

## Contributors

**Valerie H. Barske** is a PhD student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She began studying Okinawan dances while attending the University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan) on a Fulbright Fellowship during 1998-1999. In 2001-2002, she received a language grant from the Blakemore Foundation to study in Yokohama, Japan, where she continued her dance training under the tutelage of Yoko and Kyoko Kodama. Her doctoral dissertation will focus on the political use of movement systems in Japan.

**Dixie Durr** is Professor of Dance and Artistic Director to the MSU Repertory Dance Company, holds her Ph.D. from The Ohio State University; a M.A. in Theatre from Michigan State University; a MA in Anthropology of Human Movement from New York University; and a B.A. in Dance from Butler University. In addition, she is a Certified Teacher of Labanotation, and has earned an Advanced Certification in Labanotation. She served as Chair of the Department of Theatre from 1994-2001. In addition to her own choreography for the concert stage, she has reconstructed from Labanotated scores Charles Weidman's *Flickers* and *Brahm's Waltzes*; Elizabeth Keen's *Mini-Quilt*; Judy Allen's *In the Swing*; and Doris Humphrey's *Partita* and *Soaring*. She received special recognition for her choreography in *West Side Story*, *Cabaret*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Brigadoon*, *The Music Man*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *My Fair Lady*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* and *The Mikado*. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Congress on Research in Dance. She has been a member of the Professional Advisory Committee to the Dance Notation Bureau, a member of the Board of Directors of the American Dance Guild, and President of the Michigan Dance Association from 1987-1989. She was recognized with a Presidential Citation (1994) by the National Dance Association. She has published in the *Journal for the Anthropological Study of Human Movement*, the *Journal of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance*, the *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, the *Dance Research Journal*, and *Educational Gerontology*.

**Brenda Farnell** is an Associate Professor of socio-cultural and linguistic anthropology at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). She holds a Teaching Diploma from I. M. March College of Physical Education, Liverpool; a Diploma in Dance and Dance Education from the Laban Center for Movement and Dance, Goldsmith's College, London University; an M.A. in the Anthropology of Human Movement from New York University and a Ph.D. in socio-cultural and linguistic anthropology from Indiana University (1990). Her research interests include ethno-poetics and performance, Plains Sign Language and dances of the Northern Plains, discourse, movement literacy, and problems in social theory and embodiment. She is the author of *Do You See what I Mean: Plains Indian Sign Talk and the Embodiment of Action* and an award winning CD Rom, *Wiyuta: Assiniboine Storytelling with Signs* (U of Texas Press 1995). She also edited, *Human Action Signs in Cultural Context: the Visible and the Invisible in Movement and Dance* (Scarecrow Press 1995). Recent papers include 'Moving Bodies, Acting Selves' (Annual Review of Anthropology, 1999); 'Getting Out of the *Habitus*: An Alternative Model of Dynamically Embodied Social Action', (*Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 2000); and 'Dynamic Embodiment in Assiniboine Storytelling' (*Anthropological Linguistics*, 2002).

**Charles Varela** is a Research Associate in the anthropology department at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). He holds an M.A degree in psychology

and a Ph.D. in sociology from New York University, and was a professor of Sociology and Psychology at Union County College, New Jersey, from 1960-1998. His scholarly interests focus on fundamental theoretical problems at the intersection of the natural and social sciences mediated by the philosophy of science and unified by the issues of human agency, embodiment and causality. His recent papers in this area are 'Determinism and the Recovery of Human Agency' (Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior [JTSB] 29:4, 1999); 'The Impossibility of Which Naturalism?' (JTSB 32:1, 2002) and 'Biological Structure and Embodied Human Agency: The Problem of Instinctivism' (JTSB 33:1, 2003). He is currently working on a co-authored book (with Rom Harré) entitled *Science for Humanism: Determinism and the Problems of Structure and Agency*. His papers on the problem of dynamic embodiment include 'Harré and Merleau Ponty: Beyond the Absent Moving Body in Embodied Social Theory' (JTSB 24:2, 1994); and 'Cartesianism Revisited: The Ghost in the Moving Machine or the Lived Body' (In Farnell ed., 1995).

Drid Williams has conducted fieldwork in England, the USA, Australia and Kenya. She has taught anthropology of the dance and human movement studies in all four countries. She holds a D. Phil in social anthropology from St. Hugh's College, Oxford. In addition to numerous book chapters and articles, her publications include *Anthropology and Human Movement, 1: The Study of Dances* (1997, Scarecrow Press), *Anthropology and Human Movement, 2: Searching for Origins* (2000, Scarecrow Press). Forthcoming works are *Signifying Bodies, Signifying Acts: New Ways of Thinking About Human Movement* and a revised version of her first book, *Ten Lectures on Theories of the Dance* (1991), now retitled *Sociocultural Anthropology and the Dance: Ten Lectures* (University of Illinois Press, Urbana-Champaign). She is the founder and Senior Editor of JASHM.