January 18, 2022

Associate Professor Luke Wilson

Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval of Revisions to the School of Music’s Bachelor of Music Education degree program

Dear Luke and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

At its meeting on Friday, September 18, 2020 the Arts and Humanities 2 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed the proposed BME revision. At the time, the proposal was unanimously approved with a few contingencies, which have now been met. One of the revisions is raising the minimum cumulative GPA requirement for the Bachelor of Music Education major from 2.75 to 3.0. Since the music education area believes that its students should be prepared both musically and academically to teach multi-age (i.e., PK-12) learners, raising the overall GPA requirement to 3.0. is a better indicator of teachers’ preparedness and competence to teach multi-age learners that will be consistent with the minimum 3.0 music course requirement for the major.

The School of Music requested the addition of Education and Human Ecology courses such as ESPHE 3206 – School and Society (3 cr) and ESPHE 4280 – History of Modern Education (3 cr) as options to the BME curriculum sheet of ensure students can satisfy the Education requirements of the major. Along with this request, the School of Music also asked to make some edits to the BME Choral, General Music, and Instrumental curriculum sheets, and to correct 2 errors on the Instrumental and General Music BME sheets.

Another revision was to modify the applied lesson and ensemble requirements for the BME Jazz Principal Majors as there is no analogous requirement for the BME classical instrumentalist major. The modification will retain the jazz studies requirement of 12 units of applied jazz principal lessons and require only two semesters of secondary applied classical lessons. The modification will remain true to the jazz BME student’s primary interest, i.e., jazz studies, and the jazz principal’s secondary teaching interest, classical music. The final request from the music education and jazz studies areas will require BME jazz principals to enroll in a concert band for two semesters prior to student teaching as a BME jazz principal’s enrollment in a concert band will provide the student practical and invaluable knowledge and understanding as a performer, learner, and observer of concert band instruction. To reduce any negative impact on the BME jazz principal’s time-to-degree, the jazz area has agreed to modify one of the jazz ensemble requirements and allow the jazz principal to substitute one jazz ensemble requirement for a concert band.

We believe that the proposed revisions aligned with the rigor of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the modifications to the curriculum sheets offer clearer understanding of the requirements for the BME degree program for students and advisors. Thus, we advance the proposed revision to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Regards,

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Eugenia Romero, PhD

Associate Professor of Iberian Studies

Vice-Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies

Department of Spanish and Portuguese