

Briefly describe the proposed change and rationale for the change:

The Theatre for Youth PhD program works and studies across community environments including schools, civic organizations, arts organizations, care organizations, and with multiple populations. The name change will reflect the program's orientation to working in partnership more specifically, while also capturing work already in progress with the arts-engaged industries and inquiry processes. Faculty within the program voted and approved a name change that will expand recruitment potential and build on Herberger's current reputation for excellence. Additionally, the name change will position the program as leaders at the PhD level as current academic competitors have diverse names that do not reflect a community orientation.

Market Need:

The theatre for youth program at the University of Texas, Austin currently goes by "Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities", the program at New York University goes by "Educational Theatre in Colleges and Communities;" however neither are PhD programs. The comparable PhD at UT, Austin, is in fact called, "Performance as Public Practice." The PhD at Wisconsin, Madison is known as "Theatre for Youth." Thus, the name change would position the Theatre PhD concentration as on par, or ahead of our major competitor/s. Additionally, the requested name change further acknowledges the world-class community-engaged artists that have joined the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts in the last five years (e.g., Michael Rohd, Maria Rosario Jackson, Liz Lerman, Wanda Dalla Costa) and the growth of new fields like Creative Placemaking and Civic Practice.

The US Dept of Labor, Labor Statistics project very little change in employment numbers for fine/craft artists and entertainment professionals (<.2 percent), 2018 to 2028. However, community-engaged arts practitioners and researchers have become a growing career path for entrepreneurial-minded artists/researchers, especially in specialized community settings like elder-care facilities, residential treatment facilities, and others including occupational therapy settings and health promotion/wellness associated industries all of which are project to grow 5-7.5 percent within the next ten years. Additionally, the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (a representative survey of North American arts and design alumni) data shows that 75 percent of all arts and design alumni are self-employed at some point in their careers. The theatre Ph.D. data, in particular, reflects that over 50 percent of PhDs in this field found or run social or educational non-profits and LLCs. This trend reveals not only the long-standing decline of arts and humanities tenure/tenure-track professorial jobs in the United States, but also our alumni data from the many years of the current PhD program. Our alumni have founded multiple different kinds of organizations including traditional theatre companies, career coaching consultants, human resource training companies, and memory-care art therapy programs. Additionally, we performed a survey of current students who were one-hundred percent in favor of the name change as they felt that it acknowledges the many populations with whom they work. Finally, while global population statistics show that slightly over a quarter of the human population is under 18 (29.3 percent), in the US, the under-18 population has been in decline and is projected to be 20.1 percent by 2050. The requested name change will allow us to better target our recruitment while positioning the program better in relationship to our primary competitors, as well as advancing field knowledge with specialized populations.

Discuss the impact of this change on current students and/or enrollment:

The name change would reflect current students' trajectories while also keeping our current frame, which is a very positive effect. The program has both monthly area meetings and a graduate listserv and will announce the name change in both locations. The program has had 6 students for the last three years. We only accept limited numbers every other year in order to continue to support them financially and to provide intensive mentoring. Herberger will notify existing students that the program is going through a name change and Summer 2021 is the last time students can complete this concentration under the old name.

DEAN APPROVAL(S)

This proposal has been approved by all necessary unit and College/School levels of review. I recommend implementation of the proposed name change.

Stephani Etheridge Woodson

College/School/Division Dean name:



Signature _____ Date: 9/21/2020

College/School/Division Dean name:
(if more than one college involved)

Signature _____ Date: / /20

Note: An electronic signature, an email from the dean or dean's designee, or a PDF of the signed signature page is acceptable.

University Approval(s)

Graduate College *(if applicable)*

Name: Elizabeth Wentz

Signature:  Date: 12/01/2020

Office of the University Provost

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: / /20