

Ellen Gerdes

Curriculum Vitae October 2022

Temple University, Boyer College of Music and Dance

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Philadelphia, PA 19121

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Culture and Performance, Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA, 2021.

Dissertation Title: Choreographing “One Country, Two Systems”: Dance and Politics in (Post)Colonial Hong Kong

Dissertation Committee: Susan Leigh Foster (chair), Anurima Banerji, Daphne Lei, Sean Metzger, Janet O’Shea

Graduate Certificate, Urban Humanities, UCLA, 2015.

Ed.M., Dance, Department of Dance, Temple University, 2009.

B.A. with High Honors, Dance, Department of Dance, Wesleyan University, 2005.

TEACHING EXPERTISE

Dance Cultural Studies, Dance History, Dance Pedagogy/Education, Contemporary Dance Technique, Composition, Improvisation, Moving Voice, Embodying Pluralism, Introduction to Dance, Dancing Democracy and Social Movements, Asian Intercultural Performance, Chinese Dance Praxis, Choreographing Chineseness in Sinophone Cities, Global Dance Traditions.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2022 Gerdes, Ellen, and Yining Lin. “Toward Demarginalization: Navigating Chinese Dance and Movement in the US Higher Education.” *Journal of Dance Education*.

2020 Burton, O. Cowgill, Vanessa Perez, Ellen Gerdes, Anusha Sadd, Courtne Ly, Wendelin Slusser, and Angelia Leung. “Get up, Stand Up, Stand up for your Health! Faculty and Student Perspectives on Addressing Prolonged Sitting in University Settings.” *Journal of American College Health* 69, no. 2 (2020): 198-207.

2017 Gerdes, Ellen. “Persistence in Pedagogy: Teaching Failure, Empathy, and Citation.” *Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association* 6, no. 2 (Winter 2017).

2015 Gerdes, Ellen and Teresa VanDenend Sorge. “Building Humans and Dances: Exploring Cultural Relevancy as Teaching Artists.” *Journal of Dance Education* 15, no. 2 (2015): 72-76.

2013 Gerdes, Ellen. “Eclectic Lessons from Taiwan: Hard-Working Dancers at Tsoying High School.” *Journal of Emerging Dance Scholarship* 1, no. 1 (2013): 1-35.

2010 Gerdes, Ellen. “Shen Wei Dance Arts: Chinese Philosophy in Body Calligraphy.” *Dance Chronicle* 33, no. 2. (2010): 231-250.

2009 Kolcio, Katja and Ellen Gerdes. “Faking it: The Necessary Blind Spots of Understanding.” *Cultural Studies: Critical Methodologies* 9, no. 2 (2009): 559-569.

2008 Gerdes, Ellen. "Contemporary Yangge: The Moving History of a Chinese Folk-Dance Form." *Asian Theatre Journal* 25, no.1, (Spring 2008): 138-147.

Book Chapters

2016 Gerdes, Ellen. "Mediated Meditations: Choreographies of Shen Wei and Kun-Yang Lin." In *Contemporary Directions in Asian American Dance*, edited by Yutian Wong, 145-173. Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 2016.

Published Book Reviews, Conference Proceedings, and Essays

2017 Gerdes, Ellen. "Toward a Transnational Understanding of Chinese Dance." Review of Review of *Chinese Dance: In the Vast Land and Beyond*, by Shih-Ming Li Chang and Lynn E. Frederiksen. *Dance Chronicle* 40, no. 2 (2017): 217-220.

2017 Gerdes, Ellen. "i-Dance: Tradition, Technology, Memory, and Presence." *dance journal/hk* 19, no. 1 (2017).

2015 Gerdes, Ellen, Jenny Yu, and Noah Zaccaglini, "Shanghai Still Life, Urban Humanities: Producing Knowledge on the Megacity." *Urban China Magazine* 72 (October 2015): 74.

