BYLAWS OF THE SCHOOL OF DANCE

Ratified by School of Dance Faculty Assembly on April 14, 2021

The Bylaws of the School of Dance are subject to the higher authority of regulations adopted by the Florida State University (University) under the University Constitution, the rules and regulations of the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) and the University Board of Trustees (BOT), the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the BOT and the United Faculty of Florida (UFF), and Florida and Federal Statutes. If any provision of these bylaws conflicts with such authorities, it shall not apply, but the other provisions shall continue in force and effect.

Other documents that codify University policies in specific areas and in greater detail include: The University Undergraduate, Graduate, and Faculty Handbooks, and the annual memorandum from the Office of the Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement regarding policies and procedures for Faculty Promotion and Tenure.
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ARTICLE 1. Purpose, Implementation, and Revision

Section 1. Purpose: The Faculty Assembly of the School of Dance (Faculty Assembly) has created these bylaws to facilitate the effective and efficient governance of the School of Dance (School) in fulfilling its current, stated mission.

Section 2. Implementation: These bylaws shall become effective when approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Faculty Assembly.

Section 3. Periodic Review: In every year ending in 5 or 0, a special review committee appointed by the Chair shall review and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Faculty Assembly for amendments to these bylaws.

Section 4. Amendments to the Bylaws: During any academic year, proposed amendments may be presented to a regular or special session of the Faculty Assembly for information and preliminary discussion and placed on a future agenda for a vote. The Chair shall make a proposed amendment available in writing to the voting membership at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the vote is to be taken. The Chair shall make reasonable efforts to provide amendments to members of the Faculty Assembly who are not in residence at the time of discussion, and to allow those members to vote by absentee ballot.

To be adopted, a proposed amendment must receive an affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority of the Faculty Assembly. In the event of an emergency, a proposed amendment may be adopted at the same meeting in which it is presented if a quorum is present and if the proposed amendment receives an affirmative vote by a three-fourths majority of the members present.

The specific dates upon which these bylaws have been amended are incorporated into these bylaws as Appendix 3.

ARTICLE 2. Faculty Assembly and Meetings

Section 1. Membership: The authority of the School shall reside in its voting membership, hereafter referred to as the Faculty Assembly. Membership in the Faculty Assembly shall consist of faculty in tenured, tenure-earning, and specialized faculty positions.

Section 2. Regular Meetings: At a minimum, the Faculty Assembly shall meet monthly during the regular academic year. Dates and times of meetings shall be established by the Chair at times free from conflicting School classes and other activities.

Section 3. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Faculty Assembly may be called by the Chair or on written request to the Chair from three voting members of the Faculty Assembly at any time during which faculty are under contract. Meetings shall not be held during holidays as defined by the CBA. The Chair will schedule the meeting at a time free from conflicting School classes and other activities. The Chair may request a meeting of the Faculty Assembly during the Summer semesters if the Chair deems that the need is urgent and immediate.

Section 4. Supervision of Meetings: The Chair shall normally preside at meetings of the Faculty
Assembly. In the absence of the Chair, another member designated by the Chair shall preside. If a designate is not assigned by the Chair, the Faculty Assembly may elect an alternate meeting facilitator by majority vote.

**Section 5. Agenda:** The Chair shall invite submissions, including faculty requests for participation by others, for the meeting agenda in advance. The Chair shall distribute the agenda at least one day before the meeting. Agenda items may be added during the meeting with the approval of a majority of the members attending. Faculty members who are unable to attend a meeting at which matters of major importance are discussed may provide their input to the Chair for inclusion.

**Section 6. Participation by Others:** The Chair may invite and recognize non-members to address the Faculty Assembly, but these attendees shall not vote. Student representatives chosen by their graduate or undergraduate advisory councils may request permission or be invited to address the Faculty Assembly to present topics of special interest. Other invited participants may include visiting faculty, adjunct faculty, staff, students, consultants, and advisory board members.

**Section 7. Quorum:** A simple majority of the entire Faculty Assembly will constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Faculty Assembly. No policies or business requiring a vote shall be enacted without a quorum.

