

Dance, Department of

Increase Recruitment Of Exceptionally Well-Qualified Students

Goal Description:

Through targeted recruitment of students from fine arts high schools and studios identified as providing high quality training, we will increase enrollment of very well prepared and talented students. Without increasing total enrollment in the BFA program, we will continue to raise the bar on admission standards.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS-----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Develop Camp For High School Students

Performance Objective Description:

Offer a two-week summer intensive camp for students aged 13-18. Students will study with SHSU dance faculty while experiencing the college atmosphere. Undergraduate and graduate SHSU dance majors will be chaperones and rehearsal directors. The workshop will culminate with a fully produced concert in our dance theater. The camp will create the kind of personal connections we have found most important in successful recruitment.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Students Subsequently Audition For The BFA In Dance At SHSU

KPI Description:

High school students attending our summer camp will have increased interest in our BFA program. We will track the number of camp attendees who audition.

Results Description:

After three years of running the Summer Dance Intensive (SDI), a strong connection is clear between participation as a high school student and admission to the BFA. Approximately 15% of those attending the SDI since summer of 2015 have been admitted and enrolled in the BFA program.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Continue to promote Summer Dance Intensive

Action Description:

- Continue to support the summer dance intensive.
- Develop promotional materials that can be distributed readily to studios, high schools, etc.
- Extend audition dates and locations (beyond single audition held on SHSU campus) for greater convenience and effect.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Faculty Will Actively Recruit Students

Performance Objective Description:

Faculty will pursue opportunities to teach master classes and create choreography at identified high schools and studios. They will also follow up by contacting, through email and phone calls, students we wish to recruit.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Enrollment from targeted schools did not increase

KPI Description:

Audition forms indicate students' high school and dance training. In the fall 2016 semester, we will review the records of those students enrolled and determine how many are from the targeted schools. Over the last decade, we have successfully recruited on average 1-2

students from these "elite" schools each year. Some increase in enrollment would justify continuing to expend resources targeting elite schools.

Results Description:

There was not an increase in enrollment from the targeted schools, despite offering more generous scholarships to more students. We enrolled three students from Booker T Washington, two on scholarship. One could not return after fall due to insurmountable economic roadblocks. From HSPVA, the only student we admitted who wished to come was not admitted to the university.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Revise admissions criteria

Action Description:

We continue to focus recruitment at performing arts schools. In 2017-18, focus will be with Houston School for Performing and Visual Arts.

- 1. The new director of the dance program at HSPVA is supportive of building relationship with us. (The former director was definitely not interested.)
- 2. A residency is scheduled in late August 2017 for an SHSU dance faculty member to create work on the HSPVA dancers, to be performed in the fall at the high school campus theater.
- 3. We are working on logistics for the work created at HSPVA to be performed as part of our concert on campus at SHSU.
- 4. We have invited a faculty member from HSPVA to create work on our students, to be part of the Spectrum concert here, and possibly to be presented at HSPVA.

Promote Regional, National And International Creative Activities For Faculty And Students In The Department

Goal Description:

The Department will continue to encourage and support the creative projects of faculty and students in reputable venues, whether those be in the local community, in the region, on the national level, and internationally.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Support Logistics Of Travel For Faculty And Students

Performance Objective Description:

Dance faculty frequently create choreography using students of the department for part or all of the cast. Travel expenses are thus incurred not only for the faculty but for the students as well. We have supported faculty and students to present their work in New York, Dallas, Houston, and Washington, D.C., among other cities. The department is committed to securing funds to support such endeavors.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Fund Faculty Research

KPI Description:

Faculty submit their research plans for the academic year. The department establishes budgets for on-campus production expenses, and estimates expenses to be incurred for travel. All faculty and graduate students are eligible for funding, depending on the projects proposed and the financial resources available.

Results Description:

The department funded creative work for on-campus productions Dance Spectrum in both fall and spring semesters. Presenting work off campus requires support for student casts as well as for the choreographer Funds were also allocated to present faculty work in The Dance Gallery (New York, NY) and in the American College Dance Association Conference. Graduate students in the MFA program received funding to support presentations of their work at the Boston Contemporary Dance Festival.

