

June 13, 2012

Dear Professor Chapel:

This letter is in response to your request for an assessment of Colleen Kelly's accomplishments in the field of movement education for tenure at the associate professor level and "to provide feedback on the quality and significance of the candidate's scholarship to the discipline."

Professor Kelly submits an enormously varied array of activities: including original choreography, directing, and the creation of newly devised work in an extensive variety of disciplines, in both academic and professional settings; fight choreography, research, and administrative experience. The activities themselves represent continuing engagement as a creative artist and leader in her field.

Professor Kelly continues to enjoy a very active professional life as an actor, director, fight director and dance choreographer for theatres such as American Shakespeare Center, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Denver Center, Milwaukee Rep, Dallas Theatre Center, The Old Globe, and La Jolla Playhouse. Film credits include dance choreography for the feature film, *Sommersby*, and fight direction for the PBS series, *Tell About the South*. She is a Founding Board Member of the Association of Theatre Movement Educators; a past Vice-President of the Society of American Fight Directors; AEA (Actors Equity Association).

I have observed Professor Kelly as a teacher and as the Chair/Coordinator of numerous workshop presentations; as a panelist presenting papers related to one of her areas of expertise, or to her own continuing inquiry; in association meetings; and as an advisor/teacher as she coached my own efforts in the implementation of a workshop format that she had created and developed and most importantly as one of the recent Presidents of ATME. Her insightful leadership continues to guide our organization to new levels of expansion and expertise.

She has presented and performed at venues in a variety of regional and national theatre venues. These associations indicate that Professor Erickson's services as a director, creator of new work, and fight coach and movement director are widely sought and that he is developing a distinguished professional reputation outside of his home institution.

Professor Kelly stands at the highest levels of movement education and artistry. She is an Association of Movement Educators, ATME, Founding Board Member and wrote the original by-laws for the newly established

organization and shepared/arranged for the incorporation. She has served as ATME President and received the ATME Service Award for her continued commitment to the organization and the field of movement education and artistry. She most recently chaired the Promotion and Tenure Committee (perhaps you could note the document is linked to ATHE) <http://atmeweb.org/resources/ATMEFinal.pdf> and revised and updated these critical documents. In my experience Professor Kelly's contributions as an innovator, leader, master teacher and artist are unparalleled.

I would submit that Professor Kelly imminently qualified as a member of a select coterie of artist/teachers who have built a respected international reputation with significant accomplishments in all areas of faculty activity. In her career she has demonstrated that the candidate is an avid learner, artist/teacher and respected professional within her field. She would most certainly meet the criteria for tenure and promotion to the rank of Professor at my own institution.

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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(If you are willing to write such a letter, could you send it to me as an attachment to this e-mail address (which is a new one for me) colleenkhome@gmail.com

Colleen Kelly has been offered the position of Associate Professor and Head of the MFA Acting Program at the University of Virginia's Department of Drama.

I would need the letter by Thursday, June 14. I would really appreciate you taking time to do this for me, but understand I'm asking on short notice. Although I would like the letter to come from you, please let me know if this is not something you can do at this time and I'll see if another ATME member might be able to help me.)
