



## BALLOT AND CANDIDATE PROFILES 2014

The election will be held at the 51st Annual Conference as part of the Annual Business Meeting and in accordance with election procedures outlined in the Council's bylaws.

The Annual Meeting of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2014 | 11:15 A.M.**  
The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center



# ICFAD

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF FINE ARTS DEANS

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# CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE



**Steve Peters, Dean**

College of Fine Arts at University of Montevallo

Steve Peters was recently appointed as Professor and Dean of the College of Fine Arts at University of Montevallo, the state liberal arts university of Alabama. Previous to his tenure at UM, he served four years as Dean of the College of Business, Arts, Sciences and Education at Friends University, a private, master's comprehensive university. He was Associate Dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts at Wayne State University, chaired the School of Performing Arts at Wichita State University, and was Head of Graduate Programs in Theatre Arts at Baylor University. He earned his Ph.D. in Fine Arts with collateral areas in Arts Administration and Theatre from Texas Tech University in 1986.

Peters began his career as a university theatre director-teacher with research interests in entrepreneurship and in the field of performance studies. His more recent scholarship is on collaborative creativity and innovation. Increasingly fascinated with disciplinary intersections, his latest research is a new codebook that uses performance studies as a lens to examine the impact of medical practice on patient stress.

Peters was the first Managing Director of Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, Inc., a professional, non-profit theatre in cooperation with Creighton University and the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He also served as Artistic Director of the Globe Theatre of the Great Southwest. He was founder of the ARK Program at Baylor and of Finding Words at WSU, both of which involved performance in socially engaged simulations.

In two terms as President of the 1,800-member Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Peters convened three national conferences focusing on curricular innovation in theatre and "artpreneurship" in higher education. He served on the state board of the Kansas Association for the Arts in Education and chaired the 2013 visioning committee of the Arts Council that successfully advocated for dedicated city funding for the arts and new public arts policy in Wichita, Kansas. A current Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences (CCAS) board member, Peters is board liaison to the Committee for Private Institutions.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

I first became an ICFAD member while serving as Associate Dean at Wayne State. Since then, as a dean, I have seen ICFAD position itself prominently within the constellation of other professional development organizations to advance its mission. Its role as a member organization of "deans helping deans" is essential. Effective, respectful decanal leadership is vital for the future of the arts in higher education, and we must prepare our members to think creatively and imaginatively about change management, advocacy, diversity, technology, shared governance, new business models and sustainable practices. As a member of the Nominating Committee, I look forward to the opportunity to facilitate this endeavor by consulting with my fellow administrators to identify from ICFAD's ranks a diverse slate of candidates to fill vacant positions.



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# CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE



**Kit Spicer, Dean**

College of Fine and Performing Arts, Western Washington University

Kit was recently appointed Dean, College of Fine and Performing Arts, at Western Washington University. This is his third gig as a dean of a university arts unit (“find what you love to do well and do it” is an apt motto for his leadership career). Prior to joining Western, Kit was dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at Towson University (Maryland) for eight years and dean of the School of the Arts at Pacific Lutheran University (Washington), also for eight years.

Kit earned his BA degree in Speech and Drama from the University of Virginia and completed his Ph.D. in Organizational Communication at the University of Texas at Austin. All of his academic leadership positions have included some combination of the arts and communication until his most recent job at Western. While at Towson, he was a board member of the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the Maryland Film Industry Coalition. He previously served as the acting executive director of the Arts Network of Washington State, serving rural and underserved populations in Washington, as well as a board member of the Tacoma Actors Guild. Kit has also consulted with a variety of arts organizations, most recently the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts in Tacoma, Washington on strategic planning, leadership succession, and a centennial capital campaign. Kit has been a member of ICFAD since 1995. Over the years, he has served as the chair of the Technology Task Force, produced the first day-long, pre-conference workshop (Technology and the Arts, when there was still a conversation about Macs versus PCs!), chaired the Career Development Task Force, was a member of the Leadership Executive Committee, and coordinated the program “The Role of Technology in the Lives of Student Artists,” among other activities.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

I am starting my 18th year of service as a dean of the arts in three different institutions, private and public. I cannot begin to count the number of times I picked up the phone and called an ICFAD colleague with a question or for advice. The community of deans helping deans nurtured through ICFAD is a unique resource for academic arts leaders. I generally learn something new and useful at our annual meetings and I always come home revived and excited about my job as dean. I welcome the opportunity to be a part of the leadership structure of ICFAD.



