



Old Westbury

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: CAP Committee *Enidja Javits*
DATE: February 26, 1993
RE: B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music

At its meeting earlier today, the CAP Committee reviewed and approved the attached proposal for B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music. Richard Harper and Gloria Young Sing who collaborated on the production of the document were present to answer questions about the proposal. Some of the points they clarified need to be reiterated here, as follows:

1. The present proposal is a final version of the last draft proposal submitted to CAP in December. That draft and earlier ones posited B.S. and B.A. options to make the program attractive to a wider range of students.
2. At the heart of all the previous proposals produced by the performing arts faculty was an interdisciplinary core integrating music, dance and theatre. The present document follows that precedent by having the interdisciplinary core in both B.S. and B.A. options.
3. The proposal therefore assumes that the support staff in theatre will continue to be available to undergird all interdisciplinary courses including theatre, as well as those theatre courses that are part of both the B.S. and B.A. degree curricula.
4. In other words, the proposal involves primarily a change in title. All courses listed in the degree requirements are described in the 1992-94 College catalog with the minor change in course letter codes from CA to AM. It should be noted that the change in the degree title to American Music was recommended by CAP at its October 30th meeting when Professors Harper and Derby came to discuss earlier draft proposals.

Finally, the attached document contains the meat of the proposal. Not included are the various back-up documents such as faculty and staff resumes, budgetary projections, etc. Neither the performing arts faculty nor CAP expect any increase in budget; as for personnel, the resumes of all faculty and staff on campus at present, will be included in the appropriate appendices. A copy of the supporting documents will be available in the office of the faculty secretary, in case the Senate needs to consult them.

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Rationale:

The Curriculum and Academic Planning Committee (CAP), at its meeting of February 26, 1993, voted unanimously to recommend approval of B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music.

The change in title was suggested by CAP a few months ago because (a) the previous title "performing arts" connoted richer resources in all of the performing arts than is actually the case, (b) music has been the mainstay of the program historically, and (c) "American" best describes developments that have occurred over the years as the program moved beyond the original African-American focus to become American in the broadest sense, i.e. to include music styles of North and South America and the Caribbean islands.

The decision to request registration of two degrees also grew out of a CAP suggestion. The B.S. degree is designed for students aspiring to become professional practitioners in contemporary music, and the B.A. for students interested in the arts but not for purposes of performing careers. Both options require students to complete an interdisciplinary core integrating music, dance and theatre. The interdisciplinary approach has been a unique feature of the program from its inception and it also reflects recent trends in the entertainment industry.

The committee thinks that the two degrees will be useful in attracting more majors. The proposal describes the impact of the College's General Education Program on reducing the number of "performing arts" majors since 1988. The B.A. option will permit students to complete general education requirements while rediscovering the benefits of dual majors which many of their predecessors had profited from in the past.

The new degrees in American Music will also have a crucial role to play in the General Education Cluster, Creativity and the Arts. Each semester, the program provides a third or more of the courses in this cluster, enriching the electives in the humanities available to the entire student body.

Resolution:

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate approves the B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music.

B. PLANNING FACTORS

Background

This proposal to offer B.S. and B.A. degrees in American Music is being made to replace the Performing Arts component of the recently deactivated interdisciplinary program, Communicative and Creative Arts (CCA). Registered in the early seventies, CCA had attempted an ambitious undertaking: to incorporate languages, art, and music and dance into one program of study. The original curricular concept of an interdisciplinary 'core' branching out to disciplinary concentrations, while seemingly simple in the abstract turned out to be very difficult to implement. By the early eighties, irreconcilable differences among faculty over the content of the 'core' led to the decision to apply for separate registration of degrees in Modern Languages, Visual Arts and Performing Arts. In 1982, the degree proposals of the first two were approved by the State Education Department (SED), but approval of Performing Arts was withheld pending clarification of certain points, such as, the approaches used in teaching and evaluating the reading of music and instrumental techniques, and long-term plans for enriching the curriculum to reflect technological developments in the music industry.

