

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



Graduate School

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October 17, 2017

TO: Susan Kalter, Chairperson, Academic Senate

FROM: Denise Wilson, Chairperson, Graduate Curriculum Committee

RE: Executive Summary – Proposal for the New String Pedagogy Sequence, M.M. in Music

The Graduate Curriculum Committee has approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate consideration the attached proposal to add a new String Pedagogy Sequence in the Master of Music, M.M.

The proposal states that the String Pedagogy Sequence is intended for students who wish to pursue a career in teaching strings (particularly in a private studio setting), or who wish to continue study at the doctoral level.

The School of Music provided a reasonable rationale for adding this sequence, including the following:

- A degree specific to the teaching of strings will prepare students to be successful professional teachers and will give credibility to their resumes.
- Institutions similar to ours have recently announced the addition of this degree. It was also discussed at the collegiate round table at the 2017 American String Teachers Association (ASTA). ASTA has announced it will soon be posting sample syllabi and degree sequences for string-related degrees, including String Pedagogy.
- Students who have applied for a M.M. in Performance or M.M.Ed. at Illinois State have also applied for an M.M. in String Pedagogy degrees at peer institutions. Recent Illinois State graduates of the B.M. in Performance and B.M.Ed programs are seeking this degree at peer institutions as they look to continue their education at the graduate level.
- Our School of Music currently hosts two community outreach programs that provide string students with supervised professional practice experience: the ISU String Project and a partnership with Heartland Head Start. These two programs will provide ample opportunity for String Pedagogy students to gain essential hands-on teaching experiences under the supervision of faculty. Masters students will also gain critical experience working with parents and administrators through their work in these programs.

This degree sequence does not require professional licensure, however it is an accredited degree through the National Association of Schools of Music.

The Graduate Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to add this new sequence.

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Attachments