Memorandum of Request

TO: Professor Constance Relihan, Chair, University Curriculum Committee and Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Studies
Professor Anna-Katrin Gramberg, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts

CC: Mr. Kevin T. Snyder, Coordinator, Curriculum Management

FROM: Jeremy M. Downes, Professor & Chair, English Department
Dr. Robin Sabino, Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department

RE: Name change of English Department Professional Writing and Literacy Curriculum Option

Date: November 15, 2012

This memo requests a change be made to the name of one of the three English Department curricula options. There are no content changes and/or addition or de-listing of courses accompanying this change.

Faculty in the currently-named Professional Writing and Literacy have requested the name of the option be changed to Professional and Public Writing. The consensus of the faculty who teach in the option is that the change is indicative of what they teach both individually and collectively; it also accounts for much of their outreach and research. They also point out that a number of them have expertise in both domains. An additional consideration is that undergraduates may be able to ascribe value to professional and public writing more effectively than to professional writing and literacy.

The proposal was considered and approved by the English Department faculty at a general meeting on November 14, 2012.