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7 November 2013

Provost Peter Lange, Ph.D.
Thomas A. Langford University Professor
Duke University
220 Allen Building
Box 90005
Durham, NC 27708-0005

Dear Provost Lange:

At its meeting of 30 October 2013, the Academic Programs Committee considered a proposal from the Department of Religion to change its name to the Department of Religious Studies. APC met with the chair, David Morgan, who had prepared briefs in advance explaining both the history of the department and the motivation for the change.

In light of the long-standing relationship with the Divinity School, and the shared Graduate Program in Religion on which the two units collaborate, a question was raised whether the Divinity School was in favor of the name change. David Morgan indicated that he had conferred with the Dean of the Divinity School, Richard Hays, and reassured APC that he was not aware of any concerns. No other substantive concerns were raised by APC; to the contrary, the committee expressed much enthusiasm. After the meeting, APC voted unanimously to approve the change (15 yes, plus 1 abstention owing to absence).

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander J. Hartemink

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