Proposal:

The addition of a Bachelor of Music in Media Composition and Production and an Associate of Applied Science in Theatre for Children and Youth is proposed.

Background:

The Bachelor of Music in Media Composition and Production will prepare students with the knowledge and skills required of professional musicians, including musical performance, knowledge of music literature and pedagogy, visual and aural musical analysis, and various aspects of music media, including media composition and music technology and production. Completion of this degree will enable students to qualify for professional positions in the music media industry. This is a logical progression for the UVU Department of Music, given its current faculty strengths and student interest. The purpose of USHE, as stated in the Regents’ Policy (R312), is “to meet the educational needs of the citizens of the State of Utah.” In accordance with the Regents’ Policy concerning the mission of a Master’s University, UVU is to build a foundation of “creative work to foster engaged learning.” A strong music media program will serve as a hallmark for those roles.

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Theatre for Children and Youth would enable UVU graduates to teach theatre and drama in after-school and community theatre settings, to work as teaching artists in the schools, and to create or work with touring theatre companies performing in the schools. The AAS degree would increase students’ vocational opportunities as theatre artists in areas that often offer work compatible with other job and family responsibilities. The degree program could significantly increase the number and percentage of UVU students who graduate with degrees from the Department of Theatrical Arts for Stage and Screen and help attain the Utah Board of Regent’s Prosperity 2020 goal of 66% of Utah adults holding post-secondary degrees by 2020. Moreover, the proposed AAS degree in Theatre for Children and Youth would enable UVU graduates to engage in local community theatres, community organizations, and schools as professionally competent instructors, directors, actors, designers and to create job opportunities for themselves and other theatre artists.

Recommendation:

The President and the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed action as summarized above and detailed in the attached documents.