By 1985, Performing Arts faculty had revised their proposal to address the SED concerns. They were confident about their approach to music education after having participated in 1980 in National Project IV of the Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education, and they had introduced exams in keyboard and percussion as graduating requirements for majors in instrumental music. The College's tight budgets had prevented the acquisition of state-of-the-art electronic instruments, but the completion of the theater complex and the allocation of two faculty lines to theatre had made possible a non-technological enrichment of the

curriculum. The addition of theatre courses came at a time when the entertainment industry, from stage musicals to music videos, was placing new emphasis on the multifaceted performer with well-defined theatrical skills. The trend could be seen in advertisements in the New York trade papers in recent years. For a variety of reasons, however, resubmission of the proposal was delayed until SED warned the College of the legal infractions associated with granting CCA degrees to students who had completed the Performing Arts curriculum. In Spring 1992, the College completed the process of deactivating CCA. The present proposal for degrees in American Music reflects the curriculum as it has evolved over twenty years in music and dance with the incorporation of theatre in the last eight.

Program Goals, Objectives, and Internal Impact

The main goal of the program in American Music is to continue to offer a sound foundation in music, dance and theatre to students who are interested in careers as professional musicians, dancers, and musical actors either directly after graduation or on completion of graduate degrees, or as teachers, combining their baccalaureate in American Music with graduate study in education. To this end, the program maintains an interdisciplinary core that is common to both the B.S. and B.A. options and is indicative of the deep commitment of its faculty to providing students with an appreciation of the characteristics shared by the performing arts and mutually reinforced. Harmony and rhythm, imagery and imagination, characterization and creativity, mood and movement, are among the common features stressed in the interdisciplinary core.

Another goal of the program, closely related to the first, is to refine the multicultural aspect of the curriculum. Initially, the cultural focus was almost exclusively African-American but over time that has broadened to reflect the cultural diversity of

contemporary American music, matching the demographic changes in U.S. society. To the full range of African-American music (Jazz, Gospel, Blues, Soul etc.) have been added Rock and Roll, Country and Western, as well as various Latin and Caribbean styles. The greater breadth of the program has permitted it to maintain the ethnic diversity that has always characterized the students enrolled in its courses.

The specific objectives of the degrees in American Music are:

1. To train students interested in pursuing careers as professional performers in instrumental music, and to give them a competitive edge by emphasizing versatility and improvisation and an appreciation of the theatrical settings in which they may be called upon to perform (B.S.).
2. To provide students, who opt for additional formal training, with the theory and technical skills necessary for graduate study in music (B.S.), dance or theatre (B.A.).
3. To offer students interested in teaching careers at the elementary or secondary school levels a degree in music, dance and theatre, which they may combine with a major in elementary education at Old Westbury or a master's degree in education elsewhere (B.A.).
4. To make available a major in music, dance and theatre to students interested in these fields for the purpose of building future careers in the business, management and legal ends of the entertainment industry (B.A.).
5. To contribute to the College's expanding program in General Education, especially to the cluster of courses dealing with Creativity and the Arts (B.A. and B.S.).

The above were the goals and objectives of the Performing Arts curriculum and they will continue when it is replaced by the proposed degrees in American Music. It should be noted, however, that objectives 3 and 4 were difficult to achieve under the previous Performing Arts format. Its heavy emphasis on performance dictated that beyond the interdisciplinary core of 20-24 credits, majors were asked to complete an additional 40-42 credits in music, dance or theatre for a total of 60-66 credits. The new proposal differentiates between aspiring performers who will complete 61 credits in the B.S. option in instrumental music (where the bulk of the faculty resources is concentrated), and students interested in music, dance and theatre, but not for purposes of performing. They will now have the B.A. option requiring the completion of 45 credits. This reduction in credit requirements makes objectives 3 and 4 more feasible. One obvious result will be to make the program more attractive to more majors.

The program in American Music does not duplicate any part of the college-wide curriculum. The internal impact can only be positive. American Music will boost the course offerings and degree options in the humanities on campus; expand the liberal arts electives available to the growing numbers of elementary education and business majors; and enhance the College's general education program.

External Impact

Since this proposal involves primarily a new title for a program whose central part, music, has existed for more than twenty years, no change in its external impact is anticipated. In 1971, when Old Westbury's CCA Program began offering courses in African American music, according to the National Association of Jazz Educators (N.A.J.E), only sixteen colleges nationwide offered degrees in Jazz, African American Music, Contemporary, Rock or

similar titles. Since then, the number of colleges and universities with such degrees has increased to over 150. Regionally (SUNY's Coordinating Area IV), since 1975, the private and public colleges and universities which have instituted degrees based on American Music are: The New School for Social Research, Long Island University (Brooklyn), New York University, and Five Towns College. These institutions together with SUNY at Potsdam (Coordinating Area III) and Old Westbury make up a total of six American Music programs, or 11.5 percent of the 52 music programs statewide. The approval of the B.S. degree in American Music will make Old Westbury the only public college in Coordinating Area IV offering a four-year degree in the contemporary music styles not only of the United States but also of the Americas.

