PROGRAM ABSTRACT - Form A

Proposed Degree Title: BA in Theatre
B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., etc.

COLLEGE CoAS Proposed Implementation Date Fall 2012

About the A-Form.

Background: New baccalaureate and graduate-level degrees must be approved by the Chancellor’s Office. Every January, CSU campuses send updated University Academic Master Plans (or UAMPs) to the Chancellor’s Office, which are then approved by the Board of Trustees at their March meeting. When the Board of Trustees approves a campus request to add a new program to the UAMP, it authorizes the campus to submit a formal proposal to the Chancellor’s Office for establishing such a degree program.

Purpose: The A-Form is used to propose the addition of a new baccalaureate or graduate degree to the UAMP.

Process: After review by the appropriate college curriculum or planning committee in the Spring semester, A-Forms are sent to Academic Programs at the beginning of the Summer. The forms are distributed to key University officers (including all members of Provost’s Council and the President’s Cabinet) over the Summer for information dissemination, review and feedback. The feedback received as a result of this distribution is provided to proposers as it is received during the Summer (to inform development of the program proposal) and to the Budget and Long-range Planning Committee (BLP) at the beginning of the Fall semester.

Outcomes: BLP reviews the A-Forms and the feedback collected by Academic Programs, and makes recommendations as to whether programs should be added to the next UAMP. Placement of a program on the UAMP is the campus-level authorization to proposers to submit a complete new program proposal (via a P-Form). Comments from BLP are sent back to the proposal originator to inform the final design and plan for the proposed program. The A-Form, Summer reviewer feedback, and BLP comments are additionally used to prepare a summary statement for the Chancellor’s Office, which is required for any addition to the UAMP.

Directions.

- Fill in the degree title, college and implementation date above.
- Attach a program abstract addressing items 1-5 to this form.
- Identify the program proposer and obtain the department chair or program director signature below.
- Submit the abstract and the Form A to the college curriculum or planning committee. (Check with the college for submission deadlines.)

1. Description: Briefly describe the essential features of the curriculum that will be developed.

- If the new degree is currently offered as an option in an existing degree program, give a rationale for the conversion.
- If the new degree program is not commonly offered as a bachelor’s or master’s degree, provide a compelling academic rationale explaining how the proposed subject area constitutes a coherent, integrated degree major that has potential value to students.
2. **Mission:** How will this program benefit the college, university, region and/or state? How is it aligned with the College and University Mission and Vision?

3. **Demand:** What evidence is there of adequate student demand for this program?

   [Note that Board of Trustees classifies Anthropology, Art, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, English, Foreign Languages, Geography, Geology, History, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Speech/Communication and Theatre Arts/Drama as "Broad Foundation Programs" for which societal need and student demand are not "the preeminent criteria" for offering baccalaureate programs.]

   Preliminary evidence of adequate student demand for the proposed program should include:
   (i) A list of other CSU campuses currently offering the proposed degree major program (see the CSU Mentor website at http://www2.assist.org/browseAreas.do),
   (ii) A list of neighboring institutions, public or private, currently offering the proposed degree major program,
   (iii) Information indicating substantial regional demand for individuals who have earned this degree (contact the Career Center for assistance), and
   (iv) Information indicating adequate student interest in the proposed program (e.g., numbers of minors, existing programs at feeder community colleges, or results of student surveys).

   Graduate degree program proposals must also include the number of declared undergraduate majors and the degree production over the preceding three years for the corresponding baccalaureate program.

4. **Resources:** Give preliminary estimates of the following resources needed to implement the program:
   - Additional faculty positions;
   - Additional resources required for program administration (e.g., release time for a Chair or Director);
   - Additional staff support;
   - Additional space requirements; and
   - Additional specialized equipment and materials other than those expected to be provided by the Library and Instructional and Information Technology Services (IITS).

   Note that in the course of reviewing the A-Form over the Summer, the Library and IITS will estimate additional library, information technology and academic computing resources needed for implementation. Indicate whether there are any unusual aspects of the curriculum design that need to be taken into account in the preparation of the Library and IITS estimates.

   If there are recognized accrediting bodies in the program area, what are the accreditation criteria and how necessary is accreditation?

5. **Relation to Existing Programs:** Describe the potential effect on existing programs (e.g., enrollment changes, opportunities for collaboration, resources).
Date received in Academic Programs

* Signature indicates support that the proposed program move forward for consideration for placement on the UAMP.
1. **Description**: Briefly describe the essential features of the curriculum that will be developed.

