

## APPENDIX F

### **Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Dance Studies at Appalachian State University**

#### **Introduction**

Appalachian State University requests authorization to establish a BA in Dance Studies (CIP 50.0301) effective August 2007.

#### **Program Description**

The proposed BA in Dance Studies has the following educational objectives: 1) to expand the dance offerings from a minor to a BA degree, and, 2) to serve the needs of dance students with the following interests: those who wish to pursue graduate work in Dance Choreography and Performance or a related field such as Dance Therapy, Expressive Arts, or Arts Management; those who wish to teach dance in a community or an academic setting; those who wish to dance professionally; and those who wish to pursue dance as an avocation. Students will be guided to integrate cross-disciplinary course work from other disciplines, and they will be encouraged to integrate their dance studies major with their minor area of study. The Department of Theatre and Dance seeks to provide a model collaborative learning environment while emphasizing integrated learning through creative thinking, innovative problem solving, skill development, and related technologies. The proposed major would be unique among dance programs offered in NC in that it requires students to explore an integrated, collaborative relationship between chosen areas of Dance and an outside field.

#### **Program Need**

With over 900 students enrolled in dance classes each year, there are over 60 students with dance studies as a minor and significant student interest in establishing a major. As part of ASU's vision to provide "a liberal arts education that emphasizes the fine arts," and "to serve as a center of cultural and professional activity," ASU has created a number of programs and facilities that the BA in Dance Studies will complement along with the existing majors in Art, Theatre, and Music. The program will contribute to a co-curricular production program maintained by ASU that provides exemplary theatre and dance experiences to departmental students, the university community, and the region. It is anticipated that 25 full-time students will be enrolled in the program by its fourth year.

#### **Resources**

Funding has been provided to renovate reallocated studio and office spaces for dance, and much of this work was completed this year. ASU has three full-time dance faculty and six part-time faculty, and the coursework for the proposed major is almost completely developed.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a BA in Dance Studies at Appalachian State University effective August 2007.