

August 3, 2009

ITEM 144-2701-R0809

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Degree
Montana State University Billings

THAT:

The Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes Montana State University Billings to establish a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program in Art.

EXPLANATION:

As a comprehensive, regional, public university serving the educational needs of Montanans and accessible to all who are qualified, Montana State University Billings has the primary mission of preparing students of all ages to be productive and responsible citizens, with special focus on the integration of education with service and an applied rather than basic research mission. The purpose of this proposal is to offer a new Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree in Art at Montana State University Billings. The addition of the B.F.A. in Art would add a professional degree option to the existing Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Art, which is considered a general liberal arts degree that does not necessarily prepare students for careers as art professionals.

The Department of Art is accredited by the National Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). Since 2002, NASAD has been recommending that one of the areas of specialization (Studio Art Extended) currently offered under the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Art be re-titled a Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) degree, as it is in full compliance with NASAD requirements for that degree. As NASAD officials stated: "The Commission strongly recommends that the institution seek state approval to re-title this program Bachelor of Fine Arts in order to provide greater title/content consistency for the general public and for the profession."

ATTACHMENTS:

Level II Request Form
Level II Board of Regents Items: Curriculum Proposals