



James Frazier
Interim Dean for Virginia Commonwealth University
School of the Arts

James Frazier, Ed.D., M.F.A. is the interim dean for the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of the Arts, and the special assistant to the provost at the VCU School of the Arts in Qatar. He is a tenured professor and a former chair of the Department of Dance and Choreography.

Frazier sits on both the board of the celebrated American Dance Festival (where he served as co-dean 2010-13) and that of the American College Dance Association (ACDA). He is co-chair of the Diversity Task Force of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans. In addition, he maintains an ongoing professional relationship with the highly acclaimed New York-based performance ensemble Urban Bush Women, assisting on special projects. He has served as a visiting evaluator for the dance accrediting body – the National Association of Schools of Dance, and he held the elected offices of president and secretary of the Council of Dance Administrators.

Frazier's previous academic appointments include: visiting assistant professor of Dance History, Florida State University; associate artistic director, Dance Institute of Washington (District of Columbia); publicity coordinator for the Urban Bush Women Summer Dance Institute; and adjunct appointments as a dance instructor at Florida A & M University, Florida State University, Temple University and Montgomery College.

As a professional dance artist, Frazier performed and toured with Kokuma Dance Theatre Company, Dallas Black Dance Theatre and was a founding member of Edgeworks Dance Theater. 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, Philadelphia's Prince Music Theater and The Joyce (SoHo), among others. He is a past recipient of the Virginia Commission for the Arts Choreographic Fellowship, and in 2009 he was commissioned to create a new ballet on the Richmond Ballet Company.

Frazier earned an Ed.D. in Dance at Temple University and both a M.F.A. in Dance and a B.S. in Marketing from Florida State University. In 2006, he was awarded the Alma Hawkins Award for Excellence in Dance Education for emerging leadership in the field by the Council of Dance Administrators.