

# **PROGRAM**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF THEATRE**

**Fiftieth Annual Meeting**

**and**

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

**March 26-28, 2015**

**Hotel Monteleone  
New Orleans, Louisiana**

# Contents

<b>Commission Activities and Workshop for Visiting Evaluators .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pre-Meeting Workshop .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Fiftieth Annual Meeting Program.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Fifty-First Annual Meeting.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>NAST Officers, Board, Commission, Committees, and Staff 2014-2015 .....</b>	<b>21</b>

# Commission Activities and Workshop for Visiting Evaluators

## PLEASE NOTE:

- *The following information regarding Commission activities and the Workshop for Visiting Evaluators is not repeated in the Annual Meeting program that begins on page 11.*
- *The hotel floor follows the meeting room name. Please consult the hotel map for the location of meeting rooms on each floor.*

## Saturday, March 21

12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor)  
**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
*(Commission members only)*

## Sunday, March 22

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor)  
**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
*(Commission members only)*

## Monday, March 23

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor)  
**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
*(Commission members only)*

## Tuesday, March 24

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor)  
**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
*(Commission members only)*

## Wednesday, March 25

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor)  
**COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION**  
*(Commission members only)*

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Iberville (Mezzanine B)  
**REGISTRATION**

## Thursday, March 26

7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Iberville (Mezzanine B)  
**REGISTRATION**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Royal Salon B (Ground Floor)  
**WORKSHOP FOR VISITING EVALUATORS**

This annual workshop will provide training to theatre administrators interested in becoming visiting evaluators

## Thursday, March 26 *(Continued)*

for NAST. Fundamentals of the accreditation process will be described in detail. Significant time will be spent discussing expectations with regard to Self-Studies and Self-Study documentation. An overview of the *Handbook* and its constituent parts will be presented. Standards and guidelines and their application to applicant institutions will receive considerable attention as potential evaluators are guided through the process of on-site review and Visitors' Report preparation. *(Please note: This session is by invitation only. Individuals interested in becoming NAST evaluators may submit letters of interest and curricula vitae for consideration for training in 2016.)*

*Facilitators:* Robert Hansen, University of North Carolina  
at Greensboro

Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

# Pre-Meeting Workshop

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- *The following information regarding the Pre-Meeting Workshop is not repeated in the Annual Meeting program that begins on page 11.*
- *Advance registration for the Pre-Meeting Workshop is required. Please check with the NAST registration desk concerning space availability and fee.*
- *The hotel floor follows the meeting room name. Please consult the hotel map for the location of meeting rooms on each floor.*

## Wednesday, March 25

**10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**  
**REGISTRATION**

**Iberville (Mezzanine B)**

**1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Riverview (16th Floor)**

**PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP: NEW AND ASPIRING  
THEATRE ADMINISTRATORS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**  
*(Continued on Thursday at 8:00 a.m.)*

This workshop is intended for individuals who are new, aspiring, or in the early years of their administrative careers in theatre. The workshop has been designed to address several of the most important areas of concern for administrators. Each session will present a basic briefing on a topic, followed by ample opportunity for interaction and discussion. The content will focus on principles and approaches applicable to all types of institutions.

*Moderator:* Kristin Sosnowsky, Louisiana State University

**1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.**

**Introductions, Orientation, and Welcome from the President**

**1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Administration as Performance**

Like an actor preparing to perform on stage, the savvy arts administrator knows that in theatre, as in life, the best performances are based on adequate preparation, a cohesive vision, a positive attitude, and the ability to learn and grow from mistakes. This session will focus on life and career strategies, streamlining interpersonal and group communication, personnel challenges and strategies to address them, and discussion of cautionary budgeting and strategic planning issues.

*Presenter:* Alan MacVey, University of Iowa

**2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Working with the Academic Community:  
Managing and Leading**

Major topics will include establishing and cultivating relationships between the theatre unit and academic

## Wednesday, March 25 (Continued)

communities within and beyond the institution; developing strong and irreplaceable relationships with other administrators and community leaders; designing approaches that can be used to explain the activities of the theatre program and advocate for support within the academic community; and good practices to be considered when representing the theatre unit on and off campus. Relationships among the various facets of administrative responsibility in relationship to the theatre unit as a whole will be discussed.