2013 Gerdes, Ellen. "Dancing Diaspora: Chineseness as a Moving Concept." Review of *Kinesthetic City: Dance and Movement in Chinese Urban Spaces*, by SanSan Kwan. *Dance Chronicle* 36, no. 3 (2013): 386-391.

2013 Bond, Karen and Ellen Gerdes. "Student performance in a Dance-Based Humanities Course at 'Diversity U.'" *World Dance Alliance/Dance and the Child International Conference Proceedings*, edited by Susan Stinson and Charlotte Svendler Nielsen (2013):1-9.

2010 Gerdes, Ellen. "Shen Wei Dance Arts: Contemporary Dance and Chinese Identity" *SAGAR: A South Asia Graduate Research Journal* 19, (2010): 1-10.

2009 Gerdes, Ellen. "The Role of Technique in Dance Education: the Example of Tsoying High School, Taiwan." *Congress on Research in Dance Global Perspectives on Dance Pedagogy: Research and Practice Conference Proceedings*, edited by Tresa Randall (2009): 216-227.

HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Positions

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA: Visiting Assistant Professor, current.

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA: Adjunct Assistant Professor, current.

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA: Artist-in-Residence, Summer 2022.

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA: Adjunct Faculty, Dance, 2009-2013, 2021-2022.

University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC: Lecturer, Dance, 2021.

University of California, Los Angeles, CA: Teaching Fellow (instructor of record), 2017-2019.

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA: Adjunct Assistant Professor, Dance, 2011-2013.

Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ: Adjunct Instructor, Dance, 2010.

Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA: Lecturer, Dance, 2010.

Graduate Courses

Educational Inquiry: Sp'22.

Concepts of Culture: Sp'21, Sp'22.
 Educating Dance: F'21, F'22.
 Research Methods in Dance: F'21, Sum'21, Sum'22.
 Teacher Preparation in World Arts and Cultures: Sp'19, Sp'18, Sp'17.
 Teaching Assistant Seminar: F'18, F'17, F'16.

Undergraduate Studio Courses

Beginning Modern/Postmodern Dance: Sp'18.
 Theories and Methods in Dance Composition: Movement Languages: F'18.
 Teaching Assistant with Cheng-Chieh Yu
 Theories and Methods in Dance Composition: Locations: W'15.
 Teaching Assistant with Ann Carlson
 Global Dance Traditions (Chinese dance emphasis): Sp'12, F'11, F'10.
 Foundations of Dance Pedagogy: Sp'13, F'12, Sp'12, F'11.
 Embodying Pluralism (gen-ed): F'11, Sum'11, Sp'11, F'10, Sum'10, Sp'10, F'09, Sp'09.

Undergraduate Courses (major and non-major)

Ways of Knowing Dance: F' 22.
 Dancing Cultures: F' 22.
 Choreographing Chineseness in Sinophone Spaces: F, 22.
 Choreographers and Choreographies, Dance History: F'21.
 Chinese Performance in Sinophone Cities (writing intensive): W'17.
 Making Meaning in Dance (writing intensive): F'12.
 American 20th Century Dance History (writing intensive): Sp'11.
 Dance Appreciation (writing intensive): Sp'13, Sp'12, Sp'11, Sum'10, F'10.

