Karen Clippinger has made a significant contribution to the fields of dance and Pilates with her focus on scientific principles to enhance alignment and movement performance while lowering injury risk.

Clippinger, a professor in the Dance Department since 1998, has given over 375 presentations worldwide and throughout the United States, including at conferences for the American College of Sports Medicine, International Association of Dance Medicine and Science, and Body Arts and Science International. She has taught workshops at numerous universities including the University of Calgary, Cornish Institute of the Arts, Duke University, and Stanford University. Clippinger has also authored numerous articles and chapters. She wrote an exercise column for Shape magazine for four years and served as one of the founding co-editor-in-chiefs of the Journal of Dance Medicine and Science, the most respected journal in the field. Her textbook Dance Anatomy and Kinesiology, released in 2007, received excellent reviews and has been adopted at many prestigious universities.

Clippinger helped design and is the advisor for the innovative Option in Dance Science, within the BA Dance degree, which was introduced in fall 2003. She also serves as the coordinator for the Pilates Studio located in the Dance Center and is actively involved in promoting high standards for certification of Pilates instructors.

Prior to her appointment at CSULB, Clippinger worked as a clinical kinesiologist for 22 years at Loma Linda University Medical Center and several sports medicine clinics in Seattle. She has worked with hundreds of dancers and performers including members of the Joffrey, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Cirque Du Soleil companies. She has also consulted for the U.S. Weightlifting Federation, U.S. Race Walking Team, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and California’s Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.