

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE**

**PROGRAM**

**Fortieth Annual Meeting**

**and**

**Retreat for Administrators of Theatre Programs  
in Higher Education**

**March 31 – April 3, 2005**

**Seelbach Hilton Hotel  
Louisville, Kentucky**

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE

## 2005 Annual Meeting and Retreat for Administrators of Theatre Programs in Higher Education

---

---

### Wednesday, March 30

3:30 p.m. – **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AND DINNER**  
8:00 p.m.

**Medallion F**

### Thursday, March 31

8:00 a.m. – **COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
12:00 noon *(Commission members only)* **Mezzanine A**

12:00 noon – 2:30 p.m. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS LUNCHEON MEETING** **Medallion F**

12:00 noon – 6:00 p.m. **REGISTRATION** **Medallion Foyer**

12:30 p.m. – 1:25 p.m. **ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS TO NAST** **Medallion A**

This workshop will provide an overview of NAST: its services, publications, and role as an accrediting agency. The last 10 minutes of the session will be devoted to meetings of first-time attendees and their NAST mentors.

Lee Byron, Ithaca College  
Edmond Williams, University of Alabama  
Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **HOW TO WORK WITH HEADS DATA** **Medallion A**

The institutional research data gathered and compiled by Higher Education Arts Data Services constitutes a unique and valuable resource for theatre executives. This session will provide an overview of the information contained in annual Data Summaries, which are reports compiled from data submitted by NAST member and other participating institutions. The explanations will cover use of the data in local policy discussions, as well as opportunities for institutions to obtain customized data reports.

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

## **Thursday (continued)**

2:30 p.m. –  
4:00 p.m.

### **ROUNDTABLE FOR NEW AND POTENTIAL CHAIRS**

**Medallion B**

This workshop is intended for individuals who are new, aspiring, or have less than five years' experience in their administrative careers in theatre institutions and programs. The workshop has been designed to address several of the most important areas of concern for administrators. There will be ample opportunity for interaction and discussion. The content will focus on principles and approaches applicable to all types of institutions.

Robert Hansen, University of North Carolina, Greensboro  
Holly Logue, Kean University

*Moderator:* Lee Byron, Ithaca College

2:30 p.m. –  
4:00 p.m.

### **CHOOSING NEW PLAYS AND WORKING WITH PLAYWRIGHTS**

**Medallion C**

A representative from Actors Theatre of Louisville will discuss the importance of producing new work, Actors Theatre's continued commitment to its development, and how colleges and universities can better support playwrights. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer period.

Marc Masterson, Artistic Director, Actors Theatre of Louisville

*Moderator:* Don Drapeau, Virginia Tech

2:30 p.m. –  
5:00 p.m.

### **WORKSHOP: PREPARING FOR NAST ACCREDITATION**

**Medallion A**

This workshop is especially designed for those institutions that will receive evaluation visits in the next two years. All interested persons, however, are welcome. Please note that a briefing on the new NAST Self-Study formats will be held during the Second General Session on Saturday, April 2nd, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

4:15 p.m. –  
5:15 p.m.

### **OPEN FORUM: FUTURES FOR THE TERMINAL PROFESSIONAL DEGREE IN THEATRE**

**Medallion C**

Times are changing, and we are promised ubiquitously that more change is coming at an ever-increasing pace. Theatre is an important change force and change mechanism. Increasingly, there are more things to do with theatre and more to know about each of those things. This complex fact about content raises futures questions about many aspects of higher education, including degree programs. In a sense, degree programs offered by specific institutions are packages containing the results of best estimates about what is important. Degree structures – general purpose, content, title, length, requirements, and so forth – are frameworks of national agreement about what degree

## Thursday (*continued*)

program packages offered by individual institutions have in common. The degree Master of Fine Arts is widely regarded as the terminal professional degree in theatre. The M.F.A. is a framework. There are other terminal degrees in academe; for example, the terminal research degree is the Ph.D., another framework. In the recent past, discussions have been held at various venues about the extent to which the field should have a doctorate focused on the practice of theatre at the most advanced levels. Early opinion is divided on this question. Many are seeking to use the question's appearance as a springboard for considering multiple futures for advanced professional degrees, and further prospects for advanced degrees that combine research and practice. Clearly, a lot of study is needed at institutional and national levels. This session will provide an overview of the issues involved in considering such important questions. This briefing will be followed by commentary and response from a small panel and from the audience. Prior to the session, we ask all attendees to read the NAST Briefing Paper *Thinking About Terminal Professional Degrees in Theatre* that has been provided in each meeting packet.

The purpose of this session is to begin an exploration of the issues from a policy rather than an accreditation standards perspective. The goal is to open a comprehensive look at the present situation and pose questions that will help individuals consider the ramifications of various kinds of changes. For the principles that guide NAST in this discussion, please see the Briefing Paper.

