

Illinois State University
School of Theatre
(Approved, 10/24/03 by the School's Faculty and Director.)
School Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Membership
Criteria to Attain Full and Associate Graduate Faculty Status

Introduction

This document is a revision of the October 1992 Criteria and has been updated to:

- Coordinate with recent revisions at the Graduate School for Graduate Faculty Membership;
- Reflect that dance is now an integral part of the school's academic and artistic mission;
- Ensure that School of Theatre faculty understands the expectations for Graduate Faculty Status.

For graduate faculty status, faculty in the School of Theatre are expected to have an appropriate terminal degree (usually a doctorate or M.F.A.) in their area of specialization.

Notes:

- Non-tenure track faculty are eligible for either associate or full membership on the Graduate Faculty.
- Faculty are eligible to be appointed to either associate or full membership on the Graduate Faculty *upon hire*.

Full Membership Criteria

Faculty members who are Full Members may perform all functions and responsibilities enumerated in the Graduate School By-Laws, Article 4, Section 3.c. and on the Graduate School's "Nomination Form." Recommendations for Full Membership on the Graduate Faculty by the School of Theatre shall be based upon documentation of the quality and quantity of the following:

1. Professional performance/production activities such as choreography, playwriting, directing, acting, design, and consultation services.
2. Articles, papers, reviews in professional journals and magazines or in comparable Internet Web Sites. Books or book chapters, other than self-published. Funded grants and fellowships are considered in this category.
3. Accomplishments in the realm of web development, arts technology, or other technology-based professional efforts.

Note: faculty are expected to have strong credentials in #1, #2, or #3, but all. However, an appropriate combination of documented activities from #1, #2, and #3 shall be evaluated as requested.

4. Evidence of successful graduate level teaching. Specifically, this criterion would include successful teaching at the 300 level (if the courses are available for graduate credit), 400 and 500 levels. Evidence could include independent studies, theses, professional practice, or the equivalent level courses at another institution. The range of evidence is broad and may include authoring textbooks, manuals, software, etc. Evaluations of teaching by graduate students, assessments by the SFSC, unsolicited comments from former students are helpful. Syllabi, "course packs," course-related web sites, and other documentation directly related to instruction or pedagogy are key documents. Course or program development or revision activities will also be considered.
5. Evidence of service on graduate committees (e.g., MFA portfolio) is an additional criterion that will be considered.
6. Administrative, leadership, or other contributing positions with discipline-based professional organization (from state-wide to international) are another form of documentation.

Below are examples of the kind of professional activities that will be assessed:

- Chairing, panel membership, or organizational responsibility for workshops or symposiums at professional meetings, conventions, or theatre/dance festivals.
- Adjudicating productions for state, national, or international theatrical/dance organizations (e.g., American College Theatre Festival).
- Creating, advising, consulting, or evaluating state or national standards in theatre or dance.
- Completing post-terminal certificates or degrees in the discipline.
- Serving on the board of an off-campus, independent, commercial, non-profit, or education theatre or dance organization.
- Receiving special honors, recognitions, or citations from university or off-campus professional organizations for special achievement in teaching or artistic endeavors.
- Receiving grants, fellowships, or externally funded stipends in a competitive program.
- Editorial contributions to professional publications.
- Leading or participating in collaborative productions or scholarly projects.
- Supervision of graduate students as teaching or graduate assistants.

Associate Membership Criteria

Those faculty who are not yet qualified by experience and accomplishment for Full Membership still can make major contributions to the School of Theatre and the Graduate Faculty. While Associate Membership does not carry with it the full range of responsibilities as does Full, Associate Members are eligible to teach graduate courses, serve on theses or dissertations committees, co-chair theses and dissertation committees.

The primary criterion in the School of Theatre for Associate Membership is an earned terminal degree. Drawing from the above list of criteria for Full Membership, applicants for Associate status are encouraged to provide as much relevant information as possible, but in most cases the School will endorse an application for Associate Membership based on the earned academic degree.

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