

Dance Department Meeting Minutes

11 March 2015

1:30 p.m.

Present: Jeff Hendrix, Kari Jensen, Pat Lefler, Lee Martino, Amy Nakamura, Karol Ritz, Michelle Shear

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Amy Nakamura at 1:34 p.m.

- **SLO's/PIE:** Amy reported that the dance department will be focusing its energy on 2014-2015 PIE report which is due at the end of June as well as inputting new SLO's in and running current SLO's. Amy encouraged faculty members to please submit the forms updating important dance department events, budgets and faculty achievements as well as any data from the courses we are currently running. She reminded faculty to keep in mind that budget requests need to be directly tied to PIE.
- **Budget:** Amy thanked the faculty for turning in music purchase requests, video purchase requests and classroom supply requests. She will be submitting the requests to Suzy this week. Karol submitted a budget report on the new Wunda chairs to Amy for the upcoming PIE report.
- **High School Outreach:** Amy thanked the faculty for participating in high school dance day! She noted that their hard work and fantastic classes were much appreciated. We had over 300 high school students attend due to the addition of the black box performance space. The two dance pieces performed were very well received by the high school students and faculty. Guest choreographer Leann Alduenda's piece was a good representation of our Repertory group and the Dance Team performance was a good representation for the High School students that are interested in going in that direction. We also felt that it was a great way to show that our dance students can balance both the Dance Team and our Repertory Company if they are driven.
- **American College Dance Association** Amy announced that the dancers have been hard at work preparing for the upcoming Dance conference and competition ACDA (formerly AC DFA). The Repertory company will attend and represent Mt. SAC with two group dance pieces, guest choreographer Leann Alduenda's piece and student Lenin Fernandez's piece. The faculty also suggested Ryan Hatanaka's piece for the informal showing. We feel these are a fantastic reflection of our dance program. The four days of classes and performances start on March 18th at Cal State Long Beach.

- **Curriculum/Certificates/AA Degree:** Karol announced that she will be meeting with Michelle Grimes Hillman and will be completing the changes to the locally approved certificate soon. Lee, Kari and Amy are meeting next month to discuss a potential locally approved Commercial Dance Certificate which would be ideal for students who are interested in working in the commercial dance field. They discussed that some of our students are already working in TV shows like Glee or are in Broadway shows or are Laker Girls. In addition, several of these students have kept in touch and are vocal about the great training they received at Mt. SAC as well as mentioning a few outside courses that were helpful in building skills in auditioning, acting, music for dancers and the business side of the industry. The faculty would like to look into whether we can create courses to fill in the gaps or look into other courses at Mt. SAC that may complete a certificate. Amy announced that she is still planning on taking the summer off from teaching in order to focus on the AA degree in dance. She is also still planning on amending the Dance Teacher certificate to add newly written courses. The Dance Teacher Certificate Advisory committee will be meeting in May.
- **Scheduling/Textbook orders:** Amy is currently working on proofing the first download of the Fall 15' schedule. She also reminded faculty that textbook orders for Summer will be due in mid April. Orders for Fall will be due at the end of May.
- **Dance under the Stars Choreography Festival:** Submissions for this festival are due May 1st. Faculty were encouraged to submit their pieces. This is one of our efforts to offer more performing and competing opportunities for our students and to one day have a touring company.
- **Academic Senate:** Amy reported news and updates from Academic Senate meetings.
- **Concert:** Amy and Lee reported that the Spring Concert has begun rehearsals and will have a screening on March 31st to determine which pieces are ready for the mainstage. All faculty are welcome in the screening process. Dates for this year's concert are May 15, 16, at 8pm and May 17th at 3pm.
- **Announcements:** The next department meeting will be on April 28th at 11am.

Adjournment 2:39 p.m.