*Panelists:* Jonathan Michaelsen, Indiana University  
Ronald Shields, Bowling Green State University

*Moderator:* Carole Brandt, Southern Methodist University

5:15 p.m.–  
6:15 p.m. **PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION IN HONOR  
OF FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES** **Rathskeller**  
(Cash bar)

5:45 p.m.–  
7:30 p.m. **NAST REVIEWS OF UNDERGRADUATE STANDARDS** **Medallion B**  
NAST is beginning a multiyear review of its standards. This hearing will take comments on the present text concerning undergraduate programs. The text to be considered is provided in the Annual Meeting packet.  
*Moderator:* Robert Hansen, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

*Recorder:* Catharine Clarke, NAST National Office

## Friday, April 1

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<b>REGISTRATION</b>	<b>Medallion Foyer</b>
8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	<b>NAST ANNUAL MEETING FIRST PLENARY SESSION</b>	<b>Medallion AB</b>
	Call to Order Welcome by the President Determination of Quorum Minutes Agenda Reports: Committee on Ethics Commission on Accreditation Treasurer President Announcements by Executive Director Action on <i>Handbook</i> Changes Election	
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<b>LOOKING AHEAD: BRIEFING I FACULTY ISSUES AND TRENDS</b>	<b>Medallion AB</b>
	Higher education seems to be in a transition. One of the clearest indicators is the change of approach to faculty issues over the past ten years. While theatre programs have special faculty needs, many faculty decisions will be driven or deeply influenced by larger considerations and trends. This briefing will provide an overview of movements and evolutions regarding faculty with special attention to what may be coming. A particular focus will be the potential impact of futures issues on efforts to maintain a high standard of instruction and services to students.	
	<i>Presenter:</i> Donna Phillips, American Council on Education <i>Moderator:</i> James Spurrier, Vincennes University	
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<b>LOOKING AHEAD: BRIEFING II WORKING WITH GENERATIONS X AND Y AND . . .</b>	<b>Medallion AB</b>
	As time passes, it is clear that the generations not only have different designations, they have differing views and values. This session will explain what is known about the generation that will inherit and carry on the work of theatre education and training at the highest levels. Particular attention will be given to the issue of work, what it means for various generations, and what differing views mean to administrators of theatre programs	
	<i>Panelists:</i> Terrell Finney, Jr., University of Cincinnati Claudia Stephens, Southern Methodist University	
	<i>Moderator/Panelist:</i> Joan See, School for Film and Television at Three of Us Studios	

## Friday (continued)

11:40 a.m. –  
12:40 p.m.

### **LOOKING AHEAD: BRIEFING III THE FUTURE OF TIME IN ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

**Medallion AB**

Whatever happened to all those devices and procedures that were going to save us time? They seem to have vanished in a theoretical haze or turned on us. We are all busier than ever, frustrated with lack of time, and increasingly impatient with new time demands. Time pressures seem to have exceeded time management techniques. The current situation cannot extrapolate forever. This session will present an analysis of the forces creating the time crunch, various organizational and management options, and the current challenge of maintaining cooperation at all levels when time pressures encourage individual and institutional isolation.

Carole Brandt, Southern Methodist University  
Kathleen Conlin, University of Illinois

12:45 p.m. –  
2:15 p.m.

### **LUNCHEON FOR THE ASSOCIATION “CELEBRATING NAST AT 40”**

**Grand Ballroom East (10th floor)**

*Speakers:* Oscar Brockett, ATA President, 1976  
August Staub, NAST President, 1980 - 1983  
Paul Anthony Distler, NAST President, 1987 - 1990  
R. Keith Michael, NAST President, 1993 - 1996

*Moderator:* Kathleen Conlin, NAST President, 1999-2002

2:30 p.m. –  
3:30 p.m.

### **HBCU PERSPECTIVES ON THEATRE**

**Medallion C**

Representatives from a number of Historically Black Colleges and Universities will provide their perspectives on theatre education, teaching, and presentation. A particular focus will be achievements and challenges that are unique to their situation and that are shared with others. The session will also stress how HBCU theatre programs and programs in other institutions can provide mutual support.

*Presenters:* Johnny Alston, North Carolina Central University  
C. Perry Atto, Hampton University  
Lawrence James, Tennessee State University  
Valencia Matthews, Florida A&M University  
Frank Mundy, South Carolina State University  
C. W. Murray, Norfolk State University  
Bill Schooley, Jackson State University  
Joe Selmon, Howard University  
Tonea H. Stewart, Alabama State University  
C. Lee Turner, Prairie View A&M University

*Moderator:* Frankie Day, North Carolina A&T State University

## Friday (continued)

2:30 p.m. – **WORKSHOP FOR VISITING EVALUATORS** **Mezzanine AB**  
5:30 p.m. *(By invitation only)*

2:30 p.m. – **HEARING: NAST DRAFT STATEMENTS  
ON THE M.F.A.** **Mezzanine CD**  
3:30 p.m.

