

## NOMINATIONS FOR EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



**Muriel Bone**  
*Glasgow*

**Proposer:** Ruth Beattie (*Glasgow*)  
**Second:** Roy Bain (*Helensburgh*)

I wish to contribute to the Society by working to ensure we have teachers with relevant skills for enthusing both competitive and social dancers.

My professional background is secondary school teaching, where latterly I led a subject team and mentored student teachers.

As a fully certificated SCD teacher for over 30 years, I have taught Branch classes, coached children for non-competitive festivals and delivered CPD to primary school teachers. I particularly enjoy teaching beginner and intermediate dancers and have introduced unintimidating technique workshops for them. I have taught at Summer School and participated in the assessment of the DAA.

During my recent time as Chairman of Glasgow Branch, we organised a tutor course and are now running teacher training units. Our candidates include young dancers. I chaired the committee which delivered a successful, Spring Fringe in Glasgow. I have attended both Summer and Winter School and dance events overseas.

I bring my experience, organisational skills and enthusiasm for encouraging new dancers and new dance teachers. I believe E & T should produce an integrated training framework with additional optional modules.



**Elaine Brunken**  
*Headquarters*

**Proposer:** Ellie Briscoe (*Northern Virginia*)  
**Second:** Mel Briscoe (*Boston*)

I have been dancing for a very long time and teaching for over 40 years. I started my career teaching Physical Education in Ayrshire majoring in dance. I then went on to tutor which I have been doing for over 25 years and I have also been examining for 10 years.

This pastime of ours has been a part of me, all of my cognitive life. I love it and have spent the better part of 45 years teaching and sharing that love and joy with others. I am especially interested in continuing to improve the already much improved, exam process and developing 'continuing education' courses for teachers, to ensure that teachers have the opportunity to improve their teaching skills, after they pass Unit 5, if desired. Encouraging new and young dancers is critical. I think we need to reassess how we introduce this amazing pastime, so that first timers, come back and stay! I am a firm advocate of the medal tests and the DAA. I understand Scotland and 'the Colonies' and will strive to help eradicate the 'us and them' perception.

As an IT professional, I have decades of expertise in working with and leading teams to achieve goals and meet deadlines.



**Ute Hoppmann-Lacour**    **Proposer:** Tim Hoffmann (*Central Germany*)  
*Central Germany Branch*    **Seconder:** Gisela Koehne (*Central Germany*)

I am an experienced teacher and began my teaching career in 1999 in Wuppertal, Germany. In 2005 I qualified as an RSCDS Teacher and since then I have worked with a number of other teachers to organise many workshops and classes for younger dance students.

This year at RSCDS Summer School I completed the Tutors Course so that I can further aid the education of Scottish Dance teachers, something which is very close to my heart. I have always encouraged and motivated other dancers to become teachers.

I am one of the founding members of the RSCDS Central Germany Branch where until last year I played a very active role on the Executive Board and I currently teach the German team for Newcastle.

As a qualified psychotherapist I specialise in work with autistic people and would be particularly interested in making dancing more inclusive for disabled people. I would very much like to share my personal skills and experience to the benefit of the E&T Committee.

I would love to share my teaching and therefore my joy of dancing with as many people as possible making it meaningful and useful to all and commit to being a constructive and committed member of the committee if elected.



**Deb Lees**    **Proposer:** Jayne Riddet (*Dumfries*)  
*Newcastle on Tyne & District Branch*    **Seconder:** Linda Williams (*Dumfries*)

I began SCD at Newcastle University and have been dancing and teaching ever since, in the UK and continental Europe. I love teaching all ages and abilities, seeing people develop skills whilst having a lot of fun!

I am standing for the Education and Training committee to contribute to the development of dancers and teachers across the world. I am particularly interested in the development of teacher's skills after gaining the teaching certificate and in creating opportunities to share expertise. I am also a musician with links to other traditions of dance and music and I am keen to encourage other musicians to develop within the SCD tradition.

My professional life has included 20 years as a NHS manager. I am very aware of the need to develop and use systems and procedures to ensure consistency of approaches and equitable access to opportunities. Continuing skills development and training was part of my NHS role and many of the principles are applicable to development within dancing. I have previously been a member of the Education and Training Committee and I would like to build on that experience and play a part in the continuing development of the Society.



**Sue Porter**  
*Oban & Lorn Branch*

**Proposer:** Margo Priestly (*Edinburgh*)  
**Secunder:** James Stott (*Aberdeen*)

I believe that dancers of all abilities and aspirational levels should attain their personal fulfilment in dancing through having appropriately trained teachers. Due to my varied experience as a teacher and dancer in Scotland and internationally, I believe that the development of various types of teacher training programmes are fundamental to the future of SCD worldwide. I wish to work with the committee to develop teacher training and the other areas of the committee's remit to the benefit of members.

I am a very experienced dance teacher and was awarded the RSCDS Full Teachers Certificate in 1973. I have taught at both Peterhead & Lorn Branches from beginners through to demonstration levels and have also taught at non branch social classes.

My vast experience with RSCDS includes Summer School teacher, Examiner, Teaching Certificate Tutor, Medal Test Assessor, Youth Director, Winter School Co-ordinator and Education & Training Convenor. I hold a Bachelor of Education in Secondary and Primary teaching, and have previously worked in both areas. I have also been a toy librarian for 12 years, co-founding and being solely in charge of administration of the library providing me with relevant experience for the committee.

I will bring my teaching, people management and administration skills to help build a welcoming, forward looking and dynamic society for all to enjoy.



**Anne Robertson**  
*Oban & Lorn & Glasgow Branches*

**Proposer:** Jimmie Hill (*Edinburgh*)  
**Secunder:** Sue Porter (*Oban & Lorn*)

The evolution of teacher training interests me, including less formal training for currently non-certificated teachers. I feel provision of CPD for experienced teachers wishing to adapt methods to a wider range of dancers is worth investigating.

RSCDS certificated since the 1970s, I have taught local social/intermediate non-RSCDS classes wherever I have lived. For over 30 years I have been MC at the Islay Weekend dances, and latterly frequent teacher. In early 2018 I was "supply teacher" for a local branch class. I taught at Summer School in the 1980s and again more recently, and am a Depute Director for 2018-19.

Before retiring from secondary teaching, I qualified as a tourist guide in 2000, later becoming a trainer - including for a specific communication skills module - and assessor. I have mentored a group of trainees, facilitated site-specific training, and was co-director of the 2016-18 Blue Badge (all Scotland) Training. I have also assessed candidates for their supplementary language qualification. Modern technology is used in training and assessment.

My awareness of the differences between teaching and training, of a range of learning styles and requirements, and of the necessity to adapt to these could, I hope, be useful to the committee.