144 West 16th Street New York City

February 15th, 1940

Dr. F. C. Allen, Chairman Department of Physical Education University of Kansas Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen,

Having majored in dance-drama and received a B.S. in eduction from New College, Columbia University in the autumn of 1939, and having devoted the winter to professional training in modern dance at the Humphrey-Weidman studio, I am now anxious to pursue studies leading to a M.A. in the field of physical education.

However, - am also eager to continue with my primary interest, that of teaching dance in college. As a member of the senior class at New College, I became one of the leaders of the dance group and, in working with this group, I learned that dance need not be an 'ivory-tower' subject; it can be a real expression of individuals in their society. I wish to see college dancing emphasize the creative approach. Working as a group promotes democratic living and putting group ideas into an art form can help clarify social concepts.

My background in dance is varied. I have studied rhythmic dancing with Alys Bentley for years; I know English folk-dancing well, and can lead American equare-dancing. I attended the Bennington School of the Dance in 1934, and have continued modern dancing throughout college. I feel that this makes me eligible to teach dancing and that I have had enough physical education to allow me to assist in the department.

I am therefore writing you to inquire if you have an assistantship or teaching fellowship open in your department for the coming year. Would you be good enough to let me know if there is anything further I can do toward filing my application for such a position?

My full references are on file at the Teachers College Placement Bureau, Teachers College, Columbia University. They will be sent to you upon request.

Sincerely yours,

Elfrid Ide