Funds were requested and granted from both the College Office and the Office of Graduate Studies.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Continue to promote creative research

Action Description:

The department will continue to support faculty and student research as available funds allow. Thus far, available funds have met faculty's requests. We anticipate that requests will exceed funds available in 2017-18. The faculty will determine how to address this issue: whether to fully fund fewer, prioritized projects, or to give less funding per project. Faculty will continue to seek outside funding for presentation of their work.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

1. CONTINUE SUMMER CAMPS
2. TARGET "SECOND TIER" GROUP FOR RECRUITMENT
3. DEVELOP RECRUITMENT PLAN FOR MFA PROGRAM
4. REVISE SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT POLICY
5. IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR FACULTY TRAVEL AND RESEARCH

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

1. CONTINUE SUMMER CAMPS

The third summer dance intensive camp was completed on Friday, June 23, 2017. 20 campers participated, a slight decline from the previous year.

In AY15, the camps netted \$6,000. In AY16, \$10,000. Goal for AY17 is at least \$10,000 after expenses. Final numbers are not yet available, but appear to be similar to AY17.

B. Camps are potentially an excellent recruitment vehicle.

In 2016, three freshmen admitted to the BFA had attended the Summer Dance Intensive. 4 freshmen admitted for 2017 attended the Intensive either in 2015, 2016 or 2017.

No formal means of tracking applications, auditions, or admissions was implemented to determine how many former campers apply for admission to the BFA program.

2. TARGET "SECOND TIER" GROUP FOR RECRUITMENT

Faculty participated in the recruitment events in Dallas through the Booker T. Washington School for Performing and Visual Arts.

Stronger relationships are being developed with the High School For the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston due to changes in the dance program's faculty at HSPVA. Four of our faculty taught master classes for seniors in both fall and spring semesters. Scholarships were offered to 13 students, of whom 3 have accepted our offer and have been admitted to SHSU; one wished to come but was not admitted to the university; and the remaining 9 declined.

The faculty chose not to invest in participation in the National High School Dance Festival due to lack of results in the previous years, as well as because the schedule did not coordinate with faculty members' responsibilities on campus.

Attempts to contact a magnet high school in Austin, McCallum, were not successful.

3. DEVELOP RECRUITMENT PLAN FOR MFA PROGRAM

In response to recommendations from external reviewers of the graduate program conducted in Spring of 2016, the department prioritized enrollment of students receiving undergraduate education from schools other than SHSU, and students who have been out of school and in the profession for some period of time.

Two MFA candidates began studies in the Spring 17 semester, with three more beginning in fall 17. None earned undergraduate degrees from SHSU. Three have significant experience in the field after completion of the BFA degree.

4. REVISE SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT POLICY

The strategy for awarding scholarships was not significantly altered due to lack of consensus by the faculty. Resources already committed to students were retained at the same level. New scholarship offers were made to 25 students, of whom 11 accepted and are admitted; 6 began application process but either did not complete the applications or were not admitted; and 8 confirmed they were not applying to SHSU.

5. IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR FACULTY TRAVEL AND RESEARCH

A. Two faculty applied for NEA grants to support projects. Pending official confirmation, the faculty were successful.

B. Faculty traveled to Massachusetts and New York, and in July will travel to Italy with support from the Office of Graduate Studies.

C. The Office of Graduate Studies, via COFAMC, supported grad travel/studies to Paris, Utah, New York, and Boston.

D. The budget and its allocation for AY16 was similar to that of AY15. No additional funds were requested or needed beyond those provided by the department or requested through the College.

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Plans for 2017-18

Closing Summary:

AY17 Action: Begin process of accreditation with NASD (National Association of Schools of Dance).

Dance department has applied and requested scheduling by review team. A team of reviewers are confirmed for on site visit in Fall semester 2018, date to be determined.

AY17 Action: Complete self-study for the NASD (National Association of Schools of Dance) accreditation process. Faculty members will be assigned responsibility for aspects of documenting the self-study.

AY17: Link faculty responsibility within NASD self study to ongoing responsibilities for maintaining the annual assessment for the BFA, MFA, and department strategic plans as recorded in CampusLabs (or other platforms that may be used in the future).

AY17: Increase responsibilities of current adjunct PhD to support research of graduate students. These responsibilities could include: serving/ chairing thesis committees; teaching research methods; developing rubrics or other instruments to assess aspects of the thesis process not currently captured.