



College of Arts and Sciences

186 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-1667 Phone
614-292-8666 Fax

artsandsciences.osu.edu

September 24, 2020

W. Randy Smith, Vice Provost for Academic Programs
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
190 North Oval Mall
Campus

Dear Randy,

We affirm the support of the College of Arts and Sciences for the proposal to change the name of the Department of Theatre to the “Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts.” We note that the faculty in Theatre voted unanimously in favor of this change in a meeting in May, as documented in the attached report from Janet Parrott and Dana Renga.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gretchen Ritter'.

003EE06675E245E...

Gretchen Ritter

Executive Dean and Vice Provost

DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Peter Hahn'.

15E51080C71A4A4...

Peter L. Hahn

Dean, Arts and Humanities



Department of Theatre
Drake Performance & Event Center
1849 Cannon Drive
Columbus, OH 43210

Film Studies Program
Moving-Image Production Major
150 Hagerty Hall
1775 College Road
Columbus OH, 43210

To: Randy Smith, Vice Provost for Academic Programs

From:
Janet Parrott
Chair, Department of Theatre
Co-director Film Studies / Moving-Image Production Program

Dana Renga
Chair, Department of French and Italian
Co-director Film Studies / Moving-Image Production Program

RE: Request to Change Name of Department of Theatre to Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts

Date: May 15, 2020

Dear Randy,

The Department of Theatre is Requesting to change its name to the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts.

Thank you for your consideration,



Department of Theatre Name Change Proposal

The Proposal: Change the Name of Department of Theatre to Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts

The proposed name change of the Department of Theatre to the **Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts**, is to integrate current offerings in the Department of Theatre, the Film Studies program, and the Moving-Image Production major.

1. Rationale

With the coming of a new building for Theatre and Moving-Image Production (MIP) in the Arts District, it is now an auspicious moment to consider a bold integration of Theatre and Film on Ohio State's campus. As creative disciplines, Theatre and Film share many related methods and concerns. Currently, Film Studies functions as a program (two minors, BA, MA) that reports directly to the College of Arts and Sciences divisional dean for arts and humanities and MIP as a major (BA) that is administered by the director of film studies.

Film and Theatre's interdisciplinarity is their strength; however, as we move further into the 21st century, it is increasingly clear that segregating live and mediated performance both administratively and pedagogically leads to redundancies that could be effectively eliminated through such a union. In addition, it is equally clear that effectively engaging our 21st century student artists and scholars entails exploring an array of mediums. We propose bringing these programs together in one department, creating an urgently needed artistic community for our students and faculty.

2. Commonly used names in top academic departments

- Johnny Carson School of Theatre & Film, University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- School of Theater, Film, and Television, UCLA
- Department of Theatre and Media Arts, Brigham Young University
- School of Theatre, Film and Media Arts, Temple University
- The Department of Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University
- Department of Film, Television, and Theatre, University of Notre Dame
- Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Studies at St. Mary's College of Maryland

3. Programmatic changes.

The Film Studies Program houses the following degree programs:

- BA Film Studies
- BA Moving-Image Production



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

- MA Film Studies
- Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Film Studies
- Film Studies Minor
- Screenwriting Minor

Theatre houses the following degree programs:

- BA Theatre
- MA Theatre Studies
- MFA Theatre emphasis in Acting
- MFA Theatre emphasis in Design
- PhD Theatre Studies
- Graduate Cinema and Video Minor
- Theatre Minor
- Musical Theatre Minor
- Media Production and Analysis Minor
- Video Arts Minor

The above curricula would reside in the renamed Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts, and would not be modified.

4. How will department name change affect students, faculty, and staff in the current department.

Residing within the new theatre building are plans for MIP facilities and faculty offices. Proximity of these disciplines offer students and faculty greater opportunity for creative practice, research and teaching opportunities. Integrating core faculty from the Film Studies Program into the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts will enhance research and teaching collaborations between faculty in Theatre, Film Studies, and MIP.

5. How will department name change affect students, faculty, and staff outside the proposing unit.

One faculty member (Angus Fletcher) has a 50% FTE in English (his TIU) and a 50% FTE in Film Studies, which would move to the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts. No other faculty have direct appointments in the Film Studies Program. Two staff positions in the Film Studies Program (awaiting replacement hiring approval) will move to the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts these are an Academic Program Coordinator and an Office Associate. The current college academic advisor for the Film Studies Program would continue to advise all of the students pursuing the Film Studies program and MIP degree programs outlined in point 3. Faculty who offer courses which contribute to the Film Studies, MIP, and Screenwriting majors and minors are welcome to request transfer of all or part of their line to the renamed department subject to university guidelines on units transfers, and if the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts supports such a move with a vote (Appendix 1). Additionally, these faculty would have greater opportunities for collaborative teaching, research, and creative inquiry.



