

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
July 23, 2015

Board Meeting  
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RENAME THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ACTING, COLLEGE OF  
ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN, AND THE ARTS, CHICAGO

**Action:** Rename the Bachelor of Arts in Acting, College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts

**Funding:** No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate and the College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts recommends the renaming of the Bachelor of Arts in Acting as the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Performance.

The renamed degree will expand the current scope of the program from a focus on acting to a broader focus on a range of traditional and exploratory theatre practices. Students will take core courses in acting, movement and voice, and theatre history and production. They will then have the opportunity to expand and direct their study by choosing specialized theatre education and training in one of three tracks chosen in consultation with an advisor: general; performance; or authorship. The general track allows students to customize their studies, and is ideal for transfer students and students earning double degrees. The performance track is for students who wish to develop themselves as all-around theatre artists, and the authorship track is for students who want to focus on directing, writing, adapting, or devising new work. The performance and

authorship tracks culminate in a capstone project. The degree will continue to require a total of 120-credit hours, with 24-hours of general education courses, 36- to 46-hours of coursework in the major depending on the selected track, and 49- to 60-hours of electives.

In addition, the renamed degree will clarify the nature of the program and distinguish it from the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Acting, which is also offered by the Department of Theatre. The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) is a traditional liberal arts or “generalist” degree with a current focus in acting, while the BFA is a pre-professional conservatory-style program for students committed to an acting career and requires almost twice as many hours of coursework in the major as the B.A.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.