MEMORANDUM

TO: George Davis, Provost and Executive Vice-President
FROM: Jory Hancock, Director
School of Dance
RE: MFA in Dance

As you are well aware, our recent APR/NASD Review resulted in a number of recommendations, one of them being that our graduate degree be elevated to a free-standing program, rather than an option within the M.F.A. in Theatre Arts. At present, the degree is officially listed as an MFA in Theatre Arts with a Dance emphasis.

That recommendation was based on the following acknowledgments:

1. That the Dance Division should be elevated to a free-standing unit. You have supported this notion, and as you know we are now the School of Dance.

2. That an additional faculty line be assigned to Dance in order to support the graduate program. You have supported this concept as well, with funds from your office, and we have been able to hire an exceptionally qualified individual to help us with recruitment/retention and curricular issues in the graduate program.

3. That, in practice if not on paper, the coursework for graduate students in dance is already being supported entirely by dance faculty. Only rarely are other faculty used to teach any of the courses taken by dance students working towards an MFA.

Given these conditions, we are moving forward with the first phase (permission to plan) required to create the MFA in Dance. This memorandum will be included in the paperwork being submitted for that first phase.

Your continued support is appreciated and has allowed us, in this planning document, to predict that no additional resources will be required in order to create the MFA in Dance.

Cc: Dean Hovgan, Graduate College