dance Proposal on pp. 20-21 and to the Theatre Proposal on pp 23-24.

- 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?

Response:

CAS COI has this proposal and intends to act on it upon approval of these proposals. It would be premature for them to act on it before the approval of these new programs.

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

Response

The attached version of the proposal contains these corrections. Thanks for your careful reading.

Thank you for your assistance.

BA/BFA in Dance Survey
March 2007

Year in school: Freshman ____ Sophomore ____ Junior ____ Senior ____

Oakland University's Dance Program is currently in the process of proposing a new BFA degree approved, if approved would you be interested in switching to this Professional degree?

YES _____ NO _____

Are you currently a member of:

ODT _____ RDC _____ EDE Apprentice _____?

Do you currently perform with any dance companies outside of the university?

YES _____ NO _____

Do you currently take any technique courses outside of the university?

YES _____ NO _____

While a student at Oakland University have you attended or participated in any summer dance workshops?

YES _____ NO _____

What is your current GPA? _____

BA/BFA in Theatre Survey
March 2007

Year in school: Freshman ____ Sophomore ____ Junior ____ Senior ____

Which program are you currently pursuing?

BA in Theatre Performance _____

BA in Musical Theatre _____

BA in Theatre Production _____

If OU offered a BFA in Theatre (a professional degree), we are wondering whether you would be interested in pursuing it – or whether you would prefer to pursue a liberal arts major in theatre, a BA in Theatre. Please let us know your preference by responding below.

Which program would you be interested in pursuing?

A liberal arts degree in theatre:

BA in Theatre _____

A professional degree in theatre:

BFA in Acting _____

BFA in Musical Theatre _____

BFA in Theatre Design and Technology _____

To date, how many MTD Theatre productions have you been part of? _____

In what capacity? _____

What is your current GPA? _____