

## **BOARD OF VISITORS ACTION FORM**

### **FOR PROPOSED INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES REQUIRING BOV AND SCHEV APPROVAL**

#### **PROPOSAL TITLE:**

Rename the Department of Theatre, Speech, & Dance as the Department of Theatre & Dance

#### **PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL:**

The faculty of the Department of Theatre, Speech, & Dance have voted unanimously to change the name to the Department of Theatre & Dance. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences fully supports this decision. Action by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) is required for the departmental name change. Prior to SCHEV submission, Board of Visitors action is required.

#### **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE:**

Academic Affairs

#### **BRIEF NARRATIVE:**

In March 2022, an external program review of the Department of Theatre, Speech, & Dance recommended that the department be renamed as the Department of Theatre & Dance. In November 2022, the faculty of the Department of Theatre, Speech, & Dance unanimously approved the recommended name change. This change reflects the curricular offerings of the department. The university offers a B.A. in Theatre and minors in Theatre and Dance. There is no major or minor in Speech. The university's courses in Speech will continue to fill an important part of the institution's general education curriculum, providing a means for students to develop the practical skills of oral communication. The proposed name change will not impact academic offerings in the department. No degree programs will relocate to the department as a result of the proposed name change. There will be no changes to the degree programs as a result of the proposed name change.

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

No additional resources are needed for this change.

**WILLIAM & MARY  
RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF  
THEATRE, SPEECH, AND DANCE**

**WHEREAS**, in 1926, formal organization of the William & Mary Theatre and its academic classes began; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Theatre and Speech was formed in 1963; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2001, the Department reorganized as the Department of Theatre, Speech, and Dance; and,

**WHEREAS**, the university does not offer degree programs in Speech; and,

**WHEREAS**, in March 2022, an external program review recommended that the Department reorganize to become the Department of Theatre and Dance; and,

**WHEREAS**, in November 2022, the Faculty of the Department unanimously approved the recommendation of the external program review committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, no faculty positions will be lost as a result of the Department's renaming; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences concurs with the recommendation of the external program review and of the Faculty of the Department;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon recommendation of the President and the Provost, the Board of Visitors approves the renaming of the Department of Theatre, Speech and Dance as the Department of Theatre and Dance.