Guest Teaching

Vocal and movement improvisation, Moving Voice class, UCLA: Sp '21.
 Improvisation, Democracy and Social Movements in Asia class, Wesleyan University: F '20, Sp' 22.
 Dance education, Taipei Physical Education College, Taipei, Taiwan: Sum'12.
 Chinese Mulan Shanzi fan dance, Muhlenberg College: SP'13, Bucknell University: F'09.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2020 Selma Jeanne Cohen Award for Graduate Student Paper, Dance Studies Association.
- 2017 Mellon Foundation, Mellon Summer School for Theater and Performance Research, "Research, Pedagogy, Activism," invited participant, Harvard University.
- 2016 World Arts and Cultures/Dance Chair's Discretionary Fund Award, UCLA.
- 2015 School of Arts and Architecture Fine Arts Trust Award, UCLA.
- 2015 World Arts and Cultures/Dance Chair's Discretionary Fund Award, UCLA.
- 2014 World Arts and Cultures/Dance Chair's Discretionary Fund Award, UCLA.
- 2008 Who's Who Among Students Award, Boyer College of Music and Dance, Temple University.
- 2007 Emerging Scholars Award, Association for Asian Performance.
- 2004 Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, Wesleyan University.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020 University Fellowship, UCLA.
2018 University Fellowship, UCLA.
2017 Collegium of University Teaching Fellowship, UCLA.
2016 International Institute Fieldwork Fellowship, UCLA.
2015 Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship: with mentor, Susan Leigh Foster, UCLA.
2014 Urban Humanities Initiative Student Research Grant, Mellon Foundation, UCLA.
2014 Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Fellowship: with mentor, Janet O'Shea, UCLA.
2013 University Fellowship, UCLA (2013-2016).
2011 Professional Development Funding, Pew Center for Arts and Heritage: Dance Advance.
2011 Professional Development Funding, Pennsylvania Council of the Arts.

DANCE/VOCAL TRAINING

Chinese Dance Training, 4 years.

Chinese Classical Dance, Er-Dong Hu, Bucknell University; Fangfei Miao, UCLA.
Chinese Yangge and Mulan Shanzi (recreational dance forms), Beijing, China.
Chinese Conservatory Folk Dance, Shanghai Theater Academy, Shanghai, China.
Beijing Opera Movement, Li Shuyuan, Philadelphia, PA.

Modern Dance/Improvisation Training, 10 years.

Katja Kolcio, Susan Lourie, Wesleyan University; Phil Grosser, Merian Soto, Temple University; Laurel Jenkins, Ros Warby, UCLA; Germaine Ingram, Leah Stein, Ann Carlson.

Vocal Training, 8 years.

Priscilla Gale, Caruso technique, Wesleyan University;
Robert Een (former Meredith Monk collaborator), extended vocal technique, UCLA.

Pilates Training, 15 years.

DANCE/VOCAL/IMPROVISATION PERFORMANCE

Company Member

Leah Stein Dance Company, 2009-2013.

Select Works

2017 *From Above: Looking Down*, Gwyneth Shanks, Materials and Applications, site-work, Los Angeles, CA.
2017 *Improvisation Land*, Y-Space, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Hong Kong.
2015 *Symphonic Body*, Ann Carlson, Royce Hall, UCLA.
2015 *Plastic*, Maria Hassabi, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA.
2014 *First Hand*, Ros Warby, Faculty Concert, Kaufman Hall, UCLA.
2014 Chinese Cultural Dance Club Performance, Royce Hall, UCLA.
2013 *Battle Hymns*, Leah Stein with Volti, and San Francisco Choral Society,

Kezar Pavilion in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA.

2013 *Where Heaven's Dew Divides*, Germaine Ingram, Kimmel Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2013 *Untitled Prairie Dance*, Laura Vriend, Faculty Concert, Bryn Mawr College.

2012 *Undercurrents*, Marion Ramirez and Jung Woong Kim, Dance Space Project: St. Marks Church, New York, NY.

2012 *SoMos*, Merian Soto, site work in West Kensington parking lot, Philadelphia, PA.

2012 *Ornamentations*, Loren Groenendaal, WaxWorks, Triskelion Arts, Brooklyn, NY.

2012 *Beyond the Bones*, Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers, Painted Bride Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2012 *Leah Stein Dance Company 10th Anniversary Concert*, Performance Garage, Philadelphia, PA.

2011 *Ties That Bind: Bearing Fruit*, Jennifer Morley, Painted Bride Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2011 *One Space/Three Dances*, Jung Woong Kim and Marion Ramirez, Mascher Space Coop, Philadelphia, PA.

2011 *Tribute*, Danny Yung, Li Shau Kee School of Creativity, Hong Kong.

2011 *Japan House/Philadelphia*, Leah Stein, Shofuso Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 *In a Small Space*, Jessica Warchal-King, Community Education Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 *Branch Solo*, Merian Soto, Global Dance and Music Concert, Temple University.