**Section 8. Motions and Voting:** Individual Faculty Assembly members may introduce motions during an appropriate agenda item (or during new business). To be carried, each motion must be seconded, discussion must be allowed, and a vote must be conducted according to the voting privileges established in these bylaws. Motions may be passed by a simple majority (i.e., more than one-half of those voting), except where a specified higher standard is required by these bylaws.

Excluding matters relating to the consideration of tenure, all members of the Faculty Assembly shall have the right to speak and vote in Faculty Assembly and in committee meetings. Only tenured and tenure-track faculty may vote on matters relating to the consideration of tenure.

**Section 9. Minutes:** The Chair shall arrange for the taking of minutes at each meeting of the Faculty Assembly, and these minutes shall be made available within ten working days of each meeting.

**ARTICLE 3. School Chair**

**Section 1. Purpose:** The Chair shall be the chief administrative officer for the School, conducting the business of the School with efficiency and dispatch. The Chair shall collaborate with the faculty in upholding and promoting the mission, vision, strategic plan, and bylaws of the School of Dance.

**Section 2. Liaison:** The Chair, or a representative designated by the Chair, shall serve as the liaison for the School to other departments, schools, colleges, universities, and organizations.

**Section 3. Program Review and Strategic Plan:** The Chair, in collaboration with the faculty, shall conduct all required and discretionary program reviews. Required program reviews include the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) and the Florida Board of Governors’
Quality Enhancement Review (QER). Resulting program review reports will be made available to the Faculty Assembly. The Chair, in collaboration with the faculty, shall lead the development, implementation, and annual review of the School’s strategic plan.

Section 4. Faculty Handbook: The Chair shall ensure that the School of Dance Faculty Handbook is updated and made available to faculty each year.

Section 5. Faculty Development and Advocacy: The Chair shall mentor and guide the faculty in preparation for promotion and/or tenure and administer the review process. The Chair shall foster faculty professional development, including research and creative investigations and advocate for faculty on matters of college, university, state, and national concern.

Section 6. Annual Evaluation of Faculty: Using the standards established by the Office of Faculty Development and Advancement, the Chair shall evaluate all faculty annually. As part of these faculty development responsibilities, the Chair shall provide all faculty members who have not yet reached the highest rank in their position classification a progress toward promotion letter. The Chair shall submit merit determinations to Dean of the College of Fine Arts annually based on recommendations from the Promotion and Tenure Committee.

Section 7. Academic Programs and Faculty Duties: The Chair shall coordinate the academic program(s) of the School. Accordingly, in consultation with the faculty, the Chair shall be responsible for assigning faculty duties in a fair and equitable manner. The Chair shall be responsible for preparing and submitting the annual Assignment of Responsibilities form for each faculty member.

Supplemental summer teaching appointments will be offered to qualified faculty through an equitable rotation system as outlined in CBA Article 8.5 (b) following the Chair’s request for faculty teaching preferences. The Chair’s decisions on courses offered will be based on programmatic needs, student demand, and budget availability.

Section 8. Budget: The Chair shall be the chief financial officer for the School. The Chair shall prepare an annual budget and authorize all regular expenditures. The budget will be reflective of the mission statement and the strategic plan devised by the Faculty Assembly. At the end of each fiscal year, the Chair shall provide an annual financial report to the Faculty Assembly. The Chair shall make every effort to be transparent by making reports, budgets, and expenditures available for faculty review.

Section 9. Selection of the Chair: The Chair is appointed by, and serves at the behest of, the Dean. The School Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Faculty Assembly, may make recommendations to the Dean regarding membership of any search committee and contribute to the development of the official job description. The Search Committee may make a formal nomination to the Dean, accompanied by a vote of confidence generated by the Faculty Assembly.

Section 10. Annual Evaluation of Chair: The annual evaluation of the Chair is conducted by the Dean. The School Advisory Committee, representing the Faculty Assembly, may extend to the Dean recommendations or concerns pertinent to the Chair.

Section 11. Appointment of Other Officers and Committees: The Chair may appoint other
officers to assist in the performance of official duties, provided such individuals are willing to assume the designated responsibilities. These officers serve at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair may appoint other committees as are deemed necessary to assist in the operation of the School.