Several short examples describing leadership successes and failures will assist attendees to explore ways to find their own leadership style, and serve as springboards to provide opportunities to discuss the most important things leaders do, particularly with regard to managing people, communicating clearly, allocating resources, and planning. Questions to be addressed include: What are some examples of particularly effective leadership styles? How does one find his/her own leadership style? How does one develop a leadership style that will be effective given the multitude of issues that exist in any given theatre unit? Do different issues require different styles? How can a leader improve his/her leadership skills?

Time will be offered toward the end of the session for attendees to pose specific questions about leadership.

*Presenter:* Sarah E. Gabel, Loyola University Chicago

**3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

### **Financial Management: Hints and Tips**

Theatre programs are expensive to build, manage, sustain, and maintain. Financial management involves attention to a multitude of issues ranging from facilities management, to resource allocation, to setting faculty compensation, to establishing and maintaining scholarships, and many others. Each issue poses its own pressure that must be considered in the budgeting process.

This session will highlight common issues encountered by theatre administrators, propose helpful suggestions for dealing with such issues, and offer guidance with regard to resources that theatre administrators can study which may provide useful information and helpful insight.

Specific topics to be discussed include techniques for managing technological costs in light of other expenses, long-range financial planning, fiscal accountability, and dealing with unknowns and the unexpected. Technology as a producer of budget pressures and techniques for managing technology costs in relation to other expenses will be featured.

*Presenter:* C. Cameron Jackson, Florida State University

**4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

### **Goals, Planning, and Time Management**

This session will address the value of and procedures for establishing realistic goals and objectives as the basis for effective long-range planning and time management.

## Wednesday, March 25 (Continued)

Starting with the premise that one person or theatre unit cannot do everything, goal setting is an effective way to establish both personal and community priorities. When successful, this effort focuses planning. Time management is an increasingly important concern for all administrators and faculty. Successful administrators learn multiple skills associated with answering requests of all types efficiently and effectively without spending more time than is absolutely necessary. Examples of successful ways to think about time and to plan for its effective use will be presented.

*Presenter:* Kristin Sosnowsky, Louisiana State University

## Thursday, March 26

7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Iberville (Mezzanine B)

**REGISTRATION**

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Riverview (16th Floor)

**PRE-MEETING WORKSHOP: NEW AND ASPIRING  
THEATRE ADMINISTRATORS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

*(Continued from Wednesday, March 25)*

8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

**Working with Deans and Other Administrators**

One of the many facets of administration is the necessity to work with other administrators in various contexts and in related and nonrelated disciplines. The assistance of peer administrators can be invaluable in assisting a theatre administrator to address the aspirations of the theatre unit. This session will address several critical principles and issues associated with developing rapport with fellow administrators. Questions will be considered, such as: How can the theatre administrator establish rapport with fellow administrators? What actions and activities can enhance established rapport? What role can or should other administrators play in supporting the theatre unit's initiatives?

*Presenter:* Augustine Ripa, Lehigh University

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

**Working with Faculty**

While an administrator's role involves working with budgets, academic policy, and university politics, most of us find that our days are occupied with faculty issues related to interpersonal communication and conflict. This session will explore a principles-based leadership style and strategies for handling conflict. Practical tips for creating and supporting healthier relationships among faculty members will be discussed. During the session, participants will begin to articulate their own "Best Principles" leadership philosophy.

*Presenter:* DeAnna Toten Beard, Baylor University

## **Thursday, March 26 (Continued)**

**10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

### **Annual Reporting Requirements: Accreditation Audit, Affirmation Statement, Supplemental Annual Report, HEADS Data Survey**

Member institutions are required to submit information to NAST on an annual basis. This session will address specific reporting requirements, timelines, deadlines, and helpful suggestions aimed to ensure complete and accurate submission of the Accreditation Audit, Affirmation Statement, and Supplemental Annual Report. The predominant focus of this session will be an in-depth review of procedures for online submission of the HEADS Data Survey for degree-granting institutions. A section-by-section overview of the Survey will explain in detail the Survey submission process, types of data collected, suggested collection mechanisms, and presentation of calculated data. *(Please note: A related session focusing on the use of HEADS data, titled "Using HEADS Statistical Data for Institutional Planning and Projections," will be held on Saturday, March 28 from 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.)*

*Presenter:* Erin Moscony, NAST National Office

**11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

### **NAST Administrative Support Resources**

NAST has a number of resources available for institutions to assist in the formulation of local proposals and policies. This session will enumerate and explain the purposes of several sets of information. Areas of discussion will include faculty work, promotion, tenure; the duties of administrators; planning and futures analysis; assessment; and communicating with others, explaining the principles, aspirations, and suggested considerations for the development of effective programs in theatre. Information described above is available on the NAST website, as is detailed and extensive information helpful to the general public, students, administrators, theatre administrators new to NAST, and those embarking upon accreditation and reaccreditation applications. A brief look at the website, highlighting its resources and use, will be offered.

*Presenter:* Sarah Yount, NAST National Office

**11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

### **Box Lunch and Open Discussion**

**12:30 p.m.**

### **Adjournment of Pre-Meeting Workshop**

# Fiftieth Annual Meeting

## “Preserving Our Past; Embracing the Future”

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **Advance registration is required for the NAST Annual Meeting.**
- **The hotel floor follows the meeting room name. Please consult the hotel map for the location of meeting rooms on each floor.**
- **Please see pages 5-6 of this program for meeting times and locations for Commission and the Workshop for Visiting Evaluator activities. The Pre-Meeting Workshop may be found on pages 7-10. The information in those sections is not repeated below in the body of the Annual Meeting program.**

### Wednesday, March 25

**10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Iberville (Mezzanine B)**  
**REGISTRATION**

**5:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Beauregard (2nd Floor)**  
**ORIENTATION FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS**  
*(Board of Directors members only)*

**6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Beauregard (2nd Floor)**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS DINNER AND BUSINESS MEETING**  
*(Board of Directors members only)*

### Thursday, March 26

**7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Iberville (Mezzanine B)**  
**REGISTRATION**

**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Vieux Carré (17th Floor)**  
**WORKSHOP: PREPARING FOR NAST EVALUATION**

This session will provide information and guidance concerning the Self-Study and visitation processes for members whose institutions are to be visited in the next two years, institutions planning to begin the NAST evaluation process, and those formally engaged in the process. A step-by-step walk-through of the accreditation process will be provided, including confirmation of timelines and deadlines, and information regarding accreditation procedures, Self-Study formats, on-site reviews, the Visitors' Report, the Optional Response, and Commission action. Questions will be taken during this nuts-and-bolts session. All interested individuals are welcome. *(Please note: The last hour of the session will be devoted to general questions and answers.)*

*Presenters:* Anne Curley, NAST National Office  
Kyle Dobbeck, NAST National Office

## Thursday, March 26 (Continued)

### 12:30 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. **Royal Salon A (Ground Floor)** **BRIEFING FOR MODERATORS AND RECORDERS**

This briefing, conducted by NAST staff, will present instructions, expectations, and helpful hints to Annual Meeting moderators and recorders. All individuals who have agreed to serve as moderators and/or recorders should plan to attend this briefing.

*Facilitator:* Sarah Yount, NAST National Office

### 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. **Royal Salon C/D (Ground Floor)** **ORIENTATION FOR NEWCOMERS TO NAST**

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. Discussion will emphasize ways the Association and its work can assist administrators to fulfill the many and varied aspects of their local responsibilities.

