

EXH	MOTION <i>Brandon</i>
	SECONDING <i>Taylor</i>
	ACTION APPROVED BY THE REGENT
NOTE:	JUL 21 2005

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

**ACTION REQUEST**

**SUBJECT:** A new degree program for the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of a new degree program, "Bachelor of Arts degree in Women's and Gender Studies," to be offered by the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, University of Michigan-Dearborn

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 2005


The College of Arts, Sciences and Letters (CASL) at the University of Michigan-Dearborn proposes to establish an undergraduate interdisciplinary program leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Women's and Gender Studies. This program will offer students academically rigorous training in the key concepts and methods of women's and gender studies. It will provide a more in-depth and coherent curriculum than is currently available to UM-Dearborn students through our existing minor and certificate program in Women's Studies. This program is intended to prepare students for careers in legal, educational, health, governmental, business and social service arenas focused on women's issues, diversity enhancement and gender equity, as well as graduate work in all fields, especially in the liberal arts.

The program incorporates existing resources into an interdisciplinary major focused on women's and gender studies and will draw upon the expertise of the many UM-Dearborn faculty who do research and teach in this subject area. For instance, there are 28 courses cross-listed with the current Women's Studies undergraduate minor program, and many of these also include a gender studies component in their emphasis on how gender meanings and conventions affect both women's and men's lives, shape institutional structures, and influence the foundations of disciplinary knowledge. Following national trends, it is expected that many majors will pursue women's and gender studies along with another major, thus allowing students to benefit from an undergraduate experience that integrates complementary skills from across the college and campus.

The Dean, the Executive Committee, and the governing faculty of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters have approved the Bachelor of Arts degree in Women's and Gender Studies. The Council of Deans, Graduate Board and provost and vice-chancellor of academic affairs at the University of Michigan-Dearborn have also extended their approval. The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan approved it on June 13, 2005.

I am pleased to present this proposal for your approval.

Recommended by:



Daniel Little, Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Dearborn

July 2005