Recommendation from the faculties of the Departments of Dance and Theatre and the faculty of the School of Fine Arts that the two departments merge into a single department, to be named the "Department of Theatre and Dance."

Rationale: 1. The 4% budget cut exercise revealed that it was inevitable that at least one department in the School of Fine Arts would be seriously damaged if this cut went into effect.

2. The merger of the Departments would produce a salary saving of $23,563 without significantly effecting the administrative operation of the combined Departments. This saving would not only protect both Departments, but the other three as well.

3. The two Departments are production oriented and they currently share the production staff (6 FTE in the Theatre Department). This has been a most harmonious relationship.

4. Two of the three augmented members of the current Dance Department's Executive Committee are members of the Theatre Executive Committee. There is a pattern and record of harmonious shared governance.

5. In a time of budget uncertainties, both Departments believe they will be strengthened by the move.

6. Most important, both Departments believe they will be programmatically strengthened by the merger. Thus, even when we knew that the 1982-83 budget cut would only be 2%, both faculties believed the merger was desirable on programmatic grounds.

7. What started as a budget strategy is now seen as something structurally beneficial to both Departments and the School as a whole.

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