ARTICLE 4. Committees with Elected Membership and Service

Section 1. Advisory Committee: The Advisory Committee shall serve in an advisory role to the Chair. Advice may be requested by the Chair or offered by the committee as appropriate. The Advisory Committee also serves as a liaison between faculty, staff, and the Chair when anonymity is desired.

The Advisory Committee shall be elected from the tenured faculty at the first faculty meeting of the academic year by secret ballot. The committee shall consist of three (3) faculty members serving staggered appointments of two years to ensure continuity. During odd years, one (1) will be elected; during even years, two (2) will be elected. The School Chair shall not be a member of the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee elects its own chair who shall conduct meetings of the Committee.

Section 2. Curriculum Committee: The School Curriculum Committee shall consider all issues related to course and program development and facilitate curricular changes appropriate to the mission of the School. The committee shall review, develop and refine courses, curricular policies, procedures, and requirements at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Recommendations by the Curriculum Committee require approval by the Faculty Assembly.

The membership of the Curriculum Committee shall consist of the undergraduate and graduate degree program directors and two (2) members elected from the faculty at large to serve two (2) year terms. The committee shall meet at least twice a semester, and more frequently if needed.

Section 3. Promotion and Tenure Committee: The Promotion and Tenure Committee has responsibility in matters of promotion, tenure, and merit. This includes reviews of progress toward promotion and/or tenure, as well as official votes on promotion and tenure. This committee shall follow the policies and procedures as set forth by the school, college, and university in the University Faculty Handbook, the CBA, and memoranda from University administration.

The committee is charged with ensuring the currency of the School’s promotion and tenure criteria. Any changes made to the criteria must be approved by a simple majority of the Faculty Assembly prior to adoption. Faculty in the promotion and/or tenure-earning process have the option of using the criteria specific to their date of hire or current criteria.

The School of Dance Promotion and Tenure Committee shall consist of six (6) members of the Faculty Assembly with the majority being tenured during their time of service. Membership will include either five (5) tenured faculty members or four (4) tenured faculty members and one (1) tenure-track faculty member serving staggered appointments of two years to ensure continuity. Only one tenure-track faculty member may serve on the Promotion and Tenure Committee at any time. Membership will also include one (1) specialized faculty member, who will serve a one-year term. New members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee shall be elected annually prior to the final faculty meeting of the fall semester, for service in the following calendar year. All members

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may be elected to serve consecutive terms. The Chair of the School will not be eligible for election to this committee.

Members of the committee shall not have interest in either promotion or tenure during the years of service to the committee. If an elected member is unable to serve, an election to replace that member for the remainder of their term shall be held during the next possible faculty meeting.

As noted in Article 2, Section 8, excluding on matters relating to the consideration of tenure, all members of the Faculty Assembly shall have the right to speak and vote. All committee members may vote on matters before the committee relating to merit and promotion. Only tenured and tenure-track faculty may vote on matters before the committee relating to the consideration of tenure. Voting on matters relating to the consideration of merit, promotion, and tenure shall be by secret ballot.

Section 4. Representatives to the College of Fine Arts Promotion and Tenure Committee: The School of Dance Promotion and Tenure Committee will elect a tenured member of the committee, as needed, to serve as a school representative to the College of Fine Art (College) Promotion and Tenure Committee. The representative’s term will be determined by the College.

Section 5. Representatives to Faculty Senate: If requested by the College, the Faculty Assembly shall elect representatives to the Faculty Senate per University and College guidelines.

ARTICLE 5. Promotion, Tenure, Sustained Performance, and Merit Procedures

Section 1. Evaluation and Review of Faculty: The evaluation and review of faculty is governed by the CBA and these bylaws. The School’s promotion and tenure criteria are incorporated into these bylaws as Appendix 2.

As per Article 4, Section 3 of these bylaws, the Promotion and Tenure Committee shall conduct annual reviews of progress toward promotion and/or tenure of all tenured, tenure-track, and specialized faculty who have not yet reached their highest rank. At the conclusion of the annual review, the committee shall provide an assessment of a candidate's progress and make recommendations to the Chair for promotion or tenure.