The proposal for the major in Moving-Image Production was approved in 2016 on the condition that three additional faculty lines would be approved in Moving-Image Production. Thus far, only one line has been granted, and there are not sufficient faculty to staff the courses for the pre-major and major in Moving-Image Production. An MOU will need to be established between the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts and the Executive Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences that specifies a hiring rotation for the next four years. Specifically, the MIP proposal that was approved through OAA in 2017 specifies two additional hires necessary to staff the Program, one in Narrative, and one in Documentary.

6. Administrative Changes

There should be no administrative changes in the programs. However, the Executive Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences has authorized an external search for a chair of the Department of Theatre that will take place in Autumn 2020. The new faculty member will chair the Department of Theatre and Media Arts beginning Autumn 2021.

7. Status

Positive unanimous vote (May 15, 2020) from the Department of Theatre faculty to change the department name to the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts.

8. Fiscal impact

The budget for the Film Studies Program will move into the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts. Moving-Image Production will continue to operate on startup funds through FY21. Once those funds run out, The College of Arts & Sciences is committed to ensure that sufficient PBA is available for Moving-Image Production-related staffing and equipment. Once Moving-Image Production receives PBA from the College of Arts & Sciences, that budget will move into the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts. A line item for equipment will need to be included in the budget for the Department of Theatre, Film and Media Arts as equipment is necessary to run the courses that contribute to the Pre-Major and Major in Moving-Image Production. The technology fee would continue to apply to all undergraduate majors in the Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Appendix 1: Tenure-Track Faculty with TIU's Outside of the Department of Theatre Who Offer Courses that Contribute to the Film Studies, MIP, and Screenwriting Majors and Minors

Frederick Luis Aldama, Department of English

Roger Beebe, Department of Art

David Brewer, Department of English

Jian Chen, Department of English

John Davidson, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

Kirk Denton, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures

Simone Drake, Department of African American and African Studies

Angus Fletcher, Department of English (*holds 50% FTE in The Film Studies Program)

Maggie Flinn, Department of French and Italian

Ryan Friedman, Department of English

Jared Gardner, Department of English

Helena Gosciolo, Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures

Yana Hashamova, Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures

Erica Levin, Department of History of Art

Linda Mizejewski, Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Sean O'Sullivan, Department of English

Kris Paulsen, Department of History of Art

Laura Podalsky, Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Dana Renga, Department of French and Italian

Mitchel Rose, Department of Dance

Jesse Schotter, Department of English

Maurice Stevens, Department of Comparative Studies

Kyoung Lee Swearingen, Department of Design

Certificate Of Completion

Envelope Id: CA1DE800514246B29E9F81D7D50CC45F	Status: Completed
Subject: Please DocuSign: Theatre, Film, and Media Arts letter.pdf	
Source Envelope:	
Document Pages: 6	Signatures: 2
Certificate Pages: 2	Initials: 0
AutoNav: Enabled	Envelope Originator:
Envelopeld Stamping: Enabled	Beth Vangundy
Time Zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)	1050 Carmack Rd
	Columbus, OH 43210
	vangundy.1@osu.edu
	IP Address: 140.254.106.140

Record Tracking

Status: Original	Holder: Beth Vangundy	Location: DocuSign
9/24/2020 2:31:15 PM	vangundy.1@osu.edu	

Signer Events

Dr. Gretchen Ritter
 ritter.1596@osu.edu
 Executive Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
 The Ohio State University
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

DocuSigned by:

 003EE06675E245E...
 Signature Adoption: Drawn on Device
 Using IP Address: 140.254.106.148

Timestamp

Sent: 9/24/2020 2:41:27 PM
 Viewed: 9/24/2020 4:13:16 PM
 Signed: 9/24/2020 4:13:24 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via DocuSign

Peter Hahn
 hahn.29@osu.edu
 Dean, Arts & Humanities
 The Ohio State University
 Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

DocuSigned by:

 15E51080C71A4A4...
 Signature Adoption: Pre-selected Style
 Using IP Address: 98.30.167.64

Sent: 9/24/2020 4:13:25 PM
 Viewed: 9/24/2020 4:19:37 PM
 Signed: 9/24/2020 4:19:45 PM

Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:
 Not Offered via DocuSign

In Person Signer Events	Signature	Timestamp
Editor Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Agent Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Intermediary Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Certified Delivery Events	Status	Timestamp
Carbon Copy Events	Status	Timestamp
Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	9/24/2020 4:13:25 PM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	9/24/2020 4:19:37 PM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	9/24/2020 4:19:45 PM

Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Completed	Security Checked	9/24/2020 4:19:45 PM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps