

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE

PROGRAM

Forty-Fourth Annual Meeting

and

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

March 26 – 28, 2009

Wyndham Chicago Hotel

Chicago, Illinois

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE
2009 Annual Meeting and Retreat for
Administrators of Theatre Programs in Higher Education

Wednesday, March 25

3:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AND DINNER	Michigan Boardroom
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Thursday, March 26

8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.	REGISTRATION	Grand Foyer
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8:00 a.m.- 12:00 noon	COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION <i>(Commission members only)</i>	Lakeshore East
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12:00 noon- 2:30 p.m.	BOARD OF DIRECTORS LUNCHEON MEETING	Michigan Boardroom
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12:30 p.m.- 1:25 p.m.	ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS TO NAST	Lakeshore West
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This session will provide an orientation to the resources and operations of NAST, with special attention to the benefits and responsibilities of accredited institutional Membership. An emphasis will be on ways the Association and its work assist administrators in many aspects of fulfilling their local responsibilities. The last 10 minutes of the session will be devoted to meetings of first-time attendees with their NAST mentors.

Edmond Williams, University of Alabama
Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

1:30 p.m.- 2:15 p.m.	COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THE HEADS DATA SURVEY	Lakeshore West
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This session will provide an in-depth review of procedures for online submission of the HEADS Data Survey for degree-granting institutions. Primarily intended for first-time participants, this section-by-section overview of the survey will explain in detail the survey submission process, types of data collected, and how to calculate certain figures.

Mark Marion, NAST National Office

Thursday (continued)

1:30 p.m.-
2:15 p.m.

NAST RESOURCES FOR LOCAL ADVOCACY

Grand BC

NAST has a number of resources used by institutions to assist in the formulation of local proposals and policies. This session will enumerate and explain the purpose of several sets of information. Areas of discussion include faculty work, promotion, tenure; the duties of administrators; planning and futures analysis; assessment; and explaining the principles, aspirations, and methods associated with quality developments in theatre.

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

2:30 p.m.-
2:50 p.m.

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Grand BC

Welcome
Announcements
Report of the President

3:00 p.m.-
5:00 p.m.

**NEXT STEPS: WHERE IS THEATRE GOING?
EXPLORING PERMUTABLE BOUNDARIES –
FORM, FUNCTION AND PRODUCTION MODELS.**

Grand BC

There is no single future for theatre. Already the field is diverse in almost every dimension of its work. Talented and highly educated professionals develop their own visions and ways forward. Institutions and programs preparing theatre professionals face a wide array of possibilities. Graduates will find their places in present and evolving diverse situations. These conditions and realities lead us to some overarching questions, and point to the need to explore some of the possibilities more carefully. While many present elements of theatre will continue, such as the large regional houses, what can we expect in addition? Although interactivity and technology are powerful ideas in shaping forces, what are some of the artistic futures for theatre? For example, what are the natures of theatre performances in the future? At times, it is useful to think of theatre as a delivery system. In this framework, at the present time, what is theatre delivering and to whom? In the future, what do we expect theatre in various manifestations will be delivering, and to whom? Issues of this kind will be discussed and assimilated in light of their possible meaning for the future of educational programs that prepare theatre professionals.

Presenters: Daniel Alexander Jones, Fordham University
Michael Rohd, Sojourn Theatre Company, Chicago, IL

Moderator: Morgan Jenness, Abrams Artists Agency, New York, NY

5:00 p.m.-
6:15 p.m.

**PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION IN HONOR
OF FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES
(Cash bar)**

Lakeshore Prefunction

Thursday (continued)

5:45 p.m.-
7:00 p.m.

HEARING: MULTIMEDIA ISSUES

Grand BC

NAST is a member of the Council of the Arts Accrediting Associations (CAAA). CAAA has empanelled a working group on multimedia. This working group is seeking information, ideas, and comment from members of each of the four arts accrediting associations. The working group is gathering and synthesizing information about the preparation of artists for work in multimedia, the nature and scope of multimedia studies in higher education, and the preparation orientation of professionals in the art form such as theatre with regard to multimedia, its functions, and its possibilities.

Moderator: George Brown, Bradley University

6:00 p.m.-
8:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP FOR VISITING EVALUATORS
(By invitation only.)

Lakeshore West

Friday, March 27

8:00 a.m.-
6:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Grand Foyer

8:30 a.m.-
9:15 a.m.

**NAST ANNUAL MEETING:
PLENARY SESSION**

Grand BC

Call to Order

Quorum

Minutes

Agenda

Reports: Committee on Ethics
Commission on Accreditation
Treasurer
Executive Director

Action on Handbook Changes

Election

Appreciation

New Business

Adjournment

Friday (continued)

9:30 a.m.-
11:00 a.m.

NEXT STEPS: THEATRE AND ITS MULTIPLE CONNECTIONS

Grand BC

From its beginnings, theatre has been a multidisciplinary art. Theatre professionals are connected to and connect with many other fields as they work with content, process, and production issues. In the recent past, new conditions have emerged that expand the range and nature of these connections. For example, new relationships among art, science and technology are apparent to all. The artistic and pedagogical potential is enormous. Electronic media is an important manifestation, with potential influences on performance, games, works of art based on interaction, and in general, new ways of organizing and presenting material. Content and aesthetic questions abound, even though at times, the technical and technological seem to take precedence. This session will explore a number of these possibilities. A particular focus will be given to how theatre and the knowledge and skills embodied in its various disciplines connect with other arts, technological, and even scientific fields. We will address questions of what theatre professionals need to know as points of basic information, and what they need to know if they wish to participate in evolving connections and collaborations. We will also address questions of what professionals in the other art forms and in technology/engineering need to know about theatre. Blended in to the presentation will be distinctions, commonalities, and connections between time-based and Web-based art.

Presenter: Peter Raad, Southern Methodist University

Moderator: Roberta Sloan, Temple University

11:15 a.m.-
12:15 p.m.

NEXT STEPS: EXPERIMENTATION CASE STUDIES

Grand BC

Schools and programs that prepare theatre professionals are a natural home for experimentation. Human creativity, evolving conditions, and new technologies have created the impetus for new structures and approaches for experimentation at a number of institutions. This session will present case studies about such endeavors. How did they come to be? What is their organizational structure? What are their artistic and experimentation goals? How do they promote a climate of innovation? What has been learned – what has worked and what has not? What artistic and experimentation possibilities seem to be opening up over the next five years?

Presenters: James Ferolo, Bradley University
Sean Kelley, Texas Tech University
David Saltz, University of Georgia

Moderator: George Brown, Bradley University

Friday (continued)

12:30 p.m.-
1:45 p.m.

LUNCHEON FOR THE ASSOCIATION

Lakeshore West

Title: “A Personal Journey through Black Educational Theatre”

Presenter: Winona L. Fletcher, Professor Emerita, Indiana University

Moderator: Frankie Day, North Carolina Agricultural and
Technical State University

2:00 p.m.-
5:00 p.m.

**WORKSHOP: PREPARING FOR
NAST ACCREDITATION**

Lakeshore East

This workshop is especially designed for those institutions that will host evaluation visits in the next two years. All interested persons, however, are welcome.

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

2:00 p.m.-
3:30 p.m.

NEXT STEPS: IMAGES ON STAGE

Grand BC

Theatre, as a form of media, reflects reality, but it also has the capacity to create reality. How can schools of theatre use our current perspectives on race, gender and class to foster innovation and enrich the experience of diversity on the American stage? Casting is one dynamic point of convergence for this discussion. We will explore a series of case-studies to sharpen our ability to perceive many dimensions within the frame of diversity. How is color-blind casting effective in achieving diversity? What are its limitations? What makes us most uncomfortable in discussing these issues? This session aims to raise these and other questions as an opportunity to unlock our conversations on race. Case-studies offer ‘a fresh look,’ key questions and new models for individual and small-group engagement with this complex topic.

Presenters: Sydne Mahone, University of Iowa
Russell Vandebroucke, University of Louisville

Moderator: Frankie Day, North Carolina Agricultural and
Technical State University

Friday (continued)

3:45 p.m.-
5:15 p.m.

ROUNDTABLES BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

(Please note: Institutions offering more than one type of program should choose a roundtable based on their primary interest at the moment.)

These sessions will provide attendees 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 attendees. It will also be possible to raise questions from the floor. The fundamental purpose of each session is to share issues and expertise across a broad range of topics germane to each type of institution and to theatre in higher education. Participants may attend the session of your choice.

(1) **NON-DEGREE-GRANTING** **Grand A**

Moderator: Harold G. Baldrige, Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre

(2) **UNDERGRADUATE (A)** **Grand B**

This session is primarily for institutions that offer only the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science at the undergraduate level.

Moderator: Susan Hallman, California State University, Fullerton

(3) **UNDERGRADUATE (B)** **Grand C**

This session is primarily for institutions that offer the Bachelor of Fine Arts or the B.F.A. and the B.A./B.S. at the undergraduate level.

Moderator: Stephen Rees, State University of New York, Fredonia

(4) **MASTER OF FINE ARTS** **St. Clair 3**

This session is primarily for institutions that offer the terminal degree in a studio practice area.

Moderator: Brant Pope, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

(5) **GRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAMS** **Ontario**

This session is primarily for institutions that offer graduate research programs.

Moderator: Jonathan Michaelsen, Indiana University

5:15 p.m.-
6:15 p.m.

COCKTAIL RECEPTION
(Cash bar)

Grand Foyer

5:45 p.m.-
7:15 p.m.

U/RTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Grand A

Saturday, March 28

8:00 a.m.-
9:00 a.m.

**USING HEADS STATISTICAL DATA FOR
INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING AND PROJECTIONS**

St. Clair 1 & 2

The institutional research data gathered and compiled by the Higher Education Arts Data Services Project constitute a unique and valuable resource for theatre executives at degree-granting institutions. This session will provide a detailed overview of statistics contained in the HEADS Data Summaries (the aggregate reports compiled annually from HEADS Data Surveys), the use of HEADS Special Reports for comparison among specific peer institutions, and potential uses for HEADS data in local policy discussions and administrative planning.

Moderator: Mark Marion, NAST National Office

9:15 a.m.-
10:45 a.m.

NEXT STEPS: INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Grand BC

This session will begin with a briefing on the international situation in higher education as it relates to theatre institutions and programs. The impact of regional and global connections and agreements will be considered for their potential influence on content, curriculum, program evaluation, etc. The session will continue with prospects, possibilities, and logistics of student and faculty exchanges, and how these might develop over time. The session will also consider ways to connect cultures through the creation and performance of theatrical works and arts.

Presenter: Erik Ehn, California Institute of the Arts

Moderator/Presenter: John C. Green, Butler University

11:00 a.m.-
12:00 noon

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

Grand BC

Presenter: Willa Taylor, Goodman Theatre

Moderator: Dan Carter, Pennsylvania State University

12:00 noon-
1:45 p.m.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LUNCHEON MEETING**

Michigan Boardroom

1:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The NAST 45th Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 25-27, 2010. The location for the meeting will be announced soon. Watch the Web site for details.