

SEN12D012

Title: *Change of School Name*
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Issue

Change of name from the School of World Art Studies and Museology to the School of Art History and World Art Studies.

Recommendation

Recipients are invited to approve the change of name for the School.

Resource Implications

Within the School and Faculty the costs of making this change are relatively minimal. However, there is an impact on the available resources in Corporate Information Systems and other parts of the University to ensure that the changes are processed prior to records being rolled over into the following academic year.

Risk Implications

None. There have been discussions about changing the name for many years. The new name will improve visibility of the School for prospective students who search the web for “history of art” programs. The name also acknowledges the distinctive interdisciplinary character of many academic staff in the School and SifA.

Equality and Diversity

There are no implications for equality for diversity.

Timing of decisions

To be reported to Executive Team, on the 28th January 2013. The decision made today will require Senate (20th February 2013) and Council (11th March 2013) approval.

Further Information

Please contact Professor Bronwen Wilson on 01603 592817 or Bronwen.Wilson@uea.ac.uk for enquiries about the content of the paper and references for any further web-based information.

Background

As noted above, the School has debated changing it for many years. The drop in admissions figures for 2012-13 prompted returning to the issue. The seriousness of the concern was raised at the School away day in May 2012 in anticipation in the drop in numbers, fuelled in large part because of tuition fees. Given the new fee structure, the urgency of the situation prompted repeated discussions with colleagues on an individual basis and in a policy meeting. Following this, the proposal for the new name was advanced and after five minutes of discussion, colleagues voted unanimously in favour.

Importantly, the new name, "Art History and World Art Studies," is inclusive of all members of staff both in the School and the Sainsbury Research Unit. The new name points toward the future by acknowledging the distinctive interdisciplinary character of the School's engagement with art (art history, anthropology and archaeology). The name recognizes the evolving status of the discipline of Art History away from traditional concerns with biography, style, and geographical specificity, for instance, toward critical and theoretical methodologies, and interests prompted by global, cross-cultural, and transnational histories. It may be worth highlighting that the journal *Art History*—now perhaps the most important journal in the field—was founded by John Onians at UEA, and edited for the past five years by David Peters Corbett. The new journal of *World Art* was also founded at the School and is currently edited by George Lau, Veronica Sekules, and Margit Thofner, scholars who work in the SRU, the SCVA, and ART. The new name thereby reasserts that we are both firmly in the field and also leading it.

Attachments

None