*Presenters:* Annie-Laurie Wheat, Winthrop University  
Anne Curley, NAST National Office  
Kyle Dobbeck, NAST National Office  
Tracy Maraney, NAST National Office  
Erin Moscony, NAST National Office  
Sarah Yount, NAST National Office

### 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)** **FIRST GENERAL SESSION**

Welcome  
Announcements  
Report of the President  
Keynote Address

*Speaker:* Ben Cameron, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation  
*Title:* "Changing Modes of Cultural Authority –  
and the Implications for Training"

### 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)** **A CONVERSATION WITH BEN CAMERON**

In the wake of larger changes in the world around us, the role and value of theatre are changing. Traditional theatrical models are increasingly threatened by new modes of communication, the emergence of technology, and other pressures. While these trends are often described in terms of loss, in actuality, they may be bellwethers for new roles and opportunities for theatre.

Following the ideas presented during the keynote address, this session will explore salient shifts in the larger world, the expanded role of narrative for the future, and the implications of these trends for theatre curricula at all levels. Time will be offered for questions and answers.

*Speaker:* Ben Cameron, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation  
*Moderator:* R. Terrell Finney, Jr., University of Cincinnati

## Thursday, March 26 (Continued)

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

(Rooms Noted Below)

### ROUNDTABLES BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION

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

The roundtables serve as a forum for individuals to raise topics of general concern and/or propose topics of particular local interest for discussion by and advice from the entire group. Participants are asked to give thought to such topics in advance. Each roundtable will provide an opportunity 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 their session of choice. Discussion comments and issues noted by session recorders will be considered by the NAST Board of Directors in the future work of the Association.

#### Professional Studio

#### Royal Salon A (Ground Floor)

##### School Programs

Primarily for institutions that offer postsecondary non-degree professional training in theatre.

*Moderator:* Beth Harper, Portland Actors Conservatory

*Recorder:* Michael Grenham, Stella Adler Studio of Acting

#### Community/Junior Colleges Royal Salon D (Ground Floor)

Primarily for community/junior colleges and two-year institutions that offer theatre programs.

*Moderator:* Jane Frazier, Vincennes University

*Recorder:* William Conte, Casper College

#### Undergraduate (A)

#### Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)

Primarily for institutions that offer liberal arts (B.A./B.S.) baccalaureate programs.

*Moderator:* Carl H. Lefko, Radford University

*Recorder:* Lia Hansen, Vanguard University of Southern California

#### Undergraduate (B)

#### Vieux Carré (17th Floor)

Primarily for institutions that offer professional (B.F.A.) baccalaureate programs.

*Moderator:* Kenneth L. Stilson, Southeast Missouri State University

*Recorder:* Scott Shattuck, Stephen F. Austin State University

#### Master of Fine Arts

#### Royal Salon B (Ground Floor)

Primarily for institutions that offer the terminal degree in a theatre practice area.

*Moderator:* Larry Larsen, University of Portland

*Recorder:* Joshua B. Williamson, West Virginia University

#### Graduate Research Programs Royal Salon C (Ground Floor)

Primarily for institutions that offer graduate research programs.

*Moderator:* Karin Magaldi, Portland State University

*Recorder:* Elisabeth Hostetter, Rowan University

## Thursday, March 26 *(Continued)*

**5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.** **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)**  
**ROUNDTABLE REPORTS**

Moderators and recorders from each of the six roundtables will present a ten-minute summary report of the group's findings, including major issues and concerns, to all attendees.

*Moderator:* Holly Logue, Kean University

**6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.** **Riverview (16th Floor)**  
**PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION FOR THE ASSOCIATION  
IN HONOR OF FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES**  
*(Cash bar)*

**7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.** **Beauregard (2nd Floor)**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS DINNER AND SEMINAR MEETING**  
*(Board of Directors members only)*

## Friday, March 27

**7:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.** **Royal Ballroom (Ground Floor)**  
**CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOR THE ASSOCIATION**

*Hosted by:* Music Theatre International

**8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.** **Iberville (Mezzanine B)**  
**REGISTRATION**

**8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)**  
**SECOND GENERAL SESSION: PLENARY BUSINESS MEETING**

Call to Order

Quorum

Minutes

Agenda

Report of the Committee on Ethics

Report of the Commission on Accreditation

Introduction of New Accredited Institutional Members

Report of the Treasurer

Report of the Executive Director

Election

Appreciation

New Business

Adjournment

**9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.** **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)**  
**CURRICULAR PROGRAMS: WHAT STAYS, WHAT SHOULD GO,  
WHAT MUST BE CONSIDERED**

In all academic disciplines, curricular offerings are informed not only by institutional values and traditions, but also by those competencies deemed most essential to success in a specific field. In the case of theatre, the field is both deep and wide, and continually evolving. The challenge for theatre administrators and faculties then is to ensure that the various components of curricular programs are in line with the realities of professional practice. In an effort to ensure currency, program leaders should routinely consider which

## Friday, March 27 (Continued)

elements of the curriculum must stay, which should go, and what new or developing elements of professional practice must be considered for future inclusion.

A series of presentations will seek to define what is “essential” to the training of theatre students. What are the fundamental skills, knowledge, and values that will serve theatre graduates for years to come? Next, presenters will posit what areas are ripe for elimination or reinvention. And finally, presenters will look to the future and consider possibilities for curricular innovation in new, unfolding, and/or retooled areas. Open discussion will follow.

*Presenters:* George H. Brown, Western Carolina University  
Amy Petersen Jensen, Brigham Young University  
Russell Vandenbroucke, University of Louisville

*Moderator:* David Grapes II, University of Northern Colorado

### **12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m. Royal Ballroom (Ground Floor)** **LUNCHEON FOR THE ASSOCIATION**

*Speaker:* Jim Fitzmorris, Playwright

*Title:* “All the News That’s Fit to Stage”

*Moderator:* David W. Hoover, University of New Orleans

### **1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)** **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT I: RECRUITMENT**

The savvy theatre administrator knows that student recruitment successes have lasting implications for the long-term health and development of the theatre unit. Although a good track record and word of mouth are invaluable, today, proactive interaction and information sharing are necessities. No longer can institutions merely wait for the next cohort to arrive.

Presenters will address issues such as the use of online marketing and social media, recruitment opportunities at regional theatre conferences, the engagement of alumni in recruitment efforts, the allure of senior showcases and student portfolio events, and various strategies for answering questions related to program cost and student outcomes. Open discussion will follow.

*Presenters:* Anne D’Zmura, California State University, Long Beach  
John Stefano, Otterbein University

*Moderator:* Catherine Weidner, Ithaca College

### **3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)** **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT II: RETENTION**

For many students, the road from matriculation to graduation can appear long, complex, daunting, and challenging. For those students who enter college intending to study theatre, the results vary. Some may complete an undergraduate degree in four years; others may take a more leisurely path. Some may change majors, degree programs, or specializations mid-flow; others may decide to transfer to other institutions. Some may simply drop out. For theatre administrators and faculties, the questions become: “How can we make the

## Friday, March 27 (Continued)

long view shorter, the complex more simple, the process less daunting, and success more feasible?" "How can we assist all students to advance and flourish?" "How can we help them maneuver through and balance their many and varied student responsibilities?"

Presenters will consider various challenges with regard to student retention and will discuss various strategies related to ensemble building, mentoring, and advising. Student support mechanisms, such as counseling services, writing centers, and tutors, will also be addressed. Open discussion will follow.

*Presenters:* Terry Dean, James Madison University  
Kevin Paul Hofeditz, Southern Methodist University  
*Moderator:* Marilyn Hetzel, Metropolitan State University of Denver

### 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. **Royal Salon A (Ground Floor)** **BRIEFING FOR EXPERIENCED EVALUATORS**

This annual briefing is offered for individuals currently trained and serving as NAST visiting evaluators. It will provide an opportunity for evaluators to refresh their knowledge of NAST procedures, protocols, and standards, with particular focus on recent changes to the *Procedures for Institutions* and the *Handbook*. Helpful reminders regarding the format, preparation, and required content of Visitors' Reports will be provided. The potential impact of the activities of external constituencies, such as the federal government, states, and other review bodies, which may impact the accreditation process, will be discussed. Documentation required of institutions and evaluators will be highlighted, as well as sources and uses of helpful and informative publications aimed to assist institutions in the preparation of Self-Studies and evaluators in the preparation of Visitors' Reports. *(Please note: This session is by invitation only.)*

*Presenter:* Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

### 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)** **THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF THE THEATRE STUDENT**

Issues of health and wellness have a significant influence on the academic and artistic performance of the theatre student, regardless of major or specialization. Together, theatre administrators, faculty, and staff must find ways to support and empower students with regard to their physical, mental, and psychological well-being.

Presenters will seek to identify the primary health and wellness issues facing today's theatre students and will open a conversation addressing these challenges. Attendees will consider best practices for establishing healthy learning environments and working with appropriate routes of referral both within and outside the institution.

*Presenters:* Joan Herrington, Western Michigan University  
Robyn Quick, Towson University

## Friday, March 27 *(Continued)*

**4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.                      Royal Salon B (Ground Floor)**  
**TRANSITIONING FROM TWO- TO FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMS**

As the price of a four-year degree continues to increase, more and more prospective theatre students are electing to begin their pursuit of higher education at two-year institutions. For some, this first step is a choice; for others it is a necessity. For many students enrolled in two-year theatre programs, an associate's degree will be the terminus; others will seek to transfer their earned credits into a bachelor's degree program.

This presentation will focus on this second set of students and will employ a two-way approach. First, how can two-year programs best prepare those students to apply for entry into a four-year program? And second, what mechanisms can four-year programs provide in order to help accepted students make the transition? Issues such as truth in advertising, communication between two- and four-year programs, transfer of credits policies, and student advising will be addressed. Open discussion will follow.

*Presenters:*     Patrice Bailey, New World School of the Arts  
                       Royal Brantley, West Texas A&M University  
*Moderator:*     Gina Neuerer, Sinclair Community College

**4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.                      Royal Salon D (Ground Floor)**  
**URTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
*Colleague Organization Event*

**6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.                      813 Bienville Avenue (Off-Site)**  
**50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATORY RECEPTION AND DINNER**  
*(Please note: The reception will feature a cash bar. Dinner is included in registrants' Annual Meeting registration fee. Guests are assessed a separate fee.)*

Registrants and their guests will enjoy good fellowship during a special anniversary reception and multi-course gourmet dinner at historic Arnaud's Restaurant, located in the heart of the French Quarter. Attendees will hear past NAST President Donald Drapeau share thoughts about the Association's rich history from the late 1960s through the present. Featuring elegantly restored dining rooms, Arnaud's has served classic New Orleans fare since 1918.

*Speaker:*        Donald A. Drapeau, Virginia Tech  
*Moderator:*     R. Terrell Finney, Jr., University of Cincinnati

## Saturday, March 28

**7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.                      Beauregard (2nd Floor)**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS BREAKFAST AND SEMINAR MEETING**  
*(Board of Directors members only)*

**9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.                      Royal Salon B (Ground Floor)**  
**BRIEFING: FEDERAL ISSUES FOR THEATRE ADMINISTRATORS**

Under the law, the federal government does not control higher education. However, the federal government does play

## **Saturday, March 28 (Continued)**

a major role in developing conditions for the work of higher education, primarily through laws and regulations defining conditions for institutional participation in grant and student loan programs, and tax policies that influence economic conditions affecting education and the arts.

Following a brief introduction to the higher education and policy landscapes, this session will address the current political climate; various pressures on institutions; and current and prospective federal policies, laws, and regulations affecting higher education and the arts. This briefing will take a non-partisan policy analysis approach, looking at the ramifications and costs of various options and probabilities. Time for questions and discussion will be provided.

*Presenter:* Sarah Yount, NAST National Office

### **9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Vieux Carré (17th Floor) CREATING COGENT COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS**

Whether developing and preparing comprehensive applications for accreditation and reaccreditation, Responses, Progress Reports, or applications for Plan Approval, Final Approval for Listing, or Substantive Change, clear and cogent material, which articulates activities at the institution while at the same time addresses standards issues, is necessary in order to conduct a successful conversation with the Commission on Accreditation. This session will offer an overview of the *Handbook* and