With respect to the B.A. option, which combines American music, dance and theatre, Old Westbury will be one of only seven colleges in New York State which offer programs integrating areas of the performing arts. Theatre-dance is available at Lehman College and Wagner College; musical theatre at Ithaca College, SUNY Fredonia and New Paltz; and music, dance and theatre at Alfred and Old Westbury. Together, the B.S. and B.A. degrees will enrich the statewide offerings in the three performing arts fields, while on Long Island, they will permit Old Westbury to occupy a special niche among the music, dance and theatre programs available in the area.

External Instruction and Internships

Ever since the inception of the original CCA program, faculty have used their professional network and their own performing engagements to obtain opportunities for students to gain practical experience working with professional groups. Many of the students planning performing careers have gained such experience in instrumental and vocal music and dance. The practice will continue.

C. NEED

Clientele and Area Needs

The clientele of the program in American Music is expected to be the same, in terms of gender composition and ethnic/cultural diversity, as that of the Performing Arts which preceded it. In the years 1989-1992, the average number of Performing Arts (CCA) majors ranged from 31 to 39. On average, there was a roughly 50-50 distribution between males and females; European Americans made up about 53 percent of majors, African Americans accounted for 34 percent, and Hispanic Americans the remaining 13 percent. These figures mirror very closely the diversity of Old Westbury's student body and justify the expansion of the program's cultural foci in the last few years.

Demographic changes in the New York metropolitan area will increase the need for multicultural education such as the degrees being proposed in American Music. Within the African American and Hispanic American communities are growing numbers of recent immigrants from Haiti, the English and Spanish-speaking Caribbean, and Latin (especially Central) America. Similar developments at Old Westbury resulted in a greater interest among the student body in Caribbean and Latin American culture. The American Music curriculum satisfies these interests and needs.

The program also addresses the needs of the entertainment industry, and by extension, the needs of those majors hoping to become entertainers. The explosive growth of music videos places a premium on versatility, on the ability to play an instrument, to dance, sing, act, and to appreciate the fine points of staging and lighting. The interdisciplinary core of American Music, originally designed out of a philosophical and pedagogical conviction, has become, serendipitously, part of a modern trend.

Enrollment

The current number of Performing Arts majors is 31. The projected enrollment of American Music majors is 40 after the second year of implementing the new degrees, 50 after the fourth, and holding at that number through to the fifth year. Two reasonable assumptions underlie the projections. First, the formal registration of the degrees will end the ambiguity that has long surrounded the awarding of CCA degrees to Performing Arts majors; the confusion deterred students from declaring a major in the program. Second, and more significantly, the B.A. option with its reduced credit requirements will make it possible for students to consider dual majors.

Prior to 1988, when the College introduced its general education requirements, majors in the Performing Arts (CCA) were actively encouraged by faculty to undertake dual majors. The object of the advice was twofold: to broaden students' intellectual experiences and to ensure that students had a fall-back position in case they had to abandon their aspirations of becoming professional performers in the harsh reality of a highly competitive entertainment industry. Since 1988, the 44-credit general education requirement has made the dual-major strategy virtually impossible within the 120 total for the baccalaureate. As a result, the number of Performing Arts majors decreased from 54 in Fall 1987 to 31 today. The proposed B.A. in American Music with its 45-credit requirement, and the fact that the General Education Program permits liberal arts students to apply a maximum of eight credits from their majors to general education, make dual majors again feasible. Students will be able to combine the B.A. in American Music with the B.A. in many of the College's programs in the social sciences and humanities (American Studies; Comparative Humanities; Economics; Labor Studies; Modern Languages; Politics, Economics and Society; Sociology; and Psychology). In addition,

under new State guidelines, majors in Elementary Education are now required to complete 36 credits in a liberal arts discipline. Registration of the B.A. in American Music will attract some of the education majors, and it is possible that those seriously interested in music, dance and theatre may consider worthwhile the few extra credits necessary to achieve a dual major.