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# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE



**Daniel Guyette**, *Dean*  
College of Fine Arts, Western Michigan University

Dan is the Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Western Michigan University. He previously served as Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of South Dakota and most recently as Dean of Fine and Performing Arts at Western Washington University. He has extensive experience in program and curricular design, fundraising, leadership development, community engagement, fiscal planning and management. As an award winning theatre designer he has worked around the country while serving on various arts organizations including six years as the Commissioner of Scene Design for the United States Institute for Theatre Technology and President of the Rocky Mountain Theatre Association. Dan earned his BS in theatre and speech at Northwestern University and his MFA in scenic and lighting design at the Pennsylvania State University.

Dan has been a member of ICFAD for the past 12 years and is currently serving as interim Treasurer after completing his three-year term in 2013 as a Member at Large on the Board of Directors. He was the coordinator for the 50th Anniversary Gala event last year and led the second annual MIND workshop (Mentoring Initiative for New Deans), which he created for ICFAD in 2012. He served as Chair of the Career Development Task Force for four years, has presented several sessions, hosted panels and led multiple roundtables over the years.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

ICFAD has been the most valuable organization for me personally and my career over the past decade. Many of the skills I use in work every day were discovered during sessions, talking with other deans and sharing drinks with friends at past conferences. During the last few years I have been privileged to help other deans through opportunities such as MIND, the Career Development Task Force and serving on the Board. If elected once again to the Board, I will be honored to continue serving you and this important organization.

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# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE



**Valerie B. Morris, *Dean***  
College of Charleston's School of the Arts

Valerie B. Morris has been the Dean of the College of Charleston's School of the Arts since the fall of 1998. As the Dean, she is the chief administrative officer of one of the College's six undergraduate schools. Dean Morris oversees the Departments of Art History, Music, Studio Art, and Theatre and Dance, plus programs in Arts Management, Historic Preservation and Community Planning, and also Computing in the Arts. Also under her umbrella are the graduate program of Historic Preservation in conjunction with Clemson University; the Master of Art in Teaching in Choral Music in conjunction with the School of Education, Health and Human Performance; and the Arts Management concentration in the Master of Public Administration program. She is responsible for the production of approximately 200 events per year, and she provides leadership in cultural education, programming and scholarship for the School and the community.

Prior to joining the College of Charleston, Dean Morris was the Chair of the Department of Performing Arts at American University in Washington, D.C., where she was the founding director of that institution's Arts Management Program. Dean Morris received her M.A. in Speech (Theatre Administration emphasis) from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and her B.A. in Speech Arts from American University. Her publications include *The Future of the Arts: Public Policy and Arts Research*, edited with David B. Pankratz and *The Arts in a New Millennium: Research and the Arts Sector*, also edited with Pankratz, as well as numerous articles in professional journals. Dean Morris was the Executive Editor of the *Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society* from 1982-1988 and 1990-2009.

As an organizer, session chair, panelist, or presenter, Dean Morris has participated in national and international conferences related to the arts and arts management. She also has served as an American Cultural Specialist for the USIA Arts America Program in Santiago, Chile; Kiev, Ukraine; and Montevideo, Uruguay.

Dean Morris is involved in several national, state-wide and local organizations. She is a former board member of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans and the Rotary Club of Charleston, and she is a mentor for the Association of Theatre in Higher Education's Leadership Institute. Dean Morris is a member of the Steering Committee for South Carolina's Arts in Basic Curriculum program, serves on the board of the South Carolina Arts Alliance, and the Arts Schools Network, and is a past president of the South Carolina Alliance for Arts Education. She is a board member of the Charleston Concert Association, the Charleston Jazz Initiative, and the Free Enterprise Foundation. She serves as an ex-officio member of the board of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra and as a member of the Honorary Board of Charleston Stage.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

Since attending my first meeting in 1999, I have promoted the importance of ICFAD as a networking outlet and information resource for fine arts deans, an advocacy mechanism for arts education nationally, a resource for professional development, a forum for discussions about cultural diversity and as a proponent of international cooperation and collaborative programming. I view ICFAD as an essential venue to keep members informed of the major issues affecting higher education and the arts, and an essential platform to facilitate investigations of institutional "best practices," with members learning from each other's successes and failures. I have served ICFAD in a number of ways, including service on the Board, on the Nominations Committee and hosting two meetings in Charleston, SC. ICFAD must continue to serve as an advocate of the arts in higher education, as a unified campus network, and as an active participant in the national movement to emphasize the importance of the arts in the lives of all citizens and the Board must lead in these efforts.



