



James Frazier, Co-Dean

Dr. James Frazier is the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs for the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of the Arts, where he is a tenured Professor. Now rounding out his twelfth year at VCU, Dr. Frazier chaired VCU's Department of Dance and Choreography from 2007-2012. This is his third season as Co-Dean of the American Dance Festival.

Frazier earned an EdD in Dance from Temple University and both a MFA in Dance and a BS in Marketing from Florida State University. He serves as a Visiting Evaluator for the dance accrediting body - the National Association of Schools of Dance, and he has held the elected offices of President and Secretary of the Council of Dance Administrators (a national organization).

Dr. Frazier danced and toured professionally with Kokuma Dance Theatre Company (England), Dallas Black Dance Theatre (Texas), and was a founding member of Edgeworks Dance Theater (Washington, DC); and he has worked as a guest or creative collaborator with many others, performing nationally, including engagements at Jacob's Pillow, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Dance Place, the Publick Playhouse [sic], Philadelphia's Prince Music Theater, The Joyce (SoHo) and more. His own choreography has been presented in numerous US venues, including the Kennedy Center (Concert Hall and Millennium Stage). In 2009 he was commissioned to create a new ballet on the Richmond Ballet Company. He is a past recipient of the Virginia Commission for the Arts Choreographic Fellowship.

Past appointments include: Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance History, Florida State University; Associate Artistic Director, Dance Institute of Washington (District of Columbia); and Publicity Coordinator for the Urban Bush Women Summer Dance Institute (1998 and 1999); and adjunct appointments as a dance instructor at Florida A & M University, Florida State University, Temple University and Montgomery College (MD). Dr. Frazier participated in the mentoring program of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, and serves as Co-chair of its Diversity Task Force. He is a graduate of VCU's Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute, and is a member of The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.