

Program Performance Review: Culmination Meeting Memo
Department of Theatre and Dance
Dance BA

The 2024-2025 Program Performance Review (PPR) process for Dance BA program in the College of the Arts (COTA) concluded with a culmination meeting on October 3, 2025. Please note that the Dance BA program is accredited by National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) and thus submitted NASD reaffirmation materials in lieu of PPR documents.

The following people attended the meeting: Amir Dabirian (Provost), Sean Walker (Deputy Provost), Greg Childers (Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies and General Education, AVPUSGE), Dave Mickey (Associate Dean), Kathryn Wilson (Department Chair), Alvin Rangel-Alvarado (Vice Chair), Lisa Draskovich-Long (Program Coordinator), and Su Swarat (Senior AVP for Institutional Effectiveness and Planning, SAVPIEP).

The Provost congratulated the program for completing the NASD reaffirmation process and commended the program for being a long-standing signature program for the university. The program's high quality has made CSUF a first-choice destination for dance students. The following specific accomplishments were highlighted during the PPR process:

- The program and its mission align with the institution's values and emphasize a clear commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and student success.
- There is a collaborative atmosphere among the faculty and strong leadership, which ensures stability, contributes to positive morale, and supports the program's success.
- The faculty bring diverse strengths and professional experiences that enhance the curriculum and learning environment.
- The program has a strong community presence, particularly with high schools, where students and faculty engage with prospective students and community members.
- Students feel supported by faculty, the program, and various resources offered; Students and faculty have a strong sense of community with the program.
- The facilities are well-maintained, and the program offers innovative experiences to students.

Major recommendations and issues raised through the PPR process were discussed as follows:

1. Administrative processes:

- The external reviewer recommended the program to consider developing various administrative processes to support the program, such as onboarding and mentoring for new tenure-track faculty, long-range planning, and a new set of By-Laws that define future administrative support roles (i.e., Associate Dance Executive).
- The Chair clarified that currently the Program Coordinator takes on the role of the Dance Executive, a term used by NASD. A 3-unit reassigned time is provided to this role.
 - The Program Coordinator shared that the current arrangement is not enough to ensure year-round support for all students. A lot of advising takes place over the summer. As such, stipends for approximately 30 hours/week for 3 faculty are needed.
 - The Provost acknowledged the need and agreed to work with the Dean to determine possible ways to support.

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- The Chair also reported that the By-laws have been developed and approved by the faculty and are currently being reviewed by the Dean before finalizing.
2. Enrollment growth:
- The external reviewer recommended the program to develop strategies to increase enrollment and retention of students.
 - The Program Coordinator reported that the program enrollment has been increasing, and shared that the hiring of the new faculty member (focused on hip hop) is bringing new changes to the curriculum that may attract more students.
 - When inquired about room for growth, the Program Coordinator stated that there are no capacity issues at this point. NASD requires 20-25 students per class, which translates to 80-100 students in the program.
 - o The Associate Dean shared that if classes are fully staffed and run all day long, 108 would be the maximum.
 - o The Chair suggested that more access to KNES classrooms would help provide the dance studio space needed for the classes, and asked whether classes could be scheduled at the Rec Center.
 - o The Provost asked the program to send him specific space requirements so he can look into classroom conversion or renovation possibilities, as well as explore collaborations with the Rec Center.
3. Curriculum expansion:
- The external reviewers recommended the program to add breadth to the program's course offerings and to expand the audition process and experiences to include various practices and dance forms.
 - The Program Coordinator reported that new changes have already been submitted through the Curriculog; The AVPUSGE offered to provide support for any curriculum changes, and the Deputy Provost suggested the possibility of collaborative opportunities for course building with other departments/programs.
 - The Program Coordinator shared that the newly hired faculty are making significant contributions to the curriculum expansion, and will continue to seek ways to expand (e.g. would like a faculty member for African diaspora).
4. Faculty support:
- The external reviewers recommended the program to work with the Dean's Office to identify budgetary support for faculty research and service, particularly when these activities conflict with teaching.
 - The Program Coordinator clarified that faculty often had to cover the replacement cost (i.e., to cover the classes) when research, service, or recruiting activities conflict with teaching.
 - o The Provost acknowledged this issue and agreed that faculty should not be paying for such expenses. He encouraged the program to include these costs in IRA

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proposals and consider hiring lecturers to “substitute” for the classes when needed.

- The Provost also shared that the university is looking into streamlining IRA funding so that departments do not have to submit proposals every year for proposals that routinely receive funding.

The Provost concluded the meeting by thanking the program faculty and the department and college leadership. He encouraged the program to follow the continuous improvement spirit and further enhance the value and impact of the program.