We propose to offer a B.A. in Theatre, beginning in the fall of 2012. Currently there is a Theatre Option within VPA. Our desire is to lift the option to a major within the VPA Department. The Theatre Major will provide students with a comprehensive study of theatre (performance, design, history and literature) in an interdisciplinary setting. The curriculum will be designed to provide students with a well-rounded undergraduate education in theatre that requires them to explore various disciplines, both within the field of theatre and within the Visual and Performing Arts Department as well. Our program will offer students a solid education in acting, design, history, literature, and performance theory while simultaneously allowing them to apply and deepen their knowledge through practical application in one area. Through the wide range of classes that we offer the Theatre Major will serve a broad range of theatre students in one unified program. The B.A. in Theatre is designed to prepare students to pursue graduate education in theatre and performance.

- Students will be required to take classes in performance, design, history, literature and theatre theory. Thus, we will be fostering a truly interdisciplinary approach to making art.
- Students will gain insight into the various components of theatre by applying their knowledge practically through participation in VPA theatre productions.
- Theatre Majors will have a double advantage: They will have access to the wide range of interdisciplinary classes that the Visual and Performing Arts Department offers, while pursuing an education/career path that is keenly focused on theatre.
- The Theatre Major curriculum will focus on both English and Spanish literature. We will produce work for the stage in both English and Spanish, thus fostering a culture of inclusivity.
- We have been preparing for the major by adding appropriate classes to our course offerings. This year, we added 6 new classes in performance, design, and pedagogy. These classes will be staples of the major.
- We have been carefully planning a matriculation program with both Palomar Community College and Mira Costa Community. Both of these local colleges offer 2-year programs in Theatre Arts. The CSUSM Theatre Major would be an obvious choice for students at these colleges who wish to continue to study theatre (more information below).
- One of the most unique features of our program is the Guest Artist Program that we offer each semester. This unique program allows students to work with some of the most influential theatre artists in the world at no extra cost to them.
The objectives of the Theatre Major are:

- To introduce students to the basic components involved in the craft of theatre.
- To allow students to explore a variety of theatre traditions, both Western and non-Western, including of Latino theatre, theatre for social justice, and theatre and education.
- To promote cultural understanding within our student body.
- To cultivate thinking artists who possess a multi-layered understanding of their craft.
- To promote understanding of the important role of theatre in society.
- To foster and deepen cross-disciplinary relationships with other VPA programs.
- To expose students to cutting-edge theatre methodologies.

As mentioned earlier, we have been diligently working with Palomar College and Mira Costa College to develop a major that will serve students county-wide and we will continue to work closely with our community college colleagues to create a seamless transfer system to the CSUSM theatre major. The importance of the CUSUM Theatre Major in relation to these 2 colleges cannot be underestimated. In collaboration with Palomar and Mira Costa College, the CSUSM Theatre Major will provide a four-year education in Theatre for north county students (currently there is no such major in north county). This major will appeal to a large number of students because it will focus on performance, design, and stage management skills. Students will finish the program with competencies in acting, arts management, production and design. We are in the process of incrementally building toward the major by adding appropriate courses, which will support our major.

2. Mission: How will this program benefit the college, university, region and/or state? How is it aligned with the College and University Mission and Vision?

The Theatre Major is aligned with CSUSM’s Mission, Values and Vision through its active learning process and its commitment to detailed and unfailing student mentorship. Our students will not only learn the theoretical foundations of theatre, but also will also challenge and engage those theories and histories in practical and tangible ways. In addition, our Major addresses the university’s call for “rigorous undergraduate and graduate programs distinguished by exemplary teaching, innovative curricula, and the application of new technologies”. Currently, our methods to provide a well-rounded and active learning environment include offering service-learning courses, providing workshops and intensives with internationally acclaimed guest artists and innovative performance training, and offering rigorous theory and literature courses. Our program will also continue add to the cultural life of the campus as we continue to produce plays that address campus and community needs, challenge social constructs and cultivate creative excellence within our student body.

