**To: Department of Fine & Performing Arts**

**From: Teacher Education Committee/General Education Committee**

**Date: November 12, 2014/November 13, 2014**

**RE: Proposal:** The department proposes clarifying the Bachelor of Music Education General Education Curriculum found on pages 68, 113 and 217 of the 2014-2015 Traditional Undergraduate Catalog by removing the following lines:

**OR**

**ENGL 1703 Composition II: Writing and Research**

We also propose adding the following phrase after ENGL 1503 Composition I: Writing and Rhetoric: **(or demonstrated competence)**

**Rationale:** ENGL 1503 Composition I is the prerequisite for ENGL 1703 Composition II, so it is not possible for them to have an “or” choice with these two courses. Additionally, the current wording is confusing and could be misinterpreted, requiring a student to take ENGL 1703 Composition II if they have fulfilled the English Composition I requirements identified on page 61 of the 2014-2015 Traditional Undergraduate Catalog that do not translate as 3 credit hours towards the degree program (see bold text below). The Department intends this curricular requirement to be fulfilled by taking ENGL 1503 Composition I or by demonstrating competence as stated in the catalog.

*“Students who transfer to MNU with three credit hours of any English Composition I course from a community college, a four-year institution, or have received dual credit (through a high school) need not take this course.* ***Students may also fulfill this requirement by testing out with a CLEP score of 50 or higher, an AP test score of 4 or higher, or an ACT score of 26 or higher****.”*

**ACTION/DISCUSSION:**

**Department of Fine & Performing Arts:** ***Approved*** *Rejected Tabled Sent back*

Date: 11/3/14

**CLAS Curriculum Committee:** ***Approved*** *Rejected Tabled Sent back*

Date: 11/6/14

**CLAS Faculty:** ***Approved*** *Rejected Tabled Sent back*

Date: 11/10/14

**Teacher Education Committee:** ***Approved\*\****  *Rejected Tabled Sent back*

Date: 11/12/14

\*\*Addendum to approval by the Teacher Education Committee: It is a concern that over the past 4 years, Music Ed students have not been doing as well on the Teacher Work Sample as students from other content areas; potentially because other secondary content majors must take Comp II, even if they do not take Comp I.

Kansas now requires a passing score on the TWS to become licensed. This research- based document will potentially follow the teacher candidate into their first two years of a job as professional development plan. This hasn’t been approved at the State level yet, but that is the planned direction for teacher candidates.

**General Education Committee:** ***Approved***\*\*\* *Rejected Tabled* Sent back

Date: 11/13/14

\*\*\*This proposal was extensively discussed and some questions were raised by the committee that they request the F&PA Department to consider and send back a response. The change to the catalog can proceed as it was deemed editorial and iin line with previous approvals of the music ed general core.

A summary of the concerns: It seems the underlying intent of this proposal is to eliminate Eng. Comp II from the requirements. However, student performance in writing/research across CLAS generated a change in general education to require Engl Comp II for all traditional undergrads. There is no CLEP test accepted for this course, because the gen ed committee felt the knowledge and experience gained were necessary for success in their discipline. The committee realizes this is not a standard Bachelor of Arts degree, but requests more information.

Questions for response back to the committee:

* How will the department make sure students can be successful in writing/research if they don’t taken a college level writing course?
* Is there another option to reduce the gen ed for this degree besides Engl Comp II? Do Music Ed majors need Intro to Fine Arts – or could that outcome be met in their content with other courses?

The committee invites Dr. Bohn to the Feb. 12, 2015 meeting to address these concerns.

**AAC**: *Information Item* *Approved Rejected Tabled Sent back* ***NA***

Date: 1/12/15

**Faculty Assembly:** *Information Item* *Approved Rejected Tabled Sent back* ***NA***

Date: 1/26/15