

Department of Dance Faculty Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2020 ~ 10:30 am – 1:00 pm

Via Zoom (see details below)

MINUTES

In attendance: Kelly Canaday, Jenifer Moreland, Zakkir Rahman, Molly Griffin, Jennifer Salk, Yebel Gallegos, Paul Moore, Christina Sunardi, Monica Rojas-Stewart, Juliet McMains, Alethea Alexander, Hannah Wiley, Rachael Lincoln, Dani Tirrell, Lucie Baker, Peter Bracilano, Silvio Dos Reis, one MFA student.

Faculty Updates/Announcements

Faculty and staff checked in with each other and got used to the Zoom format for the meeting.

The agenda was taken out of order.

Chair's report/Planning for spring quarter

Jen Salk reported that the UW Board of Directors would be meeting Tuesday, February 25th to run scenarios of what spring quarter might look like. The three likely options discussed would be:

- Start online – assess each week to see if classes can be moved to in person or not
- Everything taught online for whole quarter
- Closing whole university – unlikely

All contracted faculty including part-time hires will be paid for spring quarter.

We've made a list of classes that are mostly adaptable, moderately adaptable or not adaptable and will submit this to the Dean to outline our plan.

Faculty determined that teaching technique classes online would not be equitable to students because not all will have the space or technology and may potentially be in different time zones which would make it difficult to participate.

Rachael questioned if faculty would be interested in recording "offerings" that could be put on website for students. Alethea suggested creating a warm-up sequence that could be put online. Jen noted that Kitty Daniels and Carla Corrado from Cornish made a manual about how to stay in shape over the summer. She will post it on the student link and send to faculty.

Paul suggested that working on memorization could be a skill to focus on in this environment. It would require minimal space to set a really long phrase with just the hands and face.

Dani suggested sending a message to students to see what they need and ask what they might be up for.

Jen reviewed the most/moderately/least adaptable document with faculty. The least adaptable classes can't be taught online. These include all studio technique classes.

- Juliet confirmed that she will teach Research Methods online.
- Alethea confirmed that she will teach Dance History online.
- Jen is asking the Dean's office for funding to add Dance 101. It is not normally taught spring quarter so wasn't budgeted.
- Teaching Methods can be taught online.
- The grad 490 classes will be taught online.

Kelly pointed out that we should give priority registration to majors and minors first and is optimistic that we can fill online courses.

Jen will ask grad students to TA for Dance 100 and 101.

Monica Rojas's new Afro-Latinx class will not be offered but will hopefully be offered in Autumn Quarter. Kelly noted that she can give students who were registered for Spring priority registration if the class is offered in the fall.

Kelly would like to make one announcement to students about cancelling all technique classes. If we pull technique classes, it would be great if we could also announce what is going to be offered online at the same time.

Jen will draft the notice to students to be sent within the next 24 hours.

Juliet offered to supervise students who wish to do an independent study. Please have them contact Juliet directly.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Approval of minutes for the February 19, 2020 faculty meeting were postponed until the next meeting.

Faculty Topics

- Kawasaki update (Salk)
Jen updated faculty on the plan for the third year of the Kawasaki guest artist. After postponing the third guest over the past academic year, Jen can confirm that Ron K Brown will be coming to work with students next year. He will set an eleven-minute work on students for UW Dance Presents. He will be in residence for approximately for a month over the course of fall quarter and will teach technique, comp, conduct a community class, give a talk. A couple of his company dancers will come to Seattle as well. His residency will dovetail nicely with the Camille Brown piece for CDC. They share the same manager. He wants to hold auditions for his piece and knows there will be a mix of students and levels. Jen has spoken to him about potential audition dates.

- New hires (Lincoln/Wiley)
Rachael and Hannah reported on the status of the two faculty searches. Alana Isiguen has accepted the Artist In Residence position. Rujeko Dumbutshena has been offered the Assistant Professor position and is deciding.
- Diversity Committee update (Lincoln/Alexander)
Alethea reported that there are many things are on hold right now. The diversity committee needs more direction and clarity of mission. It has been easy to have an idea, let it float and then have it not followed up on. The committee recently discussed having a guest artist come in to bring different ideas through artists. They came up with a brief list of Seattle artists, but what are next steps?
- Rachael noted that there is money from the seed grant to specifically for a speaker. Jen noted that some speakers are very expensive, even with grant. Maybe someone at UW but from outside of the department would be a good choice. Maybe a visual artist and a dance person would be interesting. She can speak to Chad Allen to see if there is flexibility with the grant.
- Rachael wants to make sure it relates back to students. Alethea asked if there is a way to use dance as a platform to speak to a larger audience? Juliet seconded this idea.
- Rachael noted that the committee is ever changing with new students, etc. Alethea asked what is the directive of DC without being able to be together in person?

Jen will ask OMAD for an extension on our grant.

- Jones Endowment – new proposal thoughts (Lincoln)
Rachael discussed next steps for the Jones Endowment. She suggested that faculty start thinking now about what our next project could be. The emphasis will be on collaboration. Jen is waiting to see if the Continuum College will pay for online course revisions this summer. Since we are losing ticket revenue for two concerts this year, Catherine has indicated that we could use Jones funds for planning for next year but it needs to be framed as something other than a recurring budgetary item (meaning we can't just ask for money for production but we can say there is a hardship due to the funds lost during Covid-19 concert cancellations).

Hannah reminded faculty that \$20,000 of the next round of Jones funding is already submitted and approved for CDC to present Camille Brown's *City of Rain*.

Jen will reach out for ideas in spring quarter. She will include the grads and also send the proposal to Zakk so he can give input. The deadline for proposals is June 1st.

Juliet is interested in the social-dance collaborative process. Yebel is interested in collaborating with Art Koshi to create music. Paul suggested there might be online

opportunities for dance films. Alethea suggested sharing content online for free to increase access.

Departmental Updates/Announcements

Zakk noted that students were disappointed that DMC was cancelled. They've also expressed frustration that they can't use the studios. People are asking if they should go home? What can they do right now with dance classes cancelled?

Jen is committed to getting a statement out to students by tomorrow afternoon.

Faculty discussed reimagining the MFA concert. Alethea proposed the MFA's focusing on screendance/dance for the camera. Encouraging a different kind of research. Alethea anticipates that most students would be interested in participating. We could let them self-select.

Faculty discussed what support structures could look like. Maybe Rachael could teach a version of comp 3 with a focus on dance for film? Yebel likes the idea of a research collaboration with no specific end product envisioned. Rachael noted that each could have individual process around that even if they didn't have something to show.

Alethea will communicate that MFA auditions and live concerts are suspended and that we are considering other options about opportunities with grads. Stay tuned for more info.

Rachael stated that she could still teach a version of comp 3. She noted that some people will have an enormous amount of work while others might not. If someone teaching would be interested in having a TA in their course, let us know. Jen let everyone know that we can ask part-time faculty to TA classes if it makes sense.

Jen noted that Molly will TA for Creative Process, and she'll also have a student aid to help throughout the quarter.

Lucie asked if she could know who her TAs are as soon as possible so she can coordinate with them.

Agenda Items for future meetings

Nothing to report.

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