February 2, 2011

To: Larry Krissek

Chair, Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction

From: Bebe Miller

 Chair, Arts and Humanities 1 (Arts Intensive) Subcommittee

Re: Semester Conversion Proposal for Theatre BA and Theatre Minor

On January 20 the Arts and Humanities 1 Subcommittee reviewed the semester conversion proposals for both the BA and Minor programs in Theatre. The subcommittee voted unanimously to approve both proposals for consideration by the full CCI.

The last significant change to the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs in 2004 in response to a large increase in undergraduate students and the re-accreditation process. Given the growing undergraduate enrollments, the faculty’s desire to maintain a comprehensive approach to the BA, and the lower number of courses that can be offered in the semester system, the department proposed a 43 credit hour semester conversion plan, a revision of the current 63 credit hour requirement for completion of the program.

The program revisions will give students greater flexibility by adjusting the balance of required course work and major electives. The BA core curriculum will consist of:

* three Foundations in Text, reduced from four under the quarter system, with an increase in special topics available to students for completion of the third requirement;
* two Foundations in Design, reduced from three, with one required general overview course and several specializations to select from;
* two Foundations in Performance, reduced from three;
* four Foundations in Production (practicum);
* and a minimum of 15 units of major electives.

The subcommittee felt the conversion plan to be quite sound with a few items to be addressed:

A discrepancy regarding Major electives: many courses are at 2000 level but advising sheet says that courses must be a 3000 level or above. This was addressed in the revised document.

Several clarifications on the Semester advising sheet were addressed:

* GE Math or Logic: Math 075/104 is a prerequisite
* GE 7 & 8 (biological and physical sciences): remove sentence “must include a lab”
* GE Social Sciences: need to choose 2 of 3 categories
* 2 global studies courses are required

There were a few additional typos and minor errors that were addressed and corrected by the department.

The Theatre Minor conversion plan was also reviewed and unanimously approved pending a few revisions, which are not substantive. We adding a notation on the advising sheet that 6 credit hours must be at the 3000-level or above; the same should be specified in the transition plan as well.

Given these revisions noted above, I recommend that the Theatre BA and Minor proposals both be considered and approved by the CCI.

Yours,

Bebe Miller