All things considered, the proposal projects a gradual upward trajectory in enrollments to roughly what they were before the implementation of general education requirements. Since dual majors work both ways, the other liberal arts majors on campus will benefit modestly from this arrangement.

Employment Possibilities

The earlier statements made with respect to external instruction and internships also apply to the development of placement opportunities for students interested in employment in the entertainment industry immediately after graduation. Networking is the primary means by which graduates will be helped to start their professional life. A list detailing past placements will be found in Appendix 2.

Also, to the extent that dual majors with elementary education become a reality, graduates with the B.A. in American Music will be able to tap into the growing demand for elementary school teachers not only on Long Island, but in New York City as well.

Articulation Agreements

Old Westbury has formal articulation agreements with all the two-year colleges on Long Island, SUNY Farmingdale, Nassau and Suffolk Community Colleges. The arrangements include a joint-admission policy by which students are guaranteed automatic ad-

mission to Old Westbury upon completion of the associate degree. Despite some exploratory meetings with music faculty at Nassau Community College, in the hope of developing a more specific articulation in the music field, no agreement was finalized. The registration of degrees in American Music will give new impetus to such endeavors.

D. PROGRAM QUALITY

The quality of the degrees in American Music will be ensured by means of already established college-wide and program evaluation procedures.

College-wide monitoring devices of program quality include:

annual reports to the Vice President for Academic Affairs detailing the accomplishments of faculty, students, and alumni, for the year and plans for the next year;

periodic reviews of all courses included in the general education curriculum (the most recent occurred in 1992);

program evaluations undertaken by the Committee on Curriculum and Academic Planning (CAP)--the last CAP evaluation was done in 1990 as part of a long-range planning project, and a CAP schedule to ensure that each degree program is formally reviewed once every five years begins in Fall 1993;

reviews as part of Middle States self-studies, (the last self-study was done in 1990); and finally,

the SUNY-wide assessment project which calls for the on-going review of all academic programs. (See Appendix 3.)

At the program level, faculty participating in the interdisciplinary core meet regularly to discuss student performance, course content and pedagogy. Informal discussions on the curriculum as a whole occur periodically at program meetings, with a formal and thorough review once every two years in connection with preparing catalogue copy.

E. ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

As noted earlier, the students majoring in American Music are expected to reflect the diversity of the student body. Old Westbury's admissions policy is geared to ensuring access to students of the varied cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds represented in Long Island and the broader New York metropolitan area. The policy has been implemented successfully, and all academic programs demonstrate greater demographic diversity than will be found in their counterparts on other SUNY campuses.

The American Music program will continue the practices of its predecessor, Performing Arts, in admitting students to the major. In its freshman courses in the interdisciplinary core, an open enrollment policy will be followed. At the end of the first year, however, the faculty teaching in the core, after closely observing students' progress, will serve as a jury to determine which students will be accepted as majors. Criteria for acceptance will include the demonstration of skills in music, dance and acting for the B.A. option, and passing a keyboard exam for those interested in the B.S. degree.

Once admitted, students' performance is closely monitored throughout the core, and faculty provide help to individual students, if and when necessary. Formal evaluation of the jury type occurs each year of a student's stay in the program culminating in a final assessment in the Senior Seminar, when the full complement

of program faculty and staff adjudicates projects, designed, organized, and performed by each member of the graduating class.

Advising has been and will be an important component of American Music. Program faculty take their advising responsibilities seriously. The very nature of the program encourages the development of a close bond between the student and the faculty adviser. The latter guides the student in designing his/her program of study beyond the core, recommends general education electives appropriate to the student's needs, and serves as a mentor. The relationship is akin to that of a master craftsman and apprentice. It often leads to the adviser helping to open doors into the profession for promising advisees, and it is not unusual for a professional relationship to follow after the student has graduated.

F. CURRICULUM

Degree Requirements

The proposed B.S. degree in American Music will require 60 credits in the liberal arts, and 61 credits in the major. The extensive major requirements aim at ensuring the nurturing of the creative quality and the acquisition of the technical mastery in instrumental music, necessary for direct employment or entry into graduate school.

