

**2011 – 2012 APSU Teacher Unit
Annual Program Review (APR) Report
Theatre Teaching**

I. Name of Program: Theatre Teaching Concentration (B.A., B.S.) – Department of Communications, Area of Theatre and Dance.

II. Provide list of Reviewers:

- a. Margaret Rennerfeldt, Assistant Professor of Dance.
- b. Brian Vernon, Associate Professor, Chair of Theatre and Dance.
- c. Jarvis Bynum, Junior student majoring in Theatre Teaching.

III. Program Description:

The current four-year program is a Degree in Communications with a Concentration in Theater Teaching requiring residency 1 during the students 7th semester and residency 2 during the student's eighth semester. Students seeking licensure must also complete the Professional Education minor within the College of Education.

IV. Changes in Program

The Area of Theatre and Dance is continuing with the process to seek its own unique degree separate from the current concentrations under Communications. The area of Theatre and Dance continues to grow with 1 new faculty in the 2010-2011 academic year, and 2 new faculty in the 2011-2012 academic year. Therefore, the Theatre Teaching program has gone through no significant changes. However, students seeking licensure in Theatre teaching are identified and referred to a Theatre teaching advisor in addition to their regular advisor. In addition we have established an 8 semester program to coincide with the College of Education's residency 1 and 2.

V. Program Strengths

The Theatre Teaching program is small with only two students currently in the program and one recent graduate. In 2011-12 our students maintained a 100% pass rate, on the first attempt, on the PRAXIS exams for teaching licensure.

VI. Program Weaknesses

Currently the faculty understands that the program needs review. A strong evaluation of the curriculum has not occurred in a few years due to the influx of new faculty. Student feedback indicates that there has been confusion around the recently adopted cohort model. One student had to rearrange his course schedule well in to the semester due this confusion. He also reported that he has had very little support or guidance with discipline specific lesson plans. The department has not yet offered a methods course for our

students. The area of Theatre and Dance began to increase its numbers, however, many of these students dropped the education minor and changed their major therefore, It appears that some students were not ready for the heavy time commitment that a Theatre Teaching program and a Professional Education minor demand.

VII. Assessment of Candidates

The data report from the College of Education for 2011-2012 reflects 1 student completing the requirements for licensure.

VIII. Assessment of Program Operations

At this time the area of Theatre and Dance has not conducted any surveys to collect more specific data.

IX. Summary of Proposed Changes

The lack of data for the Theatre teaching program reflects our low enrollment. There are many improvements to be made if this program is going to flourish. It is important to have one main advisor for the Theatre teaching majors to lesson confusion for the residency 1 and 2. Also, the eight- semester plan needs to be more prescriptive in terms of electives. Students in the program need to be more closely monitored and mentored to ensure they stay on track and are prepared for the rigors of the Education classes as well as the PRAXIS exams. Finally due to the recent addition of two new faculty, one of those being the Chair, and the sudden loss of another, the area of Theatre and Dance is in a state of transition and not able to focus resources on these improvements at this time.

X. Assessment System

To better evaluate our candidates and program in Theatre teaching it would be helpful and informative if we could receive disaggregated data for any surveys or instruments that include data from any of the students in our licensure program