



April 11, 2008

Dr. W. Randy Smith, Vice Provost  
Office of Academic Affairs  
203 Bricker, N. Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Randy,

Over the past year, the College of the Arts Tagged Degree Task Force met at separate times during May 2007, September 2007, and December 2007, to determine the relationship of the tagged degrees, Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Art Education (B.A.E.), Bachelor of Science of Design (B.S.D.), Bachelor of Music (B.M.) and Bachelor of Music Education (B.M.E.), to the newly revised General Education Curriculum. The committee also determined a process by which all five units offering the tagged degrees would examine their current undergraduate offerings in response to the newly revised GEC. This process involved examining current GEC requirements; examining the current offerings and requirements within the major programs; discussions among the Undergraduate Studies Chairs (USC); cross unit discussions; full faculty votes to revise major programs; approval of the College of the Arts Curriculum Committee, Subcommittee B of the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (ASC CCI), and full CCI vote. The major program revisions and requests for variations in the GECs are now at different stages approaching CAA.

The committee was made up of the following Undergraduate Chairs: Art: Professor Rebecca Harvey; Art Ed: Associate Professor Kevin Tavin; Dance: Professor John Giffin; Design: Professor and Chair Wayne Carlson; Music: Associate Professor and Associate Director Lora Dobos; and Valarie Mockabee, Associate Professor and Associate Dean. The committee considered the adoption of the new categories of the GEC, reduction of GEC requirements, the redesign of information sheets that reflect adopted changes, and the definition of a "tagged degree."

The College of the Arts tagged degrees were approved by Council on Academic Affairs May 30, 1990, which report directly to CAA by faculty rule, but who historically, use the ASC CCI in an advisory role. All of the revised proposals passed through CCI; we will continue this process. The professional degree programs are reviewed by five outside accrediting agencies, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, National Association of Schools of Dance, National Association of Schools of Theatre, National Association of Schools of Music and Foundation for Interior Design Education Research. We are bound by these accrediting standards.

The committee members conducted a thorough review of each one's own unit that offers a tagged degree within the college, and individual units have made revisions to their academic programs. The proposals are at various stages throughout the curricular approval process:

Art:	(B.F.A.)	on ASC CCI agenda for May 9, 2008
Art Ed:	(B.A.E.)	on ASC CCI agenda for May 9, 2008
Dance:	(B.F.A.)	on ASC CCI agenda for May 9, 2008
Design:	(B.S.D.)	approved by CAA July 2007
Music:	(B.M. and B.M.E.)	on CAA agenda for April 16, 2008

### Units adopting the new categories of the GEC:

All five units will adopt the new categories of the GEC.

### Units requesting a reduction or changes in the GEC:

- Department of Art Ed: Yes. They requested a reduction of 5 credit hours in the major and 5 credit hours in the GEC to reduce the B.A.E. to 181 total credit hours. GEC reflects the revised GEC with the current/new categories and reduces the original 70 hour requirements to 65 by reducing the Social Science requirement from 15 to 10 to reflect the newly revised GEC requirements for this category. This is a total reduction of 5 credit hours in the GEC requirements.
- Department of Dance: No. They stayed at their current major credit hours of 191 for a B.F.A. in Dance. However, the dance GEC component will reduce Social Science from 15 to 10 credit hours (reflecting the new Social Science requirements), and place those 5 credit hours in the "Additional Breadth" category.
- The School of Music: Yes. They requested a reduction of 5 credit hours in the major and 5 credit hours in the GEC to reduce the B.M. and B.M.E. to a range of 196-205 total credit hours.

### Units with no reduction or changes in the GEC:

- Department of Art: No. They stayed at their current major credit hours of 196 for a B.F.A. in Art approved May 30, 1990 by CAA.
- Department of Design: No. They stayed at their current major credit hours of 196 for a B.S.D. in Design approved May 30, 1990 by CAA and reaffirmed July 2007 by CAA.

### Definition of a "Tagged Degree."

*The Tagged Degree is one that provides professional training that prepares students to enter a specialized field of the arts and that focuses on studio practice.*

**BFA:** The BFA in Art serves as specialized studio training with core emphasis on the seven major areas of study: Art & Technology, Ceramics, Glass, Painting/Drawing, Photography, Printmaking and Sculpture. A strong program in all of these disciplines offers state of the art facilities, experienced faculty, and provides a major opportunity for personal and artistic growth.

**BFA:** The BFA in Dance provides a comprehensive education across the field of contemporary dance with a core focus on the dancing experience. To that end, students are offered a solid foundation in the areas of the curriculum including: technique, performance, choreography, Laban Studies, pedagogy, history and technology and are afforded the opportunity to focus on individual areas of interest supported by mentoring and interaction with faculty.

**BAE:** The BAE degree is designed for students who intend to become art educators in P-12 (pre-kindergarten through 12th grade) schools. It provides undergraduate students with a well-rounded liberal arts education, intensive studies in visual culture, and significant preparatory course work in the theory and practice of art education.

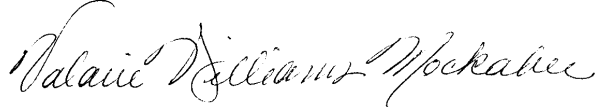
**BM:** The BM degree provides pre-professional training for musicians in eight tracks: Composition, Jazz Studies/Composition, Jazz Studies/Performance, Music History, Music Theory, Orchestral Instrument Performance, Piano Performance, and Vocal Performance.

**BME:** The BME degree is a professional degree that provides licensure to teach music in the State of Ohio, and includes three tracks, one for General Music Education, one for Instrumental Music Education, and one for Vocal/Choral Music Education.

**BSD:** The BSD provides focused professional study in one of three areas: Industrial Design which deals with the planning and development for production of a variety of objects and interrelated systems; Interior Design which includes the planning of spaces for commercial, industrial, and institutional uses; and Visual Communication Design activities which include design for printed media, such as books, magazines, brochures, posters, newspapers, information graphics, and the creation of symbols and corporate identification devices. The degree prepares students to enter the workforce directly upon graduation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information or to discuss the College of the Arts' concluding findings.

Sincerely,



Valarie Williams Mockabee  
Associate Dean and Honors Director, College of the Arts  
Associate Professor, Department of Dance

Cc: Karen A. Bell, Dean, College of the Arts  
Jacqueline Royster, Executive Dean, Colleges fo the Arts and Sciences  
Edward Adelson, Associate Executive Dean, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences  
Tagged Degree Task Force Members  
Chairs and Directors, College of the Arts