As per Article 3, Section 3 of these bylaws, following review by the Promotion and Tenure Committee, the Chair shall conduct annual evaluations of all faculty and provide an annual letter of progress toward promotion and tenure. These annual evaluations will be referenced for Sustained Performance Increase eligibility.

As per the CBA, Assistant Professors hired July 1, 2019 or later shall receive a tenure review in their third year. Assistant Professors hired before July 1, 2019 and who have not yet had a second-year review, may choose between a second and fourth year set of reviews or a third-year review. Assistant Professors hired before July 1, 2019 and who have already had a second-year review shall have a fourth-year review.

Section 2. Merit: The distribution of merit pay within the School of Dance shall be determined by the CBA Article 10.4 and based on meritorious performance (i.e., performance that meets or
exceeds the expectations for the position classification and department/unit—as evidenced in the review materials provided by the candidate). Distinctive levels of merit that reflect differences in performance will be determined by the Promotion and Tenure Committee’s rating of each member of the faculty, excluding the Chair, based on these documents. The Promotion and Tenure Committee’s reviews and blind ratings will be based upon:

a. The individual’s contributions to achieving the School of Dance mission and upholding the School of Dance core values.

b. The individual’s contributions to the field of dance and related arts (allowing for areas of specialization).

The Promotion and Tenure Committee will submit to the Chair individual blind ratings for each faculty member. Based on the ratings, the Chair (or administrative staff person designated by the Chair) will generate a faculty ranking. Distribution of merit pay shall be based upon these rankings. Any deviations from the order of the ranking are governed by CBA Article 10.4 (d).

The Chair will be considered for merit by the Dean’s office, unless directed otherwise by University administration.

**ARTICLE 6. Faculty Governance**

Section 1. Recruitment of New Faculty: Faculty shall be recruited using procedures that comply with the guidelines of the University’s Office of Faculty Development and Advancement and relevant accrediting agencies. The Chair may directly appoint short-term faculty members but shall appoint a committee of representative faculty to recruit all faculty whose appointments will last longer than one semester. Tenure-earning and other permanent faculty appointments must be approved by the Faculty Assembly.

Section 2. Faculty Involvement in Substantive Unit Reorganization: The development and approval of substantive unit reorganization shall be determined by majority consent of the Faculty Assembly.

Section 3. Graduate Faculty Status: Criteria for appointment to Graduate Faculty Status shall satisfy the criteria specified by the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School and be included in the School of Dance Faculty Handbook.

**ARTICLE 7. Substantive Change Policy**

Faculty and staff members are expected to be familiar with and to follow the University Substantive Change Policy, as posted on the Florida State University web site.
APPENDICIES

APPENDIX 1. Mission & Core Values

The mission of the Florida State University School of Dance is to provide an environment conducive to the highest caliber of dance training, art making and scholarship. Our approach encourages fluidity between the processes of making art, honing craft and deepening intellectual explorations. We cultivate the individual creative voice with exposure to diverse technical and philosophical approaches. Such an environment nurtures exceptional dance practitioners, allows us to make creative and intellectual contributions to the larger dance community, and fosters collaborative endeavors within and beyond our field.

Core Values
- Guided by former Chair Dr. Nancy Smith Fichter’s motto, “Do it with love,” we honor past legacies, current practices, and future possibilities.
- We support the whole person through integrated, humane, rigorous education to encourage self-sustaining, lifelong learning and development.
- We value respectful dialogue while grappling with ongoing complexities of working across differences.
- We cultivate innovative artist-scholars who engage in critical thinking, articulate making and doing, and integrated practices fueled by curiosity.
- We believe perseverance is fundamental to process-oriented creative research and support methodologies that involve both risk taking and rigorous planning.

APPENDIX 2. Promotion and Tenure Criteria

Criteria for Promotion and Tenure
The School of Dance
Florida State University
Ratified by the School of Dance Faculty Assembly on December 7, 2016

The School of Dance promotion and tenure criteria will be reviewed by the school promotion and tenure committee annually.

I. The School of Dance shall follow those provisions and criteria delineated by the Board of Governors, the University and the BOR-UFF agreement. A compilation of these policies is found in Section 5: Faculty Development of The Florida State University Faculty Handbook.