For several years, NAST has been reviewing issues in graduate education. Two briefing papers have emerged from these discussions. An *Advisory for Students Considering the M.F.A. in Theatre* and *Issues Concerning the M.F.A. in Theatre* are provided in the meeting packet. The hearing will seek comment about the texts of these papers that are intended to reside on the NAST web site.

*Moderator:* Robert Chapel, University of Virginia

*Recorder:* Samuel Hope, NAST National Office

3:45 p.m. – **HEARING: NAST STANDARDS FOR GRADUATE STUDY** **Mezzanine CD**  
5:15 p.m.

NAST is beginning a multiyear review of its standards. This hearing will take comments on the present text concerning graduate programs. The text to be considered is provided in the Annual Meeting packet.

*Moderator:* Kathleen Conlin, University of Illinois

*Recorder:* Samuel Hope, NAST National Office

5:15 p.m. – **COCKTAIL RECEPTION** **Walnut Room  
(Mezzanine Floor)**  
6:15 p.m. *(Cash bar)*

5:45 p.m. – **ROUNDTABLE FOR NON-DEGREE-GRANTING  
INSTITUTIONS** **Medallion F**  
7:15 p.m.

This session provides members with an opportunity to pose specific issues and questions for consideration by the entire group. Topics for consideration will be determined in advance, based on written suggestions solicited from the membership and the attendees. It will also be possible to raise questions from the floor. The fundamental purpose of this session is to share issues and expertise across a broad range of topics germane to theatre in higher education.

*Moderator:* T. A. Taylor, KD Studio

5:45 p.m. – **U/RTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** **Mezzanine AB**  
7:15 p.m.

## **Saturday, April 2**

8:30 a.m. –  
9:00 a.m.

### **NAST ANNUAL MEETING SECOND PLENARY SESSION**

**Medallion AB**

Call to Order  
Report of the Executive Director  
New Business

9:00 a.m. –  
10:30 a.m.

### **LOOKING AHEAD: BRIEFING IV USING THE NEW NAST SELF-STUDY FORMATS**

**Medallion AB**

NAST has developed two new optional patterns for self-study. Named the Portfolio and Strategic Analysis formats, each starts with its own perspective to foster a review against NAST standards and an analysis of future challenges and opportunities. In the NAST accreditation process, institutions choose among the two new formats, the traditional or standard format, or, under certain conditions, their own approach.

This workshop will present only the Portfolio and Strategic Analysis formats and demonstrate features intended to reduce data-gathering so that the focus of the self-study can be on analysis and projection. Suggestions will be made about ways of using the formats to accomplish specific institutional objectives and a set of questions to ask when deciding which format to use will be presented.

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office  
Samuel Hope, NAST National Office

10:45 a.m. –  
12:15 p.m.

### **LOOKING AHEAD: BRIEFING V LEGAL ISSUES FOR ADMINISTRATORS**

**Medallion AB**

An attorney specializing in employment law for management will explore the challenges, both practical and legal, that are created by the tenure relationship. The program will go over substantive and procedural issues relating to the tenure relationship and present case studies drawn from the attorney's years of representing higher education employers. These case studies will explore such recurring issues as harassment of students, poor performance/refusal to cooperate, and health problems, both physical and mental, which can prevent tenured faculty members from fulfilling university expectations. The program, which will be interactive, will also provide a discussion of practical tips for reducing the risks of litigation.

*Presenter:* Mary Kay Klimesh, SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

*Moderator:* Attilio Favorini, University of Pittsburgh

## Saturday (*continued*)

1:30 p.m. –  
4:00 p.m.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

**Mezzanine CD**

We hear a great deal about planning, go through many externally imposed planning exercises, and hear the word “strategic” used frequently. But all plans are not strategic, and all planning is not productive. This session will focus on the elements of time strategic planning. It will begin with orientations, definitions, and approaches contained in the NAST *Sourcebook for Futures Planning*, Part I, which will be provided to preregistrants in advance. The session will continue with interactive studies of strategic approaches to the problems theatre administrators typically face, with particular focus on the strategic questions that should be asked.

Don Drapeau, Virginia Tech  
Samuel Hope, NAST National Office

**EVENING FREE .....**

## Sunday, April 3

8:00 a.m. –  
11:00 a.m.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS BREAKFAST MEETING**

**Medallion F**

11:00 a.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

The NAST 41st Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 30 – April 2, 2006. The location for the 2006 meeting will be announced soon. Watch the web site for details.