

Illinois State University
Academic Affairs
FY17 Planning Document
College of Fine Arts

I. Major Objectives for FY17

Describe the unit's most important objectives for FY17. Outline how the objectives support the mission/goals of the Unit/Department/School, College and *Educating Illinois*.

- A. **Recruitment, Enrollment, Retention, Relevance.** During FY17, the College of Fine Arts (CFA) will create its Strategic Plan 2017-2022. CFA's top goals for the Strategic Plan are twofold: (1.) to grow enrollment in programs that have slightly declined in enrollment in recent years (printmaking, sculpture, theatre) and sustain its persistence rates in all areas of study and (2.) to offer relevant and excellent instruction. The college intends to enlarge the capacity for majors in graphic design and arts technology significantly, and is assessing the resources (space, faculty, curriculum, equipment) needed to make this happen. These programs hold strong interest for prospective students, but units have been capping numbers due to limited resources. Music Therapy is another program that is strong and has an ability to grow if faculty and space constraints are resolved. Establishing a musical theatre program in the School of Theatre and Dance is an investment that CFA believes would result in an enhanced brand and additional enrollments. At the foundation of several CFA programs is the need to increase their relevance by updating or reinventing curriculum, hiring new faculty with current skills and philosophies, and providing learning spaces that support forward-thinking curriculum. Increasing student scholarships is critical in this enrollment effort, especially in highly competitive areas such as piano, strings, oboe, bassoon, dance, and technology. ISU's University Advancement teams will continue to work with the CFA dean, directors, and alumni to increase scholarship funds for prospective and existing students. Student concerns about linking their majors to the workforce after graduation reminds CFA that it must educate the public about the value of the arts and the humanities, as well as how a major in the arts serves as a path to a particular career (lighting designer, media developer, web designer, museum curator, therapist and teacher). The College needs to be an active political advocate for the arts and should utilize national arts accreditation data to assess program success and set future directions. Maintaining CFA's strong arts education programs is critical to the college's enrollment. Graduates become ISU ambassadors for K-12 education and higher education, establishing a pipeline for student teachers and the next generation of college students. With several key retirements in music and theatre education in 2016 and 2017, along with retirements or terminations in acting, theatre studies, technical direction, voice, graphic design, studio art, and horn, protecting all curricular areas will support CFA's efforts to sustain and grow enrollment during a challenging climate for higher education. CFA FY17 target enrollment-1200 majors. [after *Educating Illinois* Goal 1, strategy 1; CFA Strategic Plan Goal 4]
- B. **Diversity.** Increasing diversity in the student population and throughout faculty and staff groups is a core value of Illinois State University and a goal of the College of Fine Arts. The fine arts are built upon a foundation of world histories, cultures, and traditions. Global trends serving diverse populations drive the marketplace--want, need, trends, and taste. The college is striving for a more diverse student body and faculty by employing these initiatives. (1.) The School of Theatre and Dance and its Crossroads Project are actively broadening their theatre production season and visiting artist programs to include additional work by African, African American, Latin American, and indigenous peoples of the world. (2.) CFA faculty member, Kim Pereira, is working closely with the dean and ISU's Culturally Responsive Committee to strategize ways to improve diversity in the college and across campus. (3.) University Galleries and the School of Art are actively engaged in exhibiting and presenting diverse artists, alumni, and ways of working. (4.) While faculty and staff searches are in progress, the dean, directors, faculty, and the dean's staff work actively with Human Resources and national and international professional organizations to identify qualified applicants from underrepresented groups. (5.) During the performing arts student audition season and throughout MA and MFA program deliberations, faculty pursue talented prospective students from underrepresented

groups. (6.) CFA students have formed two new Registered Student Organizations (RSOs). ‘The Black Actors League’ is committed to presenting works by African America playwrights and the ‘Latin American Theatre Association’ promotes education, advocacy, and performance of Latino/a and Hispanic Theatre productions. (7.) Individual faculty members have brought school and program curricular issues that might be preventing the College in reaching diversity its goals to the dean and directors’ attention. These issues are under review. [*Educating Illinois* core value]

