

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

PROPOSAL 08-07

(Voting Units: Academic Departments)

Departmental Name Change from Department of Fine Arts To Department of Visual and Performing Arts

Proposal:

Change the name of the Department of Fine Arts to the Department of Visual and Performing Arts.

Rationale:

The Department of Fine Arts includes music, visual arts, theatre, and dance, with majors in sound design, audio production, and theatre and entertainment technology. "Fine Arts" is a vague term which at other universities often refers to visual arts only.

Furthermore, the term "Fine Arts" does not make clear the areas of study available to prospective students. The faculty of the Department of Fine Arts find that prospective students and others looking for information on academic programs prefer more exact language which makes clearer the areas of study available. The name change to Department of Visual and Performing Arts matches the academic and artistic activities of the faculty, staff, programs, and areas of study.

Also, the terminology, "the visual and performing arts," is commonly used to name departments similar to ours across the nation.

Introduced in Senate: 25 October 2006

Adopted by the Senate: 8 November 2006

Approved by Administration: 16 November 2006