

Department of Dance Faculty Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2020
12:30–1:30 pm

Via Zoom: <https://washington.zoom.us/j/268912394>
Meeting ID: 268 912 394

MINUTES

In attendance: Jennifer Salk, Christina Sunardi, Alethea Alexander, Peter Bracilano, Kelly Canaday, Rachael Lincoln, Juliet McMains, Silvio Dos Reis, Paul Moore

Faculty Updates/Announcements

Jen asked for good news from faculty and suggested that she's been enjoying the show Some Good News by John Krasinski. Rachael reported that she is working on an art gift with the "For You" project, bringing artists and elders together. Juliet reminded everyone that the undergraduate research symposium takes place tomorrow and that two dance students are presenting. Alethea enjoyed an online class she recently took with Janet Garret from bay area, in no small part, because of the live accompaniment.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the May 7, 2020 faculty meeting were approved as written.

Chair's Report

Jen noted that the Jones proposal can include tech for going online. Please send Jen a paragraph of your proposal from the meeting last week.

Next week, Jen will meet with a Meany user group to talk about streaming possibilities. Meany has done a lot of work to envision what a return to the theater would look like. They are projecting a max of 340 people in the big theater, including the balcony, and 79 in studio theater. Peter asked if we could possibly use Meany Hall stage if we are going to do a live concert in winter or spring, if we are able to have concerts.

Jen spoke of speculation that there will be a surge in infection in the autumn. She referenced the Article from Erin Bromage at UMass. "The Risks – Know them – Avoid them. Duration in a space, and airflow seem to be key factors contributing to the transmission of the virus. This will be challenging in our studios.

She is developing a completely online schedule. The California State University system will be online for everything except labs and, in some cases, studio practices in the fall. We need to recognize that teachers with risk factors and students with vulnerabilities will need to stay at home.

Jen will be participating in a Webinar with chairs and faculty of dance, from several kinds of higher education institutions via National Dance Education Organization. She will also meet with a small group of people including Chase Angier and others around the country to share what people are doing. There is a lot that is unknown.

Jen will be scheduling annual meetings soon. She and asks that Yearly Activity Reports (YARs) be sent to her the day before your meeting.

Jen referred to the President Cauce's letter yesterday. It is focused more specifically about the medical field. Key points include determining who are essential faculty and staff. There is also a warning of budget cuts to come and that a hiring freeze has been established.

Alethea asked if it would it have been smart to not cancel so many classes? She recognized that this is a bigger conversation. Jen noted that the Dean has said we are the hardest working department in the arts. We did the right thing in that moment. She doesn't think it will hurt us in the long run. Summer will be a test for technique classes. Juliet suggested that it is important to think about this going forward. We should be mindful about how we schedule classes to balance showing what we can do without gutting the department or making us likely to be cut.

Jen is working on different scenarios for fall with Juliet.

Juliet reported that for summer, we are offering a bunch of online technique classes, but enrollment is low. We are doing a re-org of some of the classes. Please send the flyer for summer to all students who you've taught this year.

Faculty Topics

- End of quarter meeting/showing (Salk)
Jen asked what an online showing would look like. It could include the presentation of awards and scholarships and videos of student work. She will send a poll to ask what date would work best for students. Faculty agreed that Friday June 5 from 12:30-2pm or 4pm on Wednesday June 10th would work best.
- Fall schedule (McMains)
Juliet reported that things are really up in the air. Students have already started enrolling in classes. If in person, we are considering staggering start/end times of classes to reduce congestion in the hallways and locker rooms. Kevin Mihata has noted that we need to be able to accommodate students and faculty who have had exposures and need to self-quarantine. Please think about classes you are scheduled to teach for fall. Could you teach online, or would you prefer to sub a different course that could be taught online?

Jen suggested thinking about what other things the majors need. Maybe we teach fewer technique classes in fall and more academic courses that cover requirements.

Alethea noted that having a live musician with her online class on Tuesday was superior from previous classes.

We are planning to try live music this summer.

Juliet is developing a new course on dance and gender. She applied to be a Technology Teaching Fellow through the Center for Teaching and Learning to work on the course development. She will offer the class as a 490 this year, but it will be for all levels. Some dance experience is needed.

Kelly noted that there will be a lag time if we make changes to the time schedule due to their high workload and decreased staff.

- **Questions for EH&S (Salk)**

Jen reported that the Dean's office is helping us to get information. They've asked us to report back what are things we need and what do we have questions about? Faculty suggested the following:

- Help for cleaning? Who will clean? How should they be dressed?
- Who will keep the hallways clear and monitor flow?
- Is everyone required to wear masks? This can affect breathing.
- Who is going to monitor things and enforce wearing masks?
- How do we teach with masks on without microphones?
- Need clarity on how many people are allowed vs. what is wise? These can be different because we're moving around and breathing heavily.
- Is touch allowed? If not feasible, why would it be ok to touch floor, bars, etc.?
- How often do they need to be cleaned?
- Even if well-spaced, rolling across the floor would still be passing things.
- Being in an enclosed space is more dangerous.
- 6ft of physical distancing is more about perception to calm people down.
- Is there a way to add a window that opens in each room? Hannah asked every year for 10 years and got "no." Maybe there would be a different response now? Jen noted that we can ask.
- Will UW be providing hand sanitizer stations? Tom Burke and Sarah Wilke are working on this for Meany. Does this include the Dance studios and offices?
- What if students don't have access to masks? Who provides them? Should they be required for the course like books are?
- Would a plastic wall or cubicle make sense for instructors? Would UW pay for this?
- Should we consider dividing students into cubes?

Please send additional concerns/ideas to Jen by Monday who will report back to the Dean's office.

Silvio questioned if it makes sense to teach Capoeira online? The class is already full for fall. How can we keep the class good for students? He's currently teaching classes for Seattle public schools online, but they are younger kids. He's also teaching all classes online three days a week at the International Capoeira Angola Foundation. These students have been together for a 5-6 years and already have a good handle on the fundamentals. How would he teach beginners? He will brainstorm about online options and talk to Juliet more.

Departmental Updates/Announcements

Jen thanked everyone for all of the hard work that you are doing!

Agenda Items for future meetings

Nothing to report.