

04/14/2014

**Proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy**

**PROPOSAL TITLE:** Transfer of Italian Studies from the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese (SIP) to the Department of French and to Change the Names of the Units to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of French and Italian.

**SPONSORS:**

Jean-Philippe Mathy, Professor and Interim Director, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, [jmathy@illinois.edu](mailto:jmathy@illinois.edu), 244-2727; José Ignacio Hualde, Professor and Acting Head, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, [jihualde@illinois.edu](mailto:jihualde@illinois.edu), 300-1288; Karen Fresco, Professor and Head, Department of French, [kfresco@illinois.edu](mailto:kfresco@illinois.edu), 244-2727; Karen Carney, Associate Dean, College of LAS, [kmcarney@illinois.edu](mailto:kmcarney@illinois.edu), 333-1350

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

This proposal seeks to transfer Italian studies from the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese (SIP) to the Department of French, and to change the names of these units to reflect the transfer. The names of the newly-configured departments will be the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and the Department of French and Italian. This proposal provides the overall rationale for the move, and is accompanied by three related proposals:

- 1) A proposal to transfer the Italian faculty and associated non-tenure-track academic lines from SIP to French;
- 2) A proposal to transfer the undergraduate minor in Italian and the undergraduate major leading to the BALAS in Italian from SIP to French;
- 3) A proposal to transfer the MA and PhD in Italian from SIP to French.

**Justification:**

The common intellectual grounds of the French and Italian traditions and their past and present geopolitical, linguistic, and cultural affinities recommend a shared department for these two programs that have, over the course of many years, independently developed a strong focus on Europe, the continent which is the locus of historical, linguistic and cultural ties between France and Italy. For the most part, Italy and Spain do not share this dense network of historical connections. However, long lasting natural connections do unite Spanish and Portuguese, two primary languages of the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America. The existence of numerous departments of French and Italian across the U.S. testifies to the recognized validity of a French-Italian academic configuration (Stanford, USC, UC-Davis, UT-Austin, U of Wisconsin-Madison, Indiana University, U of Chicago, Northwestern, Princeton, Ohio State University, etc.). Similarly, most academic units specialized in Spanish in the United States tend to include both Spanish and Portuguese, but not Italian. The faculty of both units also discussed the idea of forming a single Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, but this was unanimously rejected by the faculty.

## **Budgetary and Staff Implications:**

### **Additional dollars and staff needed**

The anticipated level of budgetary and staff support for the two newly-configured departments (the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of French and Italian) is not more than the level of support currently available for the two existing units (SIP and French). The same four language and literature programs will continue to exist (Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Italian), but organized in ways that should enhance collaboration in teaching and research. Funding for faculty and staff salaries, teaching assistantships, and other costs related to Italian, as well as gift funds specifically earmarked for Italian, will be transferred from SIP to French, and the College of LAS will ensure that ICR funds are distributed appropriately between the two units.

### **Faculty reallocations (e.g., changes in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio)**

Both the three tenure-line faculty lines and the two non-tenure track academic lines in Italian will be moved into the proposed Department of French and Italian. Graduate, undergraduate degrees and study abroad programs in Italian will be administered by the proposed Department of French and Italian. No changes in the undergraduate majors or minors or the graduate programs offered by Italian or French are envisioned at the time of the transfer, but in both cases the proposed Department of French and Italian will pursue ways in which the transfer can be leveraged to benefit those programs, in particular by exploring areas of trans- and international focus (Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Film Studies, Mediterranean Studies, Language Policy and Planning for example). No impact on class size, teaching loads, or faculty-to-student ratios is anticipated as a result of the transfer of the Italian undergraduate and graduate programs.

### **Effects on course enrollments in other departments and implications of discussions with representatives of those departments**

No adverse effects on course enrollments in other departments are anticipated. Faculty in Italian and French collaborate actively with other faculty and units in SLCL and across campus. Collaborations with the European Union Center have resulted in increased course enrollments and joint grant and course proposals (e.g. on minorities and the Mediterranean) in the last four or five years both in French and Italian; these collaborations will continue after the transfer is implemented.

### **Impact on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.**

No significant impact is anticipated. We see no need to change the Library structure and recommend the preservation of the current organization. The Dean of the Library does not foresee any changes to anticipated library resources.

### **Governance and organizational matters**

1. The names of the newly-configured departments will be the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and the Department of French and Italian.
2. Both newly configured departments will amend their by-laws as appropriate to account for the changes in their respective unit.
3. An internal transition committee will be established to oversee the transfer process.
4. Italian faculty (three tenure-line faculty—Rota, Rushing and Stoppino—and two non-tenure-track academic staff—Derhemi and Hill) will transfer the portion of their lines currently in SIP into the proposed Department of French and Italian.
5. All curricular programs in Italian will be transferred in their current forms to the proposed Department of French and Italian. This transfer will not alter existing programs in French.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon approval.

**CLEARANCES:**

Signatures:



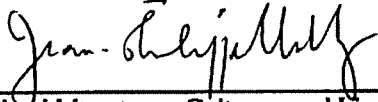
Spanish, Italian, Portuguese Representative:

Date:



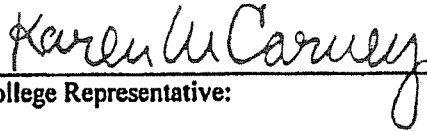
French Representative:

Date:



School Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics Representative:

Date:



College Representative:

Date:

12/2/13

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University Library  
Office of Dean of Libraries  
and University Librarian  
230 Main Library, MC 522  
1408 West Gregory Drive  
Urbana, IL 61801



October 16, 2013

Eleonora Stoppino and Zsuzsanna Fagyal  
(c/o Dr. Stoppino)  
Spanish, Italian & Portuguese  
4080 FLB  
M/C 176

Dear Drs. Stoppino and Fagyal:

Thank you for providing the University Library with the opportunity to review the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics' proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to Transfer of Italian studies faculty and associated non-tenure-track academic lines, and academic programs from the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese (SIP) to the Department of French, renaming the units to the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of French and Italian. Based upon the proposal that you submitted to the Library on October 16, 2013, we do not believe that there will be any substantive impact on existing library offerings—either in terms of library materials or personnel.

If additional services or materials are required as the program evolves, I have every confidence that we will be able to work together to meet the needs of the students.

Sincerely,

John P. Wilkin  
Juanita J. and Robert E. Simpson  
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

c: Paula Carns  
Thomas Teper

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.14.21

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



December 13, 2013

Gay Miller, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to rename the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese and the Department of French as the Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of French and Italian. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristi A. Kuntz".

Kristi A. Kuntz  
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: K. Carney  
K. Fresco  
J. Hualde  
J. Mathy

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

DEC 03 2013

RECEIVED

Office of the Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
294 Lincoln Hall  
702 South Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801-3631



December 2, 2013

Kristi Kuntz  
Assistant Provost  
Swanlund Administration Building  
MC-304

Dear Kristi:

The Committee on Courses and Curricula, Dean's Cabinet, Executive Committee, and the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has voted to approve the following proposals:

**Transfer of the undergraduate minor in Italian, and the undergraduate major leading to the BALAS in Italian from the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese to the Department of French**

**Transfer of the MA and PhD in Italian from the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese to the Department of French**

**Transfer the administrative homes of faculty and associated non-tenure-track academic lines within the Italian program to the renamed Department of French and Italian**

**Rename the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese and the Department of French**

The vote of the LAS Faculty took place on November 4, 2013 and was unanimous in favor of the transfer and renaming. The proposal to transfer the graduate degrees has been sent to the Graduate College but is also included here. Please let me know when we can schedule the public hearing.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Carney  
Associate Dean

enclosures

C: Professor Jean-Philippe Mathy  
Professor Jose Ignacio Hualde  
Professor Karen Fresco

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics

Office of the Director  
4088 Foreign Languages Building, MC 171  
707 South Mathews Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801-3675  
USA



October 10, 2013

Brian Ross, Interim Dean  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Dear Dean Ross,

Please find attached four proposals to transfer the program in Italian from the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese (SIP) to the Department of French within the School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics (SLCL). The four eligible voting members of the SLCL Executive Committee voted unanimously this morning to approve the four proposals. Two members of the Executive Committee recused themselves because they are faculty in SIP and French. I would like to note that the faculty of the two departments also voted unanimously in favor of the transfer of the Italian program to the French department. The four proposals eloquently make the intellectual and programmatic case for the transfer and SLCL fully supports it.

The results of the SLCL Executive Committee vote:

1. Proposal to transfer undergraduate programs: YES=4; NO=0; Recuse=2
2. Proposal to transfer graduate programs: YES=4; NO=0; Recuse=2
3. Proposal to transfer faculty and other instructional lines: YES=4; NO=0; Recuse=2
4. Proposal to change the name of the Department once the transfer has been approved: YES=4; NO=0; Recuse=2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Abbas Benmamoun'.

Abbas Benmamoun  
Richard and Margaret Romano Professorial Scholar, Professor of Linguistics  
Director of the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese  
School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics  
4080 Foreign Languages Building, MC-176  
707 South Mathews Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801-3625 USA



Prof. Elabbas Benmamoun,

Director

School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics

October 8, 2013

Dear Abbas,

The Faculty of the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese met on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm to discuss and vote on a set of four proposals related to the transfer of all academic programs in Italian to the Department of French (to be renamed Department of French and Italian). All four proposals were unanimously approved, with a few minor amendments that have been incorporated to the text of the proposals.

These are the results of the vote:

1. Proposal to transfer undergraduate programs: YES =13; NO = 0; Abstain = 0
2. Proposal to transfer graduate programs: YES =13; NO = 0; Abstain = 0
3. Proposal to transfer faculty and other instructional lines: YES = 13; NO = 0; Abstain = 0
4. Proposal to change the name of the Department once the transfer has been approved: YES =13; NO = 0; abstain = 0

The faculty of the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese has also approved the amendments made by the faculty of the French Department.

Regards,

José I. Hualde  
Professor and Acting Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Department of French  
School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
2090 Foreign Languages Building, MC-158  
707 South Mathews Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801-3675



Professor Elabbas Benmamoun

Director

School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics

October 8, 2013

Dear Abbas,

The faculty of the Department of French met on Friday, October 4, 2013, at 3:00 p.m. to discuss the four documents proposing the transfer of the Program in Italian to the Department of French. After proposing two changes in wording, it voted approved of the documents:

9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions (with one person absent)

The faculty has also approved the amendments made by the faculty in the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen L. Fresco".

Karen L. Fresco

Head

**Senate Educational Policy Committee  
Proposal Check Sheet**

**PROPOSAL TITLE** (Same as on proposal): Rename the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese and the Department of French.

**PROPOSAL TYPE** (select all that apply below):

A.  Proposal for a NEW or REVISED degree program. Please consult the Programs of Study Catalog for official titles of existing degree programs.

1. Degree program level:

Graduate                       Professional                       Undergraduate

2.  Proposal for a new **degree** (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.):

Degree name, "e.g., *Bachelor of Arts or Master of Science*": \_\_\_\_\_

3.  Proposal for a new or revised **major, concentration, or minor**:

New or  Revised **Major** in (name of existing or proposed major): \_\_\_\_\_

New or  Revised **Concentration** in (name of existing or proposed concentration): \_\_\_\_\_

New or  Revised **Minor** in (name of existing or proposed minor): \_\_\_\_\_

4.  Proposal to rename an existing major, concentration, or minor:

Major                       Concentration                       Minor

Current name: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed new name: \_\_\_\_\_

5.  Proposal to terminate an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor:

Degree                       Major                       Concentration                       Minor

Name of existing degree, major, or concentration: \_\_\_\_\_

6.  Proposal involving a multi-institutional degree:

New                       Revision                       Termination

Name of existing Illinois (UIUC) degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of non-Illinois partnering institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of non-Illinois partnering institution:

State of Illinois     US State: \_\_\_\_\_     Foreign country: \_\_\_\_\_

- B.  Proposal to create a new academic unit (college, school, department, program or other academic unit):

Name of proposed new unit: \_\_\_\_\_

- C.  Proposal to rename an existing academic unit (college, school, department, or other academic unit):

Current name of unit: Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese and the Department of French

Proposed new name of unit: Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Department of French and Italian

- D.  Proposal to reorganize existing units (colleges, schools, departments, or program):

1.  Proposal to change the status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department)

Name of current unit including status: \_\_\_\_\_

2.  Proposal to transfer an existing unit:

Current unit's name and home: Italian within the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

Proposed new home for the unit: French

3.  Proposal to merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B):

Name and college of unit one to be merged: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and college of unit two to be merged: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed name and college of new (merged) unit: \_\_\_\_\_

4.  Proposal to terminate an existing unit:

Current unit's name and status: \_\_\_\_\_

- E.  **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Nature of the proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 10/2012