II. The School of Dance shall follow the University Criteria for promotion and tenure, as stated in Section 5 of the Florida State University Faculty Handbook.

Among the three areas of teaching, scholarly or creative activity, and service, evidence on scholarly or creative activities is more difficult to judge. Over the years the promotion and tenure committees have normally looked for evidence related to national (or international) standing. For promotion to Associate Professor, the expectation has been that the candidate clearly is becoming recognized
nationally as a scholar or creative artist in a field; for Professor, it has been that the candidate now has become so recognized. Of course, the evidence for this standing is different in different fields. The FSU Constitution seeks to accommodate the variety of disciplinary practice throughout the range of academic fields among the faculty by requiring that the University Promotion and Tenure Committee have at least one representative from each independent college.

III. This document provides an overview of the standards and other considerations for promotion and tenure in the School of Dance. The School of Dance faculty engages in scholarly and creative work; both are equally valued in promotion and tenure considerations. This document includes suggestions for how all activities might be factored into tenure and promotion considerations.

The following is a list of sample activities in the areas of teaching, service and creative/scholarly activity that the School of Dance deems appropriate for promotion to the ranks of assistant professor, associate professor, and professor, and to the awarding of tenure. These examples are not meant to be an exhaustive, nor a requisite, list but to serve as guiding principles. The relative ranking of the various activities will be unique to each faculty member’s specific domain of expertise. The chairperson’s letter and the candidate’s statements will explain the relative standing of the accomplishments for each candidate.

The Dance faculty has three caveats for this document:

a) The criteria we list below for promotion and tenure are based on the assumption that teaching and service assignments are such that faculty may participate in research and creative activity at a level reflective of a Tier I institution. The relative importance of teaching, service, and creative/scholarly activity will be considered in relationship to the percentage of effort assigned to each category in the candidate’s annual assignment of responsibilities.

b) It is assumed that the School of Dance Promotion and Tenure Committee will be comprised of members who collectively reflect the diverse perspectives of the school faculty as a whole.

c) Training dance professionals requires the integrated effort of a team of dance professionals. The Dance faculty, perhaps more than other university faculties, expects to work collectively to serve our school mission, students, and field. An individual faculty member’s contribution to this collective effort will be reflected in our committee’s evaluation of the professional record.

Scholarly and Creative Activity

As a Tier I institution, Florida State University and its School of Dance expects its faculty members to be among the best of their peers. In evaluating each candidate for promotion and/or tenure, the School of Dance shall consider the quality and quantity of the work, including its significance to the candidate's domain of expertise. The percentage of scholarly and creative research will vary according to a candidate’s particular area(s) of expertise and to their written job description and assignment of responsibilities. Scholarly and creative work are equally valued in promotion and tenure considerations, as is research that combines these two approaches in novel ways.

The School of Dance defines research broadly, reflecting the unique and comprehensive nature of the discipline. Consequently, our school embraces a multifaceted view of research that includes creative activity as well as more traditional methods of investigation. Scholarly and creative work
is made public (published) in many forms, including performance, print, electronic media, and presentations.

Examples of research and creative activity for the purposes of tenure and promotion follow. The relative importance of the activities varies by domain of expertise and will be addressed, along with the quality of the work, in the chairperson’s letter.

Evidence of work in progress, for example manuscript copies and readers’ reports, may be submitted with other materials during the promotion and tenure review process; however, the evaluation will focus primarily on works published or accepted for publication.

**Category 1: Creative Activity**
A candidate whose efforts include creative activity should present accomplishments of high quality comparable to those expected of scholarly research. Creative activity should indicate that the candidate has achieved significant recognition within the respective field/genre. Creative activity includes, but is not limited to, choreography, directing, performance, dramaturgy, production, design, and reconstruction.

Examples of creative activity for the purposes of tenure and promotion:
- Commissions/invitations to create or set work in respected venues.
- Live performances.
- Performance documentation and original dance video works.
- Reconstructions and stagings of masterworks, historical recreations.
- Participation on conference panels and symposia.
- Invited speeches or work in area of creative expertise.
- Significant creative activity in the international, national, regional, or local community.
- Artistic direction of masterworks or commissioned choreography.
- Curating concert series, dance festivals, and organizing conferences.