2010 *Art in the Open Philadelphia*, Leah Stein, Schuylkill Banks, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 *Mill Tones*, Leah Stein, Rittenhouse Town Historic Paper Mill, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 *The Hollowed Square*, Anna Drozdowski, Community Education Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2009 *In Retrospect: A Concert of Appreciation*, Leah Stein, Susan Hess studio, Philadelphia, PA.

2009 *Of Grass and Gravel*, Leah Stein, The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, Philadelphia, PA.

2009 *Battle Hymns*, Leah Stein Dance in collaboration with Mendelssohn Choir, 23rd St. Armory, Philadelphia, PA.

2008 *Urban Echo: Circle Told*, Leah Stein in collaboration with Mendelssohn Choir and Pauline Oliveros, The Rotunda, Philadelphia, PA.

CHOREOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

Select professional, university, and K-12 concerts

2022 *Attune: Rehearsing Philadelphia*, rehearsal director for Ann Carlson, Cherry Street Pier, Philadelphia, PA.

2019 *Drinking Alone Under the Moon: duet for bass/baritone (text by Li Bai)*, Faculty Composers Spring Concert, Schoenberg Hall, UCLA.

2015 Chinese dance, Chinese Cultural Dance Club, Royce Hall, UCLA.

2013 Creative dance, teaching and choreography for student show, Koresh Kids, Koresh Dance Company Outreach program (4th-5th grade), Philadelphia schools, PA.

2012 Creative dance, teaching and choreography for student show, Koresh Kids, Koresh Dance Company Outreach program (4th-5th grade), Philadelphia schools, PA.

2012 Chinese dance, teaching and choreographing for student show, Folk Arts and Cultural Treasures Charter School (K-8th grade), Philadelphia, PA.

2012 Chinese dance and modern dance, teaching and choreographing for student show, Friends Central Upper School (9th-12th grade), Wynnewood, PA.

2011 Creative dance, teaching and choreography for student show, Koresh Kids, Koresh Dance Company Outreach program (4th-5th grade), Philadelphia schools, PA.

2011 Chinese dance and modern dance, teaching and choreographing for student show, Friends Central Upper School (9th-12th grade), Wynnewood, PA.

2011 *Operation: Plastic Makes Perfect: Two Women's Experience with Scoliosis*, co-choreographed and co-performed with Teresa VanDenend Sorge Koresh Artist Showcase, Blossom Performance Garage Series, and Studio 34, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 Creative dance, teaching and choreography for student show, Koresh Kids, Koresh Dance Company Outreach program (4th-5th grade), Philadelphia schools, PA.

2010 *I love it when you sing to me*, Movement Research: Open Performance, New York, NY.

2009 *Rain Lilies*, Inhale Performance Series at Chi Movement Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA.

2009 *Wheeling Expanse*, Community Education Center, Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Philadelphia, PA.

2009 *Phoenix*, Global Dance and Music Concert, Temple University.

2006 *Iolanthe*, Gilbert and Sullivan Musical, semi-professional International Festival Chorus, Shanghai, China.

INVITED TALKS

2021 "History of US Dance Education: from the 'Natural' Body to the Symbolic Body," guest lecture, Beijing Dance Academy, China (online), April.

2009 "Shen Wei Dance Arts: Chinese Philosophy in Body Calligraphy," guest lecture, Mansfield Freeman Center for East Asian Studies, Wesleyan University, Middletown CT, February.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

2022 "Performing Heritage and Innovation: Danny Yung's Curation of Avant-Garde Kunqu," Shanghai Theater Academy, online, October.

2022 "Dancing Post-One Country Two Systems: Censorship in China," Dance Studies Association, online, October.

2021 "In Pursuit of Socially Just Pedagogy," National Dance Education Organization, online, October.

2021 "Taking to the Streets: Choreographing Instability and Semi-autonomy in post-1997 Hong Kong," Dance Studies Association, Rutgers University, October.

