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COLLEGE OF JUSTICE &
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A Program of Distinction
Department of Criminal Justice

October 30, 2007

To: Dr. Onda Bennett, Dean of University Programs

From: [Dr. Carole Garrison, Chair](#)

[Criminal Justice & Police Studies](#)

[Women Studies Advisory Board Member](#)

CC: DR. Marta Miranda, Director of Women Studies

RE: Name change for Women Studies Certificate Program

The Women Studies Board met at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 2, 2007 at which time it entertained a proposal to change the name of the Women Studies program to Women and Gender Studies. After a lengthy discussion including national trends, program focus, faculty interest, student demographics, and CPE mandates for 20/20, the Board unanimously approved changing the name of the certificate program to Women and Gender Studies.

As the founding director of women studies at the University of Akron in 1984-1990, and as a former executive board member of the National Women's Studies Association, as well as founding member and vice chair of the State of Ohio Women's Commission, I am well qualified to provide an explanation and justification of this decision.

We believe this new name better defines our focus and is more inclusive of both the interests and needs of our students and the interests and expertise of our faculty. No more is the addition of the term gender an attempt to placate those who opposed women's equality, but rather a manifestation of society acknowledging and recognizing the worth of all its people. Women Studies programs across the country are changing their program names to include this concept of partnership and community across sex and gender identities.

EKU strives to prepare our students for the work place, the global economy, and the geo-political world. This program of study contributes significantly to achieving this goal. EKU wants to recruit, retain and graduate students. This program of study contributes significantly to achieving these goals. EKU wants to attract and retain excellent faculty and staff. This program contributes significantly to achieving these goals. **We hope you concur and support the change of name from Women Studies to Women and Gender Studies.**

