

Central Washington University
Board of Trustees
July 21, 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY-ACTION – New Degree, Theatre Education, Bachelor of Fine Arts

The Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Education prepares students to teach theatre in kindergarten through high school arts programs and at regional theatre education programs. This is the only BFA in Theatre Education in the Northwest.

Research by the Department of Theatre Arts determined the following:

- 1) There is a shortage of K-12 theatre education professionals in Washington State;
- 2) At least 15 current Theatre Arts majors are likely to change their major to Theatre Education at the beginning of AY2017-18; and
- 3) Initially 20-30 new students per year will enter the program, stabilizing at 30 new students per year by AY 2020-21.

In addition, some of these new students will transition to other Theatre Arts majors during their second year at CWU, filling other programs that currently have capacity for five to 15 additional students. The necessary courses and student support service needs (e.g., advising) can be provided through a combination of existing faculty resources and summer self-support offerings.

The Faculty Senate approved this new degree program on May 31, 2017 (Motion No. 16-82).

We recommend the following motion:

The Board of Trustees of Central Washington University endorses the recommendation of the Faculty Senate and approves the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Education.

Submitted:



Katherine P. Frank
Provost/Vice President for Academic and Student Life

Approved for submission:



James L. Gaudino
President