OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TO:     Paul Reichardt
FROM:   Anne C. Steele
DATE:   February 10, 2011
RE:     Change in Name of Modern Languages Department
cc:     Rick Nutt
         Jean Morris

In accordance with the recommendation of the faculty and with your recommendation, I am approving the request to change the name of the Modern Language Department. Effective with the 2011-2012 academic year, the name of the department will be World Languages Department.

On behalf of the Muskingum community, I commend the faculty for the strong and vibrant programs that they provide for our students.
February 4, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Anne Steele

FR: Paul Reichardt

RE: World Languages Department

I have read Jean Morris’ request to change the name of the Department of Modern Languages to Department of World Languages and I concur that this is a desirable change.

Changing the department’s name to Department of World Languages seems an appropriate step given the department’s new facilities in Walter Hall and the introduction of Chinese language instruction in 2009-10. The new name also suggests the department’s interest in expanding instruction in languages other than western European languages if and when instructional resources for these languages become available. The term “modern languages,” originally coined as a contrast to classical languages (i.e. Greek and Latin), has become, over time, synonymous with the study of the modern languages of western Europe. World Languages provides a much wider perspective and is consistent with the global dimensions of Muskingum’s study abroad programs and the Global Society category of the Liberal Arts Essentials curriculum.

I endorse this change and recommend it to you for approval. If you approve this request, I will communicate the change to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

XC: Jean Morris