# Sense of Senate Vote on Name Change

Department of English



Department of Literatures in English

Approval of Deans, Directors, and Chairs has been obtained.

Approval of Faculty Senate required before the proposal goes to the Provost.

## Rationale

- 1. The primary reason for the requested name change is that the broad majority of the department's faculty feel that the name 'English' implies a commitment to studying England as a nation, while 'Literatures in English' emphasizes English as a language spoken and written in many places around the world.
- 2. This name change will reflect the department's current diversity and their long-term and deep commitments to the wealth of literatures from around the world in the English language.

## Rationale

- 3. The name change would reflect a change in curricular scope that has already occurred. The department now teaches Caribbean, African, African Diasporic, Native American, African American, Latin American, Chicanx, Latinx, LGBTQ, Indian, Asian diasporic and Asian American literatures, a wide range that is not nationally English, but nevertheless in the English language.
- 4. The department anticipates future developments in the field that the new name will more accurately reflect but they do not seek to change the formal curriculum or the transcript designation.

## **Discussion**

#### Vote Via Chat

I support the Department of English's request to have its name changed to the Department of Literatures in English

\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_No

Abstain