

## **Dance Department**

**October 1, 2019**

Kate Corby, Chair

Collette Stewart, certificate adviser and instructor

Liz Sexe, certificate instructor

### **Below is a response to the Recommendations for the Pilates Certificate Review**

The underlined is the recommendation.

**There is either an ACTION or Response in bold.**

#### **1: New Course Work and Current Initiatives**

The review committee recommends reevaluating course descriptions.

**ACTION:** We will reevaluate the course descriptions to better highlight how the course content can be valuable to diverse populations and connect to other course content in and outside of the Dance Department.

The review committee recommends merging Equipment I & Equipment II in the spring semesters.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION:** Merging Equipment I & II has been approved by the Dance Department faculty. The courses will be merged using the Equipment I course number (136) which will be changed to a two-credit course to accommodate the increased content. Stewart will take care of this change by October 31.

The committee suggests starting a cohort every year.

**ACTION/DISCUSSION:** To run a cohort every year will require an additional 50% hire for the Pilates Certificate and another course release for Stewart's administrative responsibilities. If the sequence is offered every year it will provide more flexibility for our Dance majors and help with retention, as well as potentially double enrollment, going from 10-15 to 20-30. This could take effect as early as 2021.

We have begun discussion on these changes and the faculty is generally enthusiastic about the possibilities. We would need to increase Pilates class offerings by one-three credits each semester, including summers. The cost of the new hire would be partially covered by the increased revenue received through the additional summer course. The Dance Executive Committee will consider potential benefits to the department and vote on changes in the coming months.

#### **2: Student Experience**

The committee recommends better exit data collection.

**ACTION:** Collette Stewart and Liz Sexe have begun collaboration with Dance Department administrative staff to develop an exit survey and a plan for alumni data collection.

The committee recommends scheduling more anatomy within the Functional Anatomy course and increase the credits to two. This recommendation is in line with student feedback.

**ACTION:** The certificate is already at 20 credits - increasing the Anatomy course to two credits would require lowering the credits of another class. One idea would be to change Dance 376 Teaching I to a two-credit course from a three-credit course. We believe we can still cover the necessary content in a lower credit course. We can transfer some material from 376, including seeing/teaching practical anatomy, into the Anatomy course as well.

This change was approved by the Dance Department faculty and Stewart will implement the course changes by the end of the academic year.

The committee also suggests future recruitment efforts, including working with the school's new Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion.

**ACTION:** The Pilates Certificate instructors will connect with the Dr. Charleston to discuss how Pilates can be shared with a broader community. **ALSO SEE RECOMMENDATION 4 for growth here.**

### **3: Graduate Student Research and Collaboration**

The committee recommends creating a 131 program certificate to serve external audiences. They were interested in this program being accessible to the Kinesiology and Physical Therapy graduate students. In addition, they recommended collaboration with Kinesiology graduate student research.

**Response:** We discussed creating a 131 certificate program and potential benefits for external audiences. At this point, structuring the program to accommodate these students would be a drain on resources and the costs would outweigh benefits. Also, the Dance Department uses the Pilates Certificate as a recruitment tool for BS and BFA candidates - it is an important piece of our undergraduate curriculum built into a tight 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM weekday schedule. It would not be feasible to simultaneously offer a daytime and a weekend/evening program. Lastly, taking into account private-sector competitors, it is unlikely that our program costs would be financially attractive to non-UW students.

**Response:** We are open to collaborating with other units but have little administrative infrastructure to be leaders on future partnerships.

#### **4: Social Media and Marketing**

The committee suggests a stronger online presence, including a social media push, for the Pilates Certificate. Also, the committee recommends collaborating with Education Academic Services and Cross College Advising Services on recruitment.

**ACTION:** We are eager and excited for the launch of the School's new website and will make sure the Pilates Certificate is visible on our site..

**ACTION:** The Pilates Certificate Students take pride in their work. We will collaborate with Dance Department staff and Pilates Certificate students to create a social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc.

**ACTION:** We will contact Education Academic Services and Cross College Advising Services to ensure information about the Pilates Certificate is accessible to advisers. Most students find the Pilates Certificate as Dance Kinesiology majors, but the program could definitely be of interest to a broader range of majors.