MEMO

TO: Sarah Fishman-Boyd
Undergraduate Studies Committee, CLASS, University of Houston

FROM: Elizabeth Gregory
Director, Women's Studies Program, CLASS, University of Houston

Date: August 21, 2008

RE: Program Name Change Request

Because the Women's Studies Program has added a second minor, in GLBT Studies, we seek to change our name to more accurately reflect our curriculum.

After reviewing national naming trends in our discipline, we propose that our new title be “The Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program.” This name clearly informs students of the diversity of our foci.

It is the same title used at Yale University and very similar to that used at Rice University (their title is Center for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality). The University of Texas currently uses the name Women's and Gender Studies Program. Harvard’s title is “The Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality.” The national pattern is toward changing to more inclusive titles.

Dean Antel supports the change, and we submit it to you for approval.

Thank you.