Currently, students hoping to major in theatre have limited choices in the courses that they can enroll in and in the path that their education will take. For example, Theatre Option students who wish to study performance more intensely have no access to a sustained system of training that will deepen their undergraduate experience and make them more competitive in the field once they graduate. A Theatre Major will help retain those students who show real promise in the field, but who are left without the proper means to gain the skills needed to pursue a career in theatre and/or performance.
The development of a Theatre Major will impact our immediate region greatly. At the present time there is no 4-year Theatre Major offered in northern San Diego County. Clearly, this educational and cultural void needs to be filled and the CSUSM Theatre Major is poised to fill it. In addition, a primary goal for the Major is to fully reflect and serve the diversity of northern San Diego County and to connect deeply to the diverse communities that our university serves. This program will benefit the region by addressing a historically underserved community through Spanish language theatre. Our emphasis on both English and Spanish language theatre traditions will provide a unique opportunity for bi-lingual students to study in a cross-cultural environment. This will not only appeal to local students, but will serve to recruit potential students from the thousands of Spanish language speakers in California.

3. Demand: What evidence is there of adequate student demand for this program?

Demand for the Theatre Major can most readily be seen in the success of other CSUSM Theatre Departments that offer Theatre Majors. The list of these campuses is provided at the end of this section. In addition, we have provided you with a list of neighboring institutions that also offer B.A.’s, B.F.A.’s and M.F.A.’s in theatre. These programs are highly competitive and rank among the top programs in the country. Finally, student demand of curricular options has initiated this request for a Theatre Major. In response to this demand we are incrementally building our program by adding classes such as:

- Acting Ensemble: to focus on building an ensemble with particular emphasis upon the analysis of text. Students will explore and analyze the script and its author and will present a scene publicly at the end of the semester.
- Acting Studio is a process-oriented class designed to offer students a wide variety of voice/mind/body awareness techniques that facilitate relaxation and kinesthetic intelligence.
- Acting Technique introduces a range of rehearsal techniques that help the actor approach onstage events with imagination and a rich emotional life.

These additions will not only provide our students with more enriching educational opportunities, but they are designed to be the building blocks of the major. As we move toward the major we become increasing aware of the specific needs that our unique student body require and as we set the ground work the student demand becomes increasingly obvious.

A major in Theatre has proven to be highly successful in numerous other CSU campuses. These include:
- California State University, Channel Islands
- California State University, Stanislaus
- San Francisco State University
- California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo
- California State University, San Bernardino
- California State University, East Bay
- California State University, Bakersfield
- California State University, Chico
- California State University, Dominguez Hills
- California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long Beach
Humboldt State University
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Sonoma State University
California State University, Northridge

In addition, the following neighboring institutions, both public and private, currently offer the proposed degree major program include:
- San Diego State University
- University of California, San Diego
- University of San Diego

Students graduating with a degree in Theatre have many employment opportunities. The U.S. Bureau of Labor identifies the following employment positions that students with a B.A. in Theatre might enter into. These include work in regional theatre, film, television, broadcasting, design, management and teaching. Many of our graduates will continue on to pursue advanced degrees in performance, stage management, and design.

4. Resources: Give preliminary estimates of the following resources needed to implement the program:

We do not anticipate any real resource issues that would prohibit the Theatre major. We are confident that the Theatre Major could start up with the 2 tenure/tenure-track faculty that we have now, and with the 3 adjunct positions that exist. We currently have 2 viable performance and rehearsal spaces that suit our needs well. Thus, the VPA Theatre Major will have a low resource impact.

5. Relation to Existing Programs: Describe the potential effect on existing programs (e.g., enrollment changes, opportunities for collaboration, resources).

The Theatre major will be housed in the Visual and Performing Arts Department and we look forward to a long life within this vibrant interdisciplinary program. Enrollment changes will be minimal at first, but we expect a period of growth based upon new courses and programming unavailable in this region. Curricular impact on other majors will be negligible. We will continue to share resources within other VPA Options (performance spaces, labs, support staff, etc.). Collaboration and performance opportunities will continue with Arts and Technology (video, graphic design), Music (performance), and Visual Arts (design and construction). We will continue to collaborate closely with our colleagues at Mira Costa and Palomar Colleges as we develop and implement an integrated theatre program.
Good Afternoon, Merryl--
I write with profuse apologies from the Dean's Office and from the 2009 HPAC. Thank you for providing a copy of the attached memo. With your memo, we were able to track-down the A-form that VPA submitted in Sept. 2009. Our meeting notes from 23 Sept. 2009 make clear that the HAPC chair would write a memo to VPA...which she clearly did. Unfortunately, for some reason, the Dean's office did not receive a copy of this memo and the A-form was, therefore, not circulated.

I have spoken with David Barsky. I will package-up the A-form with its supporting documents and signatures. David has agreed to route the package to key University planning stakeholders this summer and send it to BLP in the fall. We will keep you posted.

