

# AACR 5

Office of the President  
June 19, 2012

Members, Board of Trustees:

CHANGE IN NAME OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT:  
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve a change in the name of the College of Fine Arts' Department of Art to School of Art and Visual Studies, effective July 1, 2012.

Background: The mission of the Department of Art has long been centered on the academic instruction in the skills of art production and on providing cultural programming for the campus and surrounding community. From the perspective of the faculty, the words "department" and the sole emphasis on "art" no longer adequately describe the mission, scope, and goals of the academic unit.

The Department of Art currently houses seven different undergraduate and graduate degrees in fields as varied as professional teacher-training, pre-professional and professional studio practice, and traditional liberal arts. The array of curricular programs offered by the department presents a significant expansion from the single BA in Art offered at its founding in 1918. The diversity, size, and the continued potential for growth in the visual arts program are better represented by the proposed name.

The proposed School of Art and Visual Studies better reflects the practices and academic goals of the disciplines. While our teaching and scholarship continue to develop and explore the aesthetic and expressive dimensions of visual production, it is understood that the practice of production and interpretation in the visual realm extend far beyond the traditional field of "art".

The proposed change has been approved by the faculty in the department; reviewed and endorsed by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee and the Senate Council; and endorsed by the University Senate. The Interim Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_