2021 "Like a Bird on a Wire: Dancing Activism in Post-'One Country, Two Systems' Hong Kong," Association for Asian Performance, online, August.

2020 "Selma Jeanne Cohen Award Panel," Dance Studies Association, Digital DSA forum, online, October.

2020 "i-Dance Festival: Improvising 'One Country, Two Systems' in Post-1997 Hong Kong," Association for Asian Performance, online, August.

2018 "Contact in Hong Kong: Duetting and the Politics of Return," American Society for

Theatre Research forum, San Diego, CA, November.

2018 "Freudian Shifts: Gender Fluidity on the Contemporary Hong Kong Stage," Association for Asian Performance, Boston, Massachusetts, August.

2017 "Scalar Shifts: From Kunqu Bodies to Hong Kong's 'One Country, Two Systems,'" Society of Dance History Special Topics Conference: Dancing East Asia Critical Choreographies and their Corporeal Politics, Ann Arbor, Michigan, April.

2016 "Curricula and Politics: Rehearsing Chineseness at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts," Association for Asian Performance, Chicago, IL, August 2016.

2016 "Envisioning Hong Kong's Future: Post-90s Occupy the Stage and Streets," Association for Theater in Higher Education, Chicago, Illinois, August.

2015 "Choreographing 'One Country, Two Systems': Protest as Performance in Hong Kong," Sinophone Onstage: New Voices & Discourses in Chinese Theater & Performance Studies, Taipei, Taiwan, October.

2014 "Collaboration and Tangibility in Hong Kong: Danny Yung's Experimental Kunqu," Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Boise, ID, October.

2014 "Kun-Yang Lin's One/Gifts from Afar," Performance Studies International, Shanghai, China, July.

2013 "On-stage and in the Archives: Contemporary Kunqu in China," Congress on Research in Dance/Society of Dance History Scholars, Riverside, CA, November.

2012 "Performing 'One Country, Two Systems': Experimental Kun Opera in Hong Kong," Congress on Research in Dance, Albuquerque, NM, November 2012.

2012 "Student Engagement and Achievement in a Dance-based Humanities Course at 'Diversity U,'" with Karen Bond, Dance and the Child International/World Dance Alliance, Taipei, Taiwan, July.

2012 "Chinese Dance and Beijing Opera Ensembles at the Folk Arts Cultural Treasures School," Society for Dance History Scholars, Philadelphia, PA, June.

2011 "An Urban Echo: Philadelphia Dance and Choir Connections," Congress on Research and Dance and Society of Ethnomusicology, Philadelphia, PA, November.

2011 "Choreographed Meditation: The Dance Works of Shen Wei and Kun-Yang Lin," Association for Asian Performance, Chicago, IL, August.

2010 "Embodying Pluralism: A 21st Century Design for Dance in Higher Education," National Dance Education Organization annual conference, Phoenix, AZ, October.

2010 "Roots and Wings: Origins and Innovations of Chinese Dance in Philadelphia," World Dance Alliance/Dance Critics Association, New York City, NY, July.

2009 "The Role of Technique in Dance Education: the Example of Tsoying High School, Taiwan," Congress on Research in Dance Special Topics Conference, DeMontfort University, England, June.

2009 "Embodying Pluralism-Dancing Diversity," World Dance Alliance-Americas General Assembly, Madison, WI, May.

2008 "Shen Wei Dance Arts: Contemporary Dance and Chinese Identity," Texas Asia, University of Texas at Austin, October.

2007 "Contemporary Yangge: The Moving History of a Chinese Folk-Dance Form," at the Association for Asian Performance, New Orleans, LA, July.

Panels Organized/Chaired

2021 “Theatre and Performance—Hong Kong,” invited moderator for panel by Rashna Nicholson, Joanna Mansbridge, and Soo Ryon Yoon, Association for Theater in Higher Education, online, August.

2021 “Choreographing Identity and Dissent in Chinese and Sinophone Performance,” organized panel with Yujie Chen, Yining Lin, and Emily Wilcox, Association for Asian Performance, online, August.