**Category 2: Publications**
- Scholarly book-length publications such as critical studies or major critical editions (for example, a collection of original translations or works). Editions are considered “major” when they include a substantial introduction, annotation and critical apparatus.
- Major collections (for example, anthologies of scholarly or creative works) or scholarly journals edited by candidate. Editions are considered “major” when they include a substantial introduction, annotation and critical apparatus.
- Articles in refereed or highly selective outlets: journals.
- Edited books, juried electronic sources, or conference proceedings.
- Subsequent editions of scholarly books.
- Guest editing a special issue of a major scholarly journal.
- Entries in encyclopedia; book reviews; and interviews of major figures published in professional journals.
- Appointment to editorial board of major scholarly journal or referee for a major press.
- Media documentaries or creative works.
- Reviews, citations of scholarly work, adjudicated peer review.
• Newspaper and magazine articles, professional newsletters, and new media outlets.

**Category 3: Presentations**
• Invited research lectures or creative presentations at national or international venues.
• Creative residencies, workshops, and lecture demonstrations.
• Peer reviewed research presentations or workshops at well-regarded conferences.
• Participation in conference roundtable discussions or panel respondent.

**Category 4: Awards, Grants, and Recognitions**
• Receipt of a major national or international grant or fellowship.
• Visiting research appointment at other universities; professional award for scholarship.
• Published reviews, citations and adjudicated peer reviews of the candidate’s work.
• University grants, fellowships, and awards for scholarship.
• Prizes and/or awards.

**Assessment**
Criteria to be used to assess scholarship and creative activity may include, but are not limited to:
• The originality and quality of scholarly products, as indicated by such criteria as publication in journals employing referees, or working with publishers who submit manuscripts for editorial review, etc.
• The originality and quality of creative activity as indicated by venue, selection process, commission, independent peer reviews, and/or documented critical reception.
• The originality and quality of accomplishments involving both scholarly and creative activity in an integrated manner.
• The potential of scholarship and creative activity to stimulate new developments in the field.

**Teaching**
The School of Dance expects candidates to provide evidence of high quality instruction and to contribute substantially to its teaching mission. In evaluating the quality of each candidate's teaching, the school will consider the candidate's teaching portfolio on the basis of the following:
• Effective collaboration in the school’s efforts to train dance professionals.
• Teaching experience, including the candidate’s philosophy of teaching and an assessment of effectiveness, and a complete chronology of courses taught.
• Course materials.
• Participation on honors, MA, PhD and/or MFA committees, especially as directing or major professor.
• Mentorship of MFA, MA, and BFA projects.
• Student evaluations, approved by the Faculty Senate, such as SUSSAI, SPOT and/or SPCI.
• Extra or special teaching responsibilities, such as Supervised Research, Directed Individualized Study (DIS), Honors, or Gordon Rule; overseeing internships and apprenticeships.
• Award of, or nomination for, teaching and/or advising recognition.
• Development of new courses and/or materials.
• Receipt of grants for developing new courses, materials or curricula.
• Participation in professional development workshops, conferences, and seminars.
• Unsolicited letters from students and peers.
• Pre-professional development activities for students such as workshops, mock interviews, etc.
• Advising responsibilities.

Service
Service to the university, the community, and the profession is an expectation of all faculty members to a greater or lesser degree, depending upon assigned responsibilities. Service may include administrative duties, committee memberships, recruitment, coordinating performances, serving as officers in professional organizations, organizing conferences, coordinating residencies, and/or providing lectures, performances and instruction to internal or external groups. Criteria include: participation in school functions and events, a professional attitude toward carrying one’s share of the service responsibility, and responsiveness to public and administrative inquiries.

Promotion to Full Professor
In general, the procedures to be followed for promotion to full Professor are the same as those specified above for consideration for the award of tenure and promotion to associate. However, the indicators of excellence (see Scholarly and Creative Activity) shall be substantially developed and recognized at a national or international level. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate outstanding teaching and sustained participation in professional life, including a record of significant involvement in regional and national organizations and in school, college, and university committees.

APPENDIX 3. Amended Bylaw Dates

10/1/08
4/20/11
9/19/12
8/18/15
12/7/16
04/14/21