Title: Gatekeeping and Accountability in Institutional Change

Abstract/Description: Faculty, staff, and administrators all play important gatekeeping roles in controlling institutional narratives and access to institutional resources. As agents and leaders of the university we often expect high degrees of accountability from those we lead. This presentation/discussion will look at the important ways that gatekeeping and accountability can also be important aspects of community-based antiracist organizing. Using recent experiences in a number of institutions as an emergent case studies Dr. Peter Carpenter, Dean Onye Ozuzu, James Frazier, Erika Randall, will look at ways that liberated gatekeeping and accountability measures are essential for meaningful shifts in organizational culture.

Peter Carpenter has been active as a choreographer since 1992 and during that time he has honed a distinctive approach to blending complex dance vocabularies with politically charged text and meta-theatrical conventions. He has received robust support for the creation of new works in the form of commissions and grants to create new work. His work as a choreographer for theatre include engagements with Steppenwolf Arts Exchange, The Goodman, Strawdog, National Pastime, Roadworks, 29th Street Repertory, and Street Signs. He regularly teaches as a guest artist in college dance and theatre programs.

As an educator, Peter finds opportunities for interdisciplinary exchange across lines of artistry and scholarship.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Theatre from Northwestern University (1992), and a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance (2003) and Ph.D. in Culture and Performance from University of California Los Angeles (2013).

Onye Ozuzu is a performing artist, choreographer, administrator, educator and researcher currently serving as the Dean of the College of the Arts at the University of Florida.

Onye has been presenting dance works since 1997. Based in the U.S., her work has been seen at venues such as Seattle Festival of Improvisational Dance, Kaay Fecc Festival and Des Tous les Danses (Dakar, Senegal).

Prior to her appointment at UF, Ozuzu served as Dean of the School of Fine and Performing Arts at Columbia College Chicago, where she oversaw the school’s nine departments and served as chair of a subcommittee on diversity, equity and inclusion.

Previously, she also served as associate chair and director of dance in the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she was integral to a seven-year overhaul of the departmental mission and curriculum with particular attention to a deep and sustainable integration of diversity, interdisciplinary studies and technology.

Ozuzu earned her Master of Fine Arts in dance and choreography and Bachelor of Arts in English literature at Florida State University.