The B.A. degree calls for 90 liberal arts credits and 45 credits in the major. This option, with fewer major requirements, is designed for a wider population with more varied academic interests and career goals. It is intended to serve a wide range of students from those who want to go on to elementary and secondary school teaching careers to aficionados of the performing arts, who would like to seek eventual behind-the-scene employment in the entertainment establishment.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.S. DEGREE IN AMERICAN MUSIC*
(61 credits)

	Credits
<u>Interdisciplinary Core:</u> 20 credits	
AM2040: Integrated Performing Arts I	2
AM3040: Integrated Performing Arts II	2
AM2201: World Music	4
AM2220: Elements of Music 1	4
AM2800: Fundamentals of Theatre Production 1	3
AM2800L: Fundamentals of Theatre Prod'n 1: Lab	1
AM5900: Senior Seminar	4
<u>Instrumental Music:</u> 33 credits	
AM2100-2110: Instrumental Music (w/shops:3 cr ea.)	6
AM3221: Elements of Music 2	3
AM4100-4110: Instrumental Music II (w/shops:2 cr ea.)	4
AM4140-4150: Instrumental Laboratory (2 at 2 cr ea.)	4
AM4221: Elements of Music 3	3
AM4231: Elements of Music 4	3
AM4240: Arranging	3
AM5100-5110: Instrumental Music III (2 at 2 cr ea.)	4
AM5220: Composition	3
<u>Other Required Courses:</u> 8 credits	
AM2210: African American Music History	4
AM4000: Business of the Performing Arts 1	4
<u>Total credits in the major:</u>	61
General Education	44
Other electives	15
<u>Total for the B.S. degree:</u>	120

* The letters in the course codes contained in the current catalogue (1992-94) are CA, denoting Communicative and Creative Arts. In this proposal, the letters have been changed to AM. The numbers, titles, and descriptions that follow have not been altered.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE B.A. DEGREE IN AMERICAN MUSIC
(45 credits)

	Credits
<u>Interdisciplinary Core:</u> 20 credits	
AM2040: Integrated Performing Arts I	2
AM3040: Integrated Performing Arts II	2
AM2201: World Music	4
AM2220: Elements of Music I	4
AM2800: Fundamentals of Theatre Production I	3
AM2800L: Fundamentals of Theatre Prod'n I: Lab	1
AM5900: Senior Seminar	4
<u>Additional History Course:</u> 4 credits	
Chosen from:	4
AM2210: African American Music History	
AM2400: History of Dance	
AM2410: History of Modern Dance	
AM2600: World Theatre History	
AM2610: Modern Theatre History	
<u>Ensembles:</u> 4 credits	
Chosen from:	4
AM4140-4150: Instrumental Laboratory (2 cr ea.)	
AM4540-4550: Dance Repertory (2 cr ea.)	
AM3740-3750: Rehearsal Crew (4 semesters:1 cr ea.)	
<u>Theory and Techniques:</u> 17 credits	
Chosen from:	17
Music courses in:	
Instrumental Music, Vocal Music, Keyboard, Arranging	
Dance courses in:	
African Dance, Modern Dance Elements of Dance, Choreography	
Theatre courses in:	
Theatre Production, Acting, Stage Management, Directing, Technical Theatre	
<u>Total credits in the major:</u>	45
General Education	44
Other electives	31
<u>Total for the B.A. degree:</u>	120

Re-Evaluation and Review of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)**Rationale**

Presently, no time forms and procedures exist on Old Westbury campus for the systematic review of administrators. Generally, the CAO is reviewed every five years; this review is initiated by the Chancellor of SUNY. According to the Board of Trustees, the faculty is expected to participate significantly in the review process. However, the recent review of the CAO at Old Westbury was severely flawed because neither the Faculty Council nor the faculty were notified. The Chair of the Faculty Council received notice but neither the notes of the staff secretary nor the notes of the Faculty Council secretary show that notice was given to anyone. No Council member and no faculty can recall receiving any notice of the pending visit. So, the review preceded without faculty input. The faculty never declined to participate, the faculty just never received notice. Clearly, an addendum to the Chancellor's review is necessary. Thus,

Whereas the Chancellor's review of the CAO at Old Westbury was flawed due to no faculty notice nor input and

Whereas the faculty desires to have its input be part of the Chancellor's review and evaluation

Resolution

Be it therefore resolved that the Old Westbury Faculty Senate asks the Chair of the Faculty Senate to send a letter to the Chancellor, along with this resolution, requesting a return visit to the campus and to amend his review of the CAO after his discussion with faculty and the Faculty Senate.