

To: The Dean of the College Office

From: The Department of Theater and Dance

Re: Department of Theater and Dance, Tenure Track Design Position Proposal

April 4, 2022

Justification

The Department of Theater and Dance is seeking a Tenure Track position in Design. We currently lack a dedicated, full time faculty member in the Design area and have since we moved into the Weitz Center some years ago. Our last decennial review told us that "(t)he department lacks sufficient course offerings in the design area." Our reviewers told us they were "dismayed by the lack of a single dedicated, full-time faculty member in the area of design. This is a standard and essential position in an undergraduate Theatre and Dance program. This was a major theme of our conversation with the dance and theatre students, and a source of deep disappointment to many."

We whole heartedly agree with this assessment. Design is foundational in a Department of Theater and Dance. It is as important as performance. Design has its own theoretical foundations and its own history. The Department currently lacks the intellectual grounding and rigor that we need in an area vital to the long term development of our disciplines over the next decade and beyond. Without a tenure-track faculty member in this area, we are currently unable to mentor our students who are interested in Design, or to advise senior comps projects that focus on it. We lack the ability to plan our courses long term, relying as we do on guest artists who may or may not be available when we would ideally like to have them come and teach for us. This creates problems for our students interested in Design when it comes to planning their schedules, harmonizing them with off campus studies and planning their Comps.

At present, the department has students who plan to major in theatre and want to focus on lighting and sound design. This hire, if approved, will enable us to effectively mentor these students through the Comps process and position us for sustained mentoring of other students in the coming years in an area that offers the possibility of long term careers for students who wish to pursue them, careers that can last as long as careers in scholarship and far longer than careers in some areas of performance.

Carleton commonly enrolls students, including students of color, whose secondary school experiences include experience in the design and technical areas of theater and dance. If we are to develop our long term goals for sustained curricular excellence we must raise our level in the area of Design to the levels we currently enjoy in the areas of history, theory and performance. If we are to reach our goals for inclusion we must offer the full range of curricular and mentoring experiences commonly on offer to students who study the Performing Arts in a Liberal Arts context.

Interdisciplinary Relevance

Our disciplines of Theater and Dance are arguably areas where the Liberal Arts converge, where our teaching and practices draw from History (within and beyond our art forms) Theory, Performance, the Visual Arts, Politics, Music and the Sciences. We work through and teach Collaboration, Team Building and more. Our disciplines are interdisciplinary by definition. What we currently miss is the contribution of a full time faculty member who will augment, complete and extend our disciplinary expertise and our interdisciplinary focus.

The Candidate

Our ideal candidate will have a terminal degree, college teaching experience, a demonstrated commitment to teaching in a Liberal Arts context and an ongoing professional career designing for Theater and Dance. The candidate should have expertise in the foundational areas of design (sets, lights, scene painting) and in newer and emerging areas of design including but not limited to Computer Aided Design (CAD), Sound, Video, Digital Technology, 3-D Printing and Multimedia. Design programs in top ranked graduate schools commonly produce graduates who develop expertise across all of these areas and have for some time. Established designers and teachers of design routinely develop these and other skills as their careers continue. Design is technology driven and in a continuing state of flux. Our students need to be exposed to traditional skills and tools as well as newer, technology driven approaches.

Our ideal candidate will support our efforts at establishing practices that are consistent with the College's IDE goals, goals that we have embraced at the departmental level. That will in part involve bringing knowledge of and perspectives in areas of Design that go beyond the history and practices common to the West. In the globalizing world from which this College and this department routinely draws students, the ability to reflect on and teach perspectives that are global will be essential to our continuing growth.

Our ideal candidate will have a commitment to and demonstrated experience in working towards the IDE and anti-racist goals the college and the department are committed to. We believe that a full time, dedicated designer can help us attract domestic and international students of color by offering a path to graduate level education and sustainable careers.

Creating a Diverse Candidate Pool

The Department has the kind of connections in the Twin Cities Theater and Dance communities and in the wider world of professional and educational theater that will ensure that we have a diverse pool of candidates. The networks and contacts we have are robust enough to allow us to use both traditional search channels and our personal contacts in the profession and in the academy to develop our such a pool.

Mentoring

A tenure track faculty member in Design will have the advantage of being mentored by faculty who are well established in our fields and who are veterans of the Department and of Carleton. As practitioners working with a practitioner, we will collaborate on an ongoing basis. We will necessarily be in a position to assist our new person in learning to work with our unique, gifted and demanding students while meeting Carleton's and our department's demands for its faculty with respect to Inclusion, Diversity and Equity. The Department will be in a position to support this person in the pursuit of their ongoing professional pursuits as we currently support our own.

Thank you.



