

DRAFT  
Memorandum of Understanding

Department of Dance  
May 2017

This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the consensus reached by the Department of Dance, the College of the Arts, and the Division of Academic Affairs based on the recently conducted program review. It describes the goals to be achieved, and the actions to be undertaken by all parties to this MOU to achieve these goals, during the next program review cycle. Progress toward goals is to be addressed in the biennial report.

The Department of Dance completed its Accreditation report for the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) in 2013 and the site visit was conducted that year. The Department received its reaccreditation in 2013 with a promise of submitting a progress report in 2014 to address three issues, two of which concerned the Masters' programs in Dance and one of which concerned safety protocol.

The review identified specific strengths of the program including its "robust and discipline-centered" assessment of student learning. It also noted that despite having a high unit count upon graduation, undergraduate students were graduating well under 5 years. NASD specifically highlighted the department's efforts to respond to changes in the field to better prepare graduates for careers.

Issues identified by the current program review focused primarily on further developing the commitment to assessment, and in particular developing active, measurable outcomes at the undergraduate level. Additionally, the department has not engaged in meaningful assessment of their two graduate programs; the assessment that exists is for the Summer MA Program only and is felt to be overly reliant on the comprehensive examination and indirect assessment. The MFA program has been recently redesigned and reopened for admissions, but enough time has now past for a substantive assessment to be conducted. Another issue raised is that while students are graduating in a timely manner and with strong 4-year graduation rates, they are also graduating well above the 132-unit requirement for the major. The explanation for high unit counts is that required technique classes as well as performances add units.

It is therefore agreed that:

1. The department will continue to monitor enrollment and evaluate the effectiveness of curricular changes.
2. In consultation with NASD's Competency Index, the department will revise undergraduate learning outcomes language to be more direct and measurable, continue to assess those outcomes, and report on them according to the assessment schedule.
3. The department will implement direct assessment of student learning in the MA and the

MFA and report findings to the Vice Provost and Director of Program Review & Assessment according to the assessment schedule.

This MOU has been read and approved by:

Department Chair: Elizabeth Corp

Date: 2-17-2020

College Dean: [Signature]

Date: 2.19.2020

Vice Provost: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_