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# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE



**Deborah E. Preston, *Dean***

Visual, Performing, and Media Arts at Montgomery College

Dr. Deborah Preston is just completing her eighth year as dean for Visual, Performing, and Media Arts at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland. She oversees all arts departments on three campuses, the Workforce Development and Continuing Education arts programs, the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center, the Summer Dinner Theatre program, and the Montgomery College Arts Institute.

Previously, she served for 14 years as a faculty member, department chair, and campus provost at Georgia Perimeter College in Atlanta. There, Dr. Preston was a recipient of the NISOD Excellence in Teaching Award in 2004 and the Georgia Perimeter College Campus Leadership Award in 1998.

In 2004, Dr. Preston was selected as an American Council on Education (ACE) Fellow and was one of only two community-college administrators to graduate with that class. She has also completed the National Institute for Leadership Development Seminar and the Leadership Montgomery program. She has served recently as secretary for the Board of Directors for Adventure Theatre, the longest running children's theatre company in the DC metro region, and she has just joined the Board of Trustees for BlackRock Center for the Arts, one of the newer arts centers in Montgomery County, MD. This past year she served on the Recruiting Committee for the International Council of Fine Arts Deans as the "unofficial" liaison for community colleges.

Dr. Preston earned her B.A. in theatre from Florida State in 1986 and her M.A. in English from the same institution in 1988. She received her Ph.D. in English with an emphasis in dramatic literature from Tulane University in 1998.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

When I attended my first ICFAD conference several years ago, I was thrilled with the high quality content of the sessions, but sorry to see that very few of my community college colleagues were there to participate. I am convinced that deans from all higher education sectors can and should learn from each other and work together to sustain rigorous arts programs with unquestionable worth. As a new member of the recruiting committee, I have already made valuable contacts through ICFAD and experienced firsthand the benefit of those institutional relationships. My goal would be to serve as a bridge between ICFAD and community college arts deans, who have much to contribute and to gain from this association.



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# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE



**Aldemaro Romero Jr., *Dean***

College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Aldemaro Romero was born in Caracas, Venezuela. He received his bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Barcelona, Spain, and his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Miami, Florida. He has more than 30 years of experience in academia, about half of which has been in administrative roles. Currently he is the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) and the departments of Art and Design, Music, and Theater and Dance, as well as the University Museum, are under his supervision.

His experiences with the Fine Arts include the design and implementation of a 50 million-dollar campaign for the construction of a Visual and Performing Arts Center at SIUE. He oversaw the remodeling and expansion of the Art and Design building at SIUE, a 14 million-dollar project aimed at providing the most modern facilities to faculty and students. His late father, Aldemaro Romero Sr., was an internationally renowned composer and orchestra conductor. Despite his academic background in the sciences he has maintained a profound interest in the performing arts. His father was a symphony orchestra composer and conductor and he have followed his footsteps conducting his music as well as other composers' music. Also, he and his wife are collectors and patrons of visual arts, particularly Latin American paintings.

Along with his administrative responsibilities, he has also had an accomplished career as a scholar with more than 780 publications, including 17 books. He has also produced, directed, written and/or hosting a number of TV and radio shows in several countries including the U.S.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

I am extremely interested in becoming a board member of the ICFAD for a number of reasons. First, since I became the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) I have been attending ICFAD annual meetings regularly and I found both the presentations and informal meetings extremely informative and useful.

Although I am a scientist by training I have always been extremely interested in the fine arts since I was a child. My father was a symphony orchestra composer and conductor and I have followed his footsteps conducting his music as well as other composers' music. Also, my wife and I are collectors and patrons of visual arts, particularly Latin American paintings.

Given my passion for the fine arts I am very concerned about a number of issues affecting these disciplines. One is the "graying" and shrinking of audiences to the fine arts. Another is the lack of understanding by the general public about the value of a degree in these fields despite strong evidence supporting such an education; that has translated into less and less support for the arts in general. Finally I am also concerned by the lack of diversity at different levels in arts organizations. I believe that if we are going to thrive, ICFAD needs to take a leadership role in making the fine arts a much more attractive endeavor by crafting an effective communication strategy, something in which I have experience as communicator using not only conventional media but social media as well. If we want to attract new audiences, particularly young ones, we need to embrace new technologies that will make those audiences to feel enticed to participate in the arts. As someone with a background in the sciences I think I can contribute to develop bridges between the sciences and the fine arts. Finally, as a Hispanic who has been successful in academia I think I can serve as an example to individuals from underrepresented groups to pursue this kind of interests.

