

# UC 10751 09F

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair  
Undergraduate Council

APPROVED DEC 09 2009

FROM: Richard Scamell  
Degree Programs Committee: Programs

SUBJECT: UC 10476 09F: New Program Request – Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre- Production  
UC 10477 09F: Revision to the Catalog Language to the Theatre and Dance Program

DATE: December 9, 2009

The Committee met on Wednesday, November 4 and Wednesday, November 11 to consider two proposals from the School of Theatre & Dance. Participating in the discussions were committee members Betty Barr, Miranda Bennett, Debbie Hermann, Iain Morrison, and Richard Scamell. Jackie deMontmollin, Jim Johnson, and Rebecca Valls attended one or both of the meetings as guests.

## Background

The Undergraduate Council, during its April 15, 2009 meeting, approved the Degree Programs Committee report (UC 10280 09S) covering: (a) four additions to the undergraduate degree programs of the School of Theatre & Dance and (b) four other changes to existing degree programs. Additional changes to one of the existing degree programs, the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Design and Technology Track, constitute the subject of UC 10476 09F.

## UC 10476 09F

Page 2 of UC 10244 09S proposed revising the name of the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Design/Technology Track to Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Design and Technology Track and, at the same time, revising the curricular progression of this track to more effectively prepare students for success in the design and technology areas of the professional theatre. Justifications included:

- Changes and revisions to the curricular progression of this track would more effectively prepare students for success in the design and technology areas of the professional theatre.
- The four-year curriculum will improve retention and graduation rates.
- The continued integration of modern technology into the training program would provide students with the job skills that are in immediate demand in the industry.
- The broader focus of the School's undergraduate design and technology programs would better prepare students for the specialized, in-depth design training offered at the graduate level.

The purpose of UC 10476 09F is to basically re-categorize what last spring were simply some changes to an existing degree to what is now a request to replace the existing Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Design and Technology Track with a new degree program leading to a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre – Production. Aside from substituting the foreign language requirement in the Bachelor of Arts degree with free and prescribed electives, the curricular requirements of the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre – Production degree remain the same as those in the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, Design and Design Track approved by the Degree Programs Committee last spring and endorsed by the Undergraduate Council in its April 15, 2009 meeting.

## UC 10477 09F

Last spring the School of Theatre & Dance submitted and then withdrew UC 10257 09F, a document to revise the catalog language for its undergraduate program offerings. UC 10477 09F contains the catalog language for the following undergraduate School of Theatre & Dance degree programs: (a) Bachelor of Arts in Theatre – Playwriting/Dramaturgy, (b) Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre – Acting, (c) Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre – Theatre Education, (d) Bachelor of Arts in Dance, and pending the approval of UC 10476 09F, (e) the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre – Production. Some of these degree programs currently exceed the 120 semester credit hour state-mandated requirement. The School of Theatre & Dance plans to submit proposals in the Spring 2010 semester to align all of its undergraduate degree programs with the 120 semester credit hour state-mandated requirement.

## Recommendation

The Committee recommends approval of UC 10476 09F and UC 10477 09F

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