REQUEST FOR PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:
MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN COMPARATIVE LITERATURE-TRANSLATION

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to change the name of the Master of Fine Arts in Comparative Literature-Translation to Master of Fine Arts in Literary Translation in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**Recommendation:** The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this change.

**Reason for change:** There are institutional and national justifications for the proposed change. The Master of Arts in Comparative Literature was eliminated in 2012, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature was eliminated in 2016. In spring 2018, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences decided to discontinue the BA in Comparative Literature. It is now necessary to rename the translation program because there are no longer graduate degrees offered by a Comparative Literature program at the University of Iowa.

National trends in the field also justify renaming this program. The past decade has witnessed significant shift in student interest towards Literary Translation as a distinct field of study and practice, rather than as an auxiliary subfield inside other programs. Renaming the program will increase its visibility, insuring that the students who are looking for training in literary translation can find out about the program more readily. The renaming will also better align the program with the University of Iowa’s enduring reputation as The Writing University, a destination-of-choice for students seeking Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degrees in writing and literary arts. Translation has been a vital writing art at the University of Iowa since 1962, when the University offered the nation’s first ever translation workshop. Renaming the program as MFA in Literary Translation will therefore reaffirm its legacy and renown.

**Impact on Students:** Only the name of the program is proposed to change. Current students in MFA in Comparative Literature-Translation will not be affected in any manner. The program curriculum and degree requirements remain the same.

**Relationship to accreditation:** There are no known accreditation issues for this name change.

**Date of implementation:** August 2019