Michelle Mattson <mmattson@carleton.edu>

THEA proposal info and enrollment data

1 message

Judith Howard <jhoward@carleton.edu>

Fri, Apr 14, 2023 at 10:05 AM

To: Michelle Mattson <mmattson@carleton.edu>

Michelle, here is the 3 yr staffing plan in lieu of the proposed position as well as the attached enrollment data.

Note: Mary Ann Kelling can no longer teach "Principles of Design" so we will need to hire for that as well. Design classes are rotated biennially.

Let me know if you need anything further.

Thanks!

Judith

2023-24:

Fall: THEA 237 Scenic Design, guest teacher Joe Stanley

Set designer for fall show: Joe Stanley

Spring: THEA 320 Live Performance and Digital Media, returning guest Zoe Cinel

Set designer for spring show (guest)

2024-25:

Fall: THEA 115 Principles of Design (guest)

Set designer for fall show (guest)

Spring: Set designer for Spring show (guest)

2025-26:

Fall: THEA 237 Scenic Design (guest)

Set designer for fall show (guest)

Spring: THEA 320 Live Performance and Digital Media (Zoe Cinel)

Set designer for spring show (guest)

Judith Howard

She/Her/Hers

Department of Theater and Dance, Chair

Director of Dance

Carleton College

"To care for the right thing and to do the right thing." RBG

**Theater Enrollment '19-'23.xlsx**

15K

Term	Full Section Name	Short Title	Capacity	Active Student Count	Credits Faculty1	Carleton Name	Faculty2 Carleton Name
19/FA	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	18	6	Palani, Malinda A	
19/FA	THEA.110.WLO	Beginning Acting	0	0	6	Palani, Malinda A	
19/FA	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	9	1	Wiles, David E	
19/FA	THEA.195.00	Acting Shakespeare	16	12	6	Wiles, David E	
19/FA	THEA.199.01	Theater Practicum	0	6	3	Wiles, David E	
19/FA	THEA.237.00	Scenic Design for Perform Arts	12	9	6	Powers, Angeline	
19/FA	THEA.291.11	Theater Hist and Theory	1	1	1-6	Palani, Malinda A	
19/FA	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	2	1-6		
20/WI	THEA.185.00	The Speaking Voice	16	18	6	Wiles, David E	
20/WI	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	1	1	Palani, Malinda A	
20/WI	THEA.199.01	Theater Practicum	0	4	3	Wiles, David E	
20/WI	THEA.238.00	Costume Design for Theater	20	6	3	Kelling, Mary Ann A	
20/WI	THEA.251.00	Top Girls: Women Playwrights	25	11	6	Powers-Kusio, Kate M	
20/WI	THEA.291.11	Assistant Designing	1	1	1-6	Kelling, Mary Ann A	
20/WI	THEA.345.00	Devised Thtr & Colctv Crtn	12	3	6	Palani, Malinda A	
20/WI	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	2	1-6	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	10	6	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.110.WLO	Beginning Acting	0	0	6	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.185.00	The Speaking Voice	16	15	6	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.185.WLO	The Speaking Voice	0	0	6	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	0	1	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	0	3	Wiles, David E	
20/SP	THEA.226.00	Avant-Garde Theater & Perform	25	10	6	Palani, Malinda A	
20/SP	THEA.246.00	Playwriting	15	11	6	Rosendorf, Andrew L	

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20/SP	THEA.256.01	Costume Construction	10	10	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
20/SP	THEA.256.02	Costume Construction	10	8	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
20/SP	THEA.291.11	Advanced Studies Makeup Design	1	0	1-6 Kelling, Mary Ann A
20/SP	THEA.320.00	Live Perfrmnce & Digital Media	15	9	6 Cinel, Zoe
20/SP	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	2	1-6
20/FA	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	11	6 Wiles, David E
20/FA	THEA.110.WL0	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
20/FA	THEA.115.00	Principles of Design	18	10	6 Kelling, Mary Ann A
20/FA	THEA.185.00	The Speaking Voice	16	16	6 Wiles, David E
20/FA	THEA.225.00	Theater History and Theory	24	6	6 Carlson, Andrew I
20/FA	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	0	1-6
21/WI	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	16	6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/WI	THEA.110.WL0	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/WI	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	11	1 Carlson, Andrew I
21/WI	THEA.199.01	Theater Practicum	0	11	3 Carlson, Andrew I
21/WI	THEA.234.00	Light Design - Performing Arts	11	11	6 Stoeri, Tony J
21/WI	THEA.260.00	Space, Time Body, Minds	16	15	6 Benge, Lizbett J
21/WI	THEA.270.00	Art and (un)freedom	25	8	6 Benge, Lizbett J
21/WI	THEA.391.11	Adv Techniques in Swng & Dsgn	1	1	1-6 Kelling, Mary Ann A
21/WI	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	1	1-6 Wiles, David E
21/SP	THEA.185.01	The Speaking Voice	20	18	6 Wiles, David E
21/SP	THEA.185.02	The Speaking Voice	20	21	6 Wiles, David E
21/SP	THEA.185.WL1	The Speaking Voice	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
21/SP	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	27	1 Carlson, Andrew I
21/SP	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	0	3 Carlson, Andrew I
21/SP	THEA.227.00	Theatre for Social Change	12	8	6 Carlson, Andrew I

