Memo

To: Richard McCarty, Dean, College of Arts and Science
From: Dale Cockrell, Director; Professor of Musicology and American and Southern Studies
CC: Lydia D. Hickman
Date: 23 January 2006
Re: program name change

The Program Committee for American and Southern Studies has met and voted unanimously to recommend to you that the name of the “Program in American and Southern Studies” be changed to the simple and more descriptive "Program in American Studies."

The program has for some years struggled to support the "Southern Studies" part of its mission and curriculum. Discussions following from an ongoing internal program review have made it clear to concerned faculty that we can no longer justify or support that part of the program's title.

This is not necessarily bad or negative news. "Southern studies" would, of course, continue to be an important component in the program’s mission; just not a featured part. Further, by focusing more tightly our title we expect a commensurate focusing and strength of mission.

If there are further particulars I can provide you, please do not hesitate to ask.