2014 “thINKingDANCE: Experimental dance writing in Philadelphia,” organized panel with Ellie Goudie-Averill, Megan Bridge, and Lynn Matluck Brooks, Congress on Research in Dance/Society of Dance History Scholars, University of Iowa, November.

Discussant

2021 *Global Conversations*, Featured Artist: Danny Yung, Illuminations Author and Artist Series, UC Irvine, online, organized by Daphne Lei, May.

2018 “Act 14: Revolution NOW: Radical Pedagogy in and Beyond the Classroom” roundtable discussion with Patricia Ybarra, and Jessica Pabon, Association for Theatre in Higher Education Performance Studies Focus Group, Boston, Massachusetts, August.

2016 “The Future of Asian American Dance Studies,” roundtable discussion organized by Yutian Wong, Congress on Research in Dance/Society of Dance History Scholars, UC Riverside, November.

2014 *National Dance Education Organization Dance 2050: The Future of Dance in Higher Education*. Symposium by invitation, Wesleyan University, May.

2012 *National Dance Education Organization Dance 2050: The Future of Dance in Higher Education*. Symposium by invitation, Temple University, May.

CAMPUS TALKS

2016 “Re-interpreting Tradition: Avant-garde Kunqu in Hong Kong,” Taiwan Studies Annual Lectureship Workshop, UCLA, January.

2012 “Performing ‘One Country, Two Systems’: Experimental Kun Opera in Hong Kong,” Dance Reflection/Response Lecture Series, Temple University, November.

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2020 Research Assistant, for Tria Blu Wakpa, Assistant Professor of Dance Studies at UCLA, literature review for research on indigenous dance in North America.

2017/ Graduate Student Researcher, Move Well Pod, Healthy Campus Initiative, social science survey and focus group research, UCLA.

2015 Staff, Philadelphia Folklore Project, oral history interviews with 10 Chinese artists in Chinatown, conducted in Mandarin Chinese, Philadelphia, PA.

2010 Graduate Research Assistant, for Karen Bond, Chair of Dance at Temple University, for *Journal of Dance Education* article entitled “Graduate Dance Education in the United States: 1990-2010.”

2007 Research Assistant, for Katja Kolcio, Associate Professor of Dance at Wesleyan

University, for manuscript entitled *Movable Pillars: Organizing Dance*.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Member, Selma Jeanne Cohen Award Committee, Dance Studies Association, 2022-present.

Member, Anti-Racism Committee, Association for Asian Performance, 2021-present.

Graduate Student Representative, Association for Asian Performance, 2017-2019.

Reviewer, *Dance Chronicle*, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2022.

Reviewer, *Journal of Dance Education*, 2018, 2020, 2021.

Reviewer, *International Association for the Study of Popular Music*, 2021.

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Committee member, Graduate Representative, Collegium of Teaching Fellows Faculty Advisory Committee, UCLA, 2017.

Reviewer, Undergraduate Admissions, World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA, 2015, 2017.

Committee member, Graduate Representative, Faculty Executive Committee, School of Arts and Architecture, UCLA, Fall 2015-Spring 2017.

Committee member, Healthy Campus Initiative Steering Committee, UCLA, 2015-2017.

Committee member, Arts in Education: Provost Seed Grant Committee, Temple University, 2010.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Move Well: Healthy Campus Initiative, grant writing, budget management, project management, networking with diverse audiences, digital literacy, UCLA, Spring 2015-Spring 2017.

LANGUAGES

English: Native

Mandarin Chinese: Conversationally Fluent

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Asian Performance

Dance Studies Association

National Dance Education Organization

REFERENCES

Karen Bond, Chair of Dance, Temple University

kbond003@temple.edu

Susan Leigh Foster, Distinguished Professor of World Arts and Cultures/Dance, UCLA

slfoster@arts.ucla.edu

Daphne Lei, Head of Doctoral Studies, Department of Drama, UC Irvine

dlei@uci.edu