- C. **Facilities.** The State of Illinois’ budget impasse has delayed the groundbreaking for CFA’s new and revitalized Fine Arts Complex indefinitely. This is unfortunate, since infrastructure is failing and resulting in an increasing number of serious pipe and water leaks during fall 2015 and in spring 2016. Affected spaces include Kemp Hall, teaching spaces and corridors in Centennial East and West, and Cook Hall. The dean and directors will continue to work with partners in Facilities Management to address the leaks, remediation, implications to health and safety, and future use of impacted spaces. Facilities is planning to address major issues with the FY17 budget. Since planned program expansion includes graphic design, arts technology, music therapy, music education (if student interest remains strong), and musical theatre, effective recruitment strategies will require immediate cosmetic, as well as infrastructure repairs and improvements to ceilings, hallways, classrooms, windows and blinds, and bathrooms. As CFA replaces and expands its technology and equipment for instruction, it will do so with an eye toward mobility and not site-specificity. The college must optimize what resources it currently has, recognizing that future spaces will invite more innovative arrangements and approaches. [after *Educating Illinois*, Goal 4]
- D. **The Creative Community.** The College of Fine Arts and its units help support faculty scholarly and creative work as the budget allows. CFA Assistant Dean Laurie Merriman works with individual faculty and staff, the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and University Galleries on identifying grant opportunities throughout the year. She edits and oversees proposals from submission to completion. Often the proposals include a connection to a regional business or arts foundation, or invite a multidisciplinary collaborative project. CFA works daily to reach deep into the communities of Central Illinois through literally hundreds of performances, exhibits, and educational experiences each year. It is CFA’s aim to be the leader and at the heart of a vibrant and vital cultural landscape and contribute to the success of the arts on every level. The College of Fine Arts seeks new ways to share both opportunities and resources, and continues an active pursuit of civic engagement opportunities for students, alumni, faculty, and staff. The College’s plan for FY 2017 includes enhancing the Community School for the Arts opportunities through the String Project, Saturday Morning Creative Arts Program, family programming with the Illinois Shakespeare Festival’s *Shakespeare Alive!* and other activities. [after *Educating Illinois* Goal 1, strategy 3; CFA Strategic Plan Goal 3]

II. Permanent Funding Requests—see PERM request spreadsheet

1. Music Advising (\$30,000 requested, to which \$30,000 will be contributed by the School of Music to provide one full-time and one part-time advisor)
2. Graduate Assistantships (\$68,000 for Arts Technology, University Galleries, School of Art)
3. Assistant Front of House Manager, Center for the Performing Arts (\$46,000)
4. Production Manager, School of Of Theatre and Dance (\$35,000 requested, to which \$20,000 local funding added)
5. Lighting and Sound Shop Supervisor, School of Theatre and Dance (\$36,000)
6. Arts Technology Program Director (\$20,000 add’l pay)

- III. Strategic Budgeted Carryover (SBC) Requests (PERS 937 spreadsheet) –**
1. \$78,000 (held for possible FY16 rescission)
 2. \$6323 for summer salary after July 1.
- IV. Provost Enhancement (PE) Requests–See PERS 937 PE**
1. Purchase of timpani (\$10,561 from PE, plus \$5000 School of Music contribution)
 2. Costume construction equipment, School of Theatre and Dance (\$21,650; includes 10 sewing machines, dress forms, hat stretcher, powder box and 3D printer)
 3. Speakers and subwoofers (\$19,300-for exterior use at Ewing Cultural Center and interior use in the CPA)
 4. Repair and upgrade of lighting and projection for CPA and Westhoff Theatre (\$65,000)
- V. Personnel Requests: Tenure Track Faculty–See PERS 936a**
1. Music Education (\$65,000)
 2. Theatre Education (\$65,000)
 3. Graphic Design (\$65,000)
 4. Theatre and Dance Technical Direction (\$65,000)
 5. Assistant Choral Director (\$65,000)
 6. Painting/Drawing (\$65,000)
- VI. Personnel Requests: Tenure Track Faculty- Non-reappointment or tenure-denial/death (PERS 936b spreadsheet)**
- None