

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR A DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC TO DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC AND THEATRE**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to change the name of the Department of Music to the Department of Music and Theatre in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**Executive Summary:** The proposed name reflects an organizational change which occurred in 1992 when the Theatre Program and faculty were moved from the Department of Speech Communication to the Department of Music. In 1996, a Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts (with emphasis in acting/directing/design, and dance) was added to the theatre curriculum. However, the name of the department was not changed to reflect the new offerings.

This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan objective (1.1) to “offer high-quality programs through ongoing program improvement for undergraduate, graduate, professional, and non-degree students and special school students.”

**Background:**

- ◇ **Description of department.** The department offers undergraduate programs in music and theatre and the performing arts.
- ◇ **Reason for proposed name.** The proposed name will more accurately reflect the offerings in the department. It will also clarify to visitors and prospective students that the department includes those offerings. Furthermore, during an external review of the Department of Music, the review team made a recommendation to suggest the name change.
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** The proposed name has been adopted by undergraduate programs at Simpson College, Prairie View A & M University, Colorado State University, and others.
- ◇ **No other change needed.** The University has indicated that there will be no changes to the administrative structure of the two areas. There will not be a need for additional office space or facilities, and no additional expenses will be involved with the proposed change.