TO BE ADOPTED:

The Riverside Division of the Academic Senate approves the proposal for an MFA degree in Dance as described in the attached documents received in the Graduate Division in February, 2000.

JUSTIFICATION

The MFA graduate program in Dance will be administered by dance department faculty from the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. The MFA degree in Dance will provide advanced education in research methods in experimental choreography. In addition, the degree offers an interdisciplinary context for the study of dance through close cooperation with the Ph.D. in Dance History and Theory. Drawing on the resources of the Ph.D., the MFA program constructs the opportunity for highly motivated choreographers to conduct both experimental research in dance and an assessment of contemporary issues in dance aesthetics, history, and culture. The focus of this program is the making of experimental, cutting-edge choreography that challenges cultural assumptions about the body and provides a critical and reflective perspective on stereotypic images of corporeal identity. It prepares students to create radical new visions of what a body can be and how it can move. It pursues the possibility of integration of scholarly studies of dance with artistic studies in choreography.

The proposal has been examined by the following committees of the Academic Senate: Graduate Council, Planning and Budget, Educational Policy, and Library. The proposal has the approval of the Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Werner G. Kuhr, Chair
Graduate Council

Enclosures: Program Proposal (including memos of support)
Memos from the above mentioned Academic Senate committees

Supporting documents are available for review in the Academic Senate Office