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21/SP	THEA.229.00	Makeup Design	22	21	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
21/SP	THEA.245.00	Directing	12	11	6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/SP	THEA.392.11	Black Theatre Aesthetics	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/SP	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	2	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/FA	THEA.100.00	What Stories Teach Us	15	15	6 Wiles, David E
21/FA	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	16	6 Wiles, David E
21/FA	THEA.110.WL0	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
21/FA	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	6	1 Carlson, Andrew I
21/FA	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	11	3 Carlson, Andrew I
21/FA	THEA.237.00	Scenic Design for Perform Arts	12	11	6 Powers, Angelique
21/FA	THEA.242.00	Modern American Drama	25	9	6 Carlson, Andrew I
21/FA	THEA.260.00	Space, Time Body, Minds	16	8	6 Bengel, Lizbett J
21/FA	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	0	1-6
22/WI	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	18	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/WI	THEA.110.WL0	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/WI	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	3	1 Bengel, Lizbett J
22/WI	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	7	3 Bengel, Lizbett J
22/WI	THEA.238.00	Costume Design for Theater	20	13	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
22/WI	THEA.314.00	Advanced Acting	15	16	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/WI	THEA.345.00	Devised Thtr & Colctv Crtn	12	4	6 Bengel, Lizbett J
22/WI	THEA.400.02	Integrative Exercise	10	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/SP	THEA.185.01	The Speaking Voice	16	18	6 Wiles, David E
22/SP	THEA.185.02	The Speaking Voice	16	18	6 Wiles, David E
22/SP	THEA.185.WL2	The Speaking Voice	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
22/SP	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	0	1
22/SP	THEA.195.00	Acting Shakespeare	24	25	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/SP	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	5	3 Carlson, Andrew I

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22/SP	THEA.246.00	Playwriting	15	11	6 Rosendorf, Andrew L
22/SP	THEA.257.00	Costume Pattern Development	20	16	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
22/SP	THEA.291.11	Costm Constr: Couture Hnd Sew	1	1	1-6 Kelling, Mary Ann A
22/SP	THEA.320.00	Live Perfrmce & Digital Media	15	12	6 Cinel, Zoe
22/SP	THEA.391.11	Professional Topic in Theater	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/SP	THEA.391.12	Careers in Theater	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/SP	THEA.400.03	Integrative Exercise	10	0	1-6
22/FA	THEA.100.00	The Power of Story	15	12	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/FA	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	18	6 Wiles, David E
22/FA	THEA.110.WLO	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
22/FA	THEA.115.00	Principles of Design	18	15	6 Kelling, Mary Ann A
22/FA	THEA.185.00	The Speaking Voice	16	16	6 Wiles, David E
22/FA	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	2	1 Carlson, Andrew I
22/FA	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	8	3 Carlson, Andrew I
22/FA	THEA.225.00	Theater History and Theory	25	10	6 Carlson, Andrew I
22/FA	THEA.291.11	Advanced Sewing Technique	1	1	3 Kelling, Mary Ann A
22/FA	THEA.391.11	The Revolutionists	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/WI	THEA.110.00	Beginning Acting	16	17	6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/WI	THEA.110.WLO	Beginning Acting	0	0	6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/WI	THEA.185.00	The Speaking Voice	16	17	6 Wiles, David E
23/WI	THEA.234.00	Light Design - Performing Arts	25	20	6 Stoeri, Tony J
23/WI	THEA.255.00	August Wilson:History & Blues	25	13	6 Wiles, David E
23/WI	THEA.391.11	Contemp. Theater & Performance	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/WI	THEA.391.12	Advanced Directing	1	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/WI	THEA.400.01	Integrative Exercise	10	1	1-6 Carlson, Andrew I
23/SP	THEA.185.01	The Speaking Voice	16	19	6 Wiles, David E

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23/SP	THEA.185.WL0	The Speaking Voice	0	0	6 Wiles, David E
23/SP	THEA.190.00	Carleton Players Productions	0	0	1
23/SP	THEA.199.00	Theater Practicum	0	0	3 Carlson, Andrew I
23/SP	THEA.245.00	Directing	12	12	6 Wiles, David E
23/SP	THEA.400.00	Integrative Exercise	10	0	1-6
24/WI	THEA.238.00	Costume Design Performing Art	25	0	6 Kelling, Mary Ann A