Thus, I see serving in the Board of Directors of ICFAD as a way to contribute to the profession from many different points of views.



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# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE



**Michelle Whitecliffe, *President***

Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design

Michele Whitecliffe has been President of Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design since the death of her late husband in 2001. Greg and Michele founded the College back in 1982 and stumbled across ICFAD by chance in the early 1990s. ICFAD played a significant part in Whitecliffe gaining Degree status in 1994, through supporting references and individual members reviewing programmes as well as participating in workshops.

This camaraderie and engagement has continued over the years through exchanging faculty in post graduate workshop programmes and reviews, and to date Whitecliffe has enjoyed some wonderful relationships with institutions around the United States. The strengths of our programme through various associations has given Whitecliffe a wonderful global overview and today Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design stands out as one of the most prestigious art & design colleges in New Zealand. As President my role has been shaped to suit my skills in supporting graduates with jobs in the industry, helping define the role of art and its value within our society, giving students life changing experiences and, of late, assisting in promoting our College globally. Whitecliffe takes a broader view, one that acknowledges that art does not exist in a vacuum, it always has a context. Whitecliffe continues to prides itself in its contextual studies, including business and professional practice papers which help identify a student's place in their working profession.

## **CANDIDATE STATEMENT**

BEING PART OF ICFAD allows me to support other Deans in a similar position as myself to have sensitivity towards this fast moving technological world and together educate graduates to value the importance of sustainability and fairness in the world of art and design. How we move forward with sensitivity, creative thinking and caring for the land that feeds us, will give our children's children some security for a positive future.



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# BALLOT AND CANDIDATE PROFILES 2014

## ICFAD Nominating Committee

John Crawford, *Chair*, Kent State University

Richard Ranta, *Dean*, University of Memphis

Michael Tick, *Dean*, University of Kentucky

The Committee proposes the following slate for members of the Nominating Committee and Member-at-Large positions on the ICFAD Board of Directors

### Nominating Committee

*Please vote for one.*

- Steve Peters, *Dean*, College of Fine Arts, University of Montevallo
- Kit Spicer, *Dean*, College of Fine and Performing Arts, Western Washington University

### Member-at-Large

*Please vote for two.*

- Daniel Guyette, *Dean*, Western Michigan University
  - Valerie Morris, *Dean*, College of Charleston
  - Deborah Preston, *Dean*, Montgomery College
- Al Romero, *Dean*, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- Michelle Whitecliffe, *President*, Whitecliffe College of Arts & Design

## EXCERPTS FROM THE ICFAD BYLAWS PERTAINING TO ELECTIONS

The Nominating Committee will be responsible for determining the availability of recommended candidates and for preparing the formalized slate of nominees that shall include officers, Board of Directors, and elected members of Standing Committees. The slate of nominees, with appropriate supporting documentation, will be distributed to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

The slate of nominees will be introduced at the annual meeting prior to the business meeting. Nominations from the floor during the business session will be in order, provided those members nominated have agreed and meet the qualifications to hold an elected position. The election will be conducted at the Annual Business Meeting. All election outcomes shall be determined by a majority vote of all eligible voting members (see section 2.1) who are in attendance. Those members attending the annual meeting who are unable to stay for the final business session may register with the Executive Director and vote by absentee ballot. The president will vote only in case of a tie.

The slate for election will consist of no fewer than four (4) candidates for the position of member-at-large on the Board of Directors, no fewer than two (2) candidates for the position of Secretary, and one (1) candidate for President-Elect. The slate for election for the Nominating Committee will also consist of two (2) candidates.

## PROPOSED BYLAWS AMENDMENT

### 3.2.D. SECRETARY

The secretary maintains the records of the Executive Committee including: (1) presenting the official minutes for all Executive Committee meetings, Board of Directors meetings and the general business meetings of the organization, (2) coordinating new membership recruitment efforts and (3) partnering with the Executive Director to secure conference sponsorships, and (4) serving as Chair of the Membership Committee. The secretary will serve for a period of two (2) years. The term of the secretary and the term of a new president will not begin in the same year.

approve

do not approve