Best,
df
Dawn M. Formo, Ph.D.
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-----Original Message-----
From: Merryl Goldberg
Sent: Friday, April 27, 2012 12:27 PM
To: David Barsky; Dawn Formo
Cc: Judy Bauerlein
Subject: FW: Theatre A-form
Importance: High

Dear David and Dawn,
It has come to my attention that though the Theater's A form was approved in 2009 by HAPC, (see attached) it did not make it onto the UAMP. To rectify this situation, I am asking that it be placed in the UAMP ASAP, or that we are informed as to what steps it would take in order to get it there! Our theater faculty have already commenced working in their P form. As you will note in the attached letter, the HAPC committee at the time let the notification of their approval fall through the cracks. I appreciate your attention to this matter!
-merryl

-----Original Message-----
From: Judy Bauerlein
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 6:06 PM
To: Merryl Goldberg
Subject: FW: Theatre A-form

Here is the approval letter.

From: Judy Bauerlein
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 1:47 PM
To: Virginia Mann; David Barsky; Theresa Aitchison; Dawn Formo
Subject: RE: Theatre A-form

Thanks Virginia.

From: Virginia Mann
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 1:44 PM
To: Judy Bauerlein; David Barsky; Theresa Aitchison; Dawn Formo
Subject: Theatre A-form

Hi - I just checked with Karen Irwin who has a binder with A forms received during Jennifer Jeffries tenure and there was no A form for Theatre Arts. The only A form from VPA she found was for a degree in Music.

Virginia

Virginia Peters Mann
Curriculum Specialist
Academic Programs
CSU San Marcos
Tel: (760) 750-8887

----Original Message-----
From: Judy Bauerlein
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2012 1:27 PM
To: David Barsky; Virginia Mann; Theresa Aitchison; Dawn Formo
Subject: FW: HAPC response to Theatre A-form

Dear David, Dawn, Theresa and Virginia:

I was able to track down the HAPC approval for the TA A-form. It was approved in September of 2009. The approval form is attached here. Since it is not on the UAMP documents for 2010 and 2011, I've included Dawn, Virginia and Theresa in this email in the hopes that we might get some clarity on the state of the A-form as it stands today.

Thanks!

Judy

From: Marcos Martinez
Marcos,

Please see attached letter regarding HAPC approval of the Theatre A-form. My apologies for the long delay in getting this to you.

Kara (on behalf of all HAPC members)

Kara A. Witzke, Ph.D.
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Fall 2009 office hours: Tues 10-11 am, Wed 11 am-1 pm
Hiring and Academic Planning Committee  
(HAPC)  
September 23th, 2009  
9:00 - 10:00 am  
CRA 6201  
Notes

Attendees:   Debbie Andrews, Dawn Formo, Bill Kristan, Karina Miller, Graham Oberem, Kara Witzke

No formal agenda.

Discussion of call for CAMP updates.

Notes:  
*GBST program has been approved by Chancellor's Office.*

*Bill will review CAMP call, edit and send to HAPC for review. Call will include what/why HAPC will use information from department needs surveys and CAMP information. Hopefully, this will encourage departments to respond to the calls.*

*HAPC will probably send out a message to every department that has upcoming programs in CoAS. Part of message may ask how budget impacts program implementation. May also remind departments that program approval does not guarantee that program can begin.*

*Debbie & Dawn will work together to update status of such departments.*

*Kara will write cover memo for approval of Theatre A form.*
September 23, 2009

Dear Drs. Martinez and Schaffman:

Thank you for your response to HAPC’s comments regarding the A-Form for a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre dated February 23, 2009. I apologize personally for not getting a response back to you in a timely manner and hope that this delay has not stifled your department’s progress towards the Theatre major.

Based on your responses to our questions, we now understand the extent of the demand for this degree program and the planning that you have already undertaken to ensure that courses for this major will be able to be offered with existing faculty, at least initially. We also agree with your plan to address a lack of lower division offerings on our campus, by moving some upper division courses to lower division so that students are better prepared by our faculty for their upper-division coursework.

We will sign and forward the A-form to the appropriate office and encourage you to continue working on the development of the P-form. We commend the work that it took to plan and prepare for this new degree program and look forward to the implementation of this new major on our campus.

Kara Witzke (former) HAPC Chair

HAPC Committee: Bill Kristan, new HAPC Chair, Biology
                 Karina Miller, WLHL
                 Sheryl Lutjens, Women’s Studies

Cc: Jennifer Jeffries, interim Dean
    David Barksy, Academic Programs