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COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PLANNING AND REVIEW

Thursday, June 06, 2013  
12-13 CAPR 23

**TO:** The Academic Senate

**FROM:** The Committee on Academic Planning Review (CAPR)

**SUBJECT:** 12-13 CAPR 23: Five-Year Program Review for Theater Arts B.A.

**PURPOSE:** For Action by the Senate

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Acceptance of the [2011-12 Five-Year Program Review of the Theater Arts BA program](#) in the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences at California State University East Bay; the date of the next Five-Year review is 2016-2017.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND RESOURCES:**

The B.A. in Theater Arts degree is offered by the Department of Theater and Dance and currently serves about 60 majors. The number of majors has fluctuated over the past five years, between 55 and 70. The number of full-time tenure track faculty has remained constant at seven. The Department employs two full time lecturers that are involved in instruction as well as theater and dance productions. The Department currently shares a staff member with the Department of Music. Several part-time lecturers are also used to teach mainly the G.E. offerings. Tenure-track faculty teach 70% of the FTES. SFR for the program is about 17, with Dance having an SFR of 25 and Theater an SFR of 14. The faculty of the Department is very diverse including Hispanic, Black, Asian/Pacific Islander members. The student body is also diverse, representing the diversity of the Bay Area. Library resources appear to be adequate. The theater and production equipment need major upgrading. The A2E2 funding is expected to help the Department with resources needed.

The last five-year review of the Theater Arts program was conducted in 2004-2005 academic year. During that review CAPR and the Academic Senate recommended the continuation of the program. Since then, they have made several changes to the program and have made progress in achievement of goals set for the program by CAPR. One of the CAPR recommendations was that the Theater Arts and Music programs should collaborate more closely. Since then the University has approved the creation of the School of Arts and Media, which encompasses all these programs. This development should prove positive for close cooperation between Theater, Dance and Music programs.

The BA Theater Arts curriculum includes the following elements: Beginning Electives, Core, Advance Electives, and Culmination. Beginning Electives include lower division requirements that recognize the program focus on three emphases, Acting, Dance, and Technology/Design. Production forms a component of Beginning Electives. The Beginning Electives attempt to clarify the native lower division experience, as well as accommodate easy transfer. The core includes a fixed set of breadth courses applicable to all emphases. Advanced Electives provide for students to focus upper division work on one emphasis, but also requires more historical foundation and more production. The Culmination requirement, in the form of a senior design course, requires students to create an advance production assignment, to examine their career goals, and to prepare career entry portfolios. There is also a portfolio assessment requirement that is used to assess the achievement of the program learning outcomes.

Since the last review, the following changes of the program have been implemented:

- The major has been revised as mentioned above.

- They have developed new G.E. courses including upper division and courses in Concord Campus.
- The Theater and Dance programs have been integrated.
- Access to courses for first-year entering students has been improved by allowing majors to apply cluster courses to lower division requirements.
- Starting 2012 revised assessment procedures have been implemented.
- Musical Theater Ensemble Option classes have been implemented.

Theater/Dance faculty have been very active in performance both on and off campus. Their contributions to campus climate have been significant. Many of the faculty have had significant professional accomplishments including performing in KCACTF festivals, Memphis on Broadway, and network series such as Magic City and many others.

The program has a five-year plan that includes re-evaluation of options with low enrollment, expansion of production resources and potential online for large enrollment courses. The plan also indicates that they will fully implement their assessment process. The new assessment procedures have just been implemented so there has not been enough time to make program improvements that would result from assessment.

### **PROGRAM OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT:**

The student learning outcomes were revised and published in 2011. There are five outcomes, which include ability to conduct research, acquiring a foundation in performance techniques and production technology, ability to reflect on performances of others, and problem solving ability in production. The outcomes are appropriate in that they cover major skills required for Theater and Dance graduates. The self-study report does not provide a mapping of the curriculum to outcomes and also there is no mapping of program learning outcomes to institutional learning outcomes. However through discussions with the Department Chair, CAPR was informed that they have recently developed the mapping between the courses in the curriculum and the program outcomes and ILO's. The mapping has not yet been published.

### **RESOURCES:**

There are two areas of resource needs; facilities and instruction. The facility needs are the structural up-keep of the University Theater and the Dance Studio in the athletic building. There is also need for better equipment such as improved sound and lighting systems.

The instructional needs are mainly in the area of Theater production. The two full time lecturers are presently playing the double role of instruction and preparing setups for production. A full time personnel dedicated to production would enhance the program.

### **CAPR RECOMMENDATION(S) FOR CONTINUATION OF THE PROGRAM:**

CAPR recommends that the program continue with modification specifically including:

1. Map the curriculum to program learning outcomes and ILOs
2. Assess more than one program outcome per year such that in five years the Department is able to evaluate the progress of students in achieving outcomes.
3. Close the loop on assessment by using the assessment results to implement program improvement.
4. Assess the viability of all options to focus the Department's limited resources to fewer options.
5. Continue to participate in outreach activities to recruit more majors.

It is anticipated that the above will be monitored through annual program reports.

### **DATE OF THE PROGRAM'S NEXT FIVE-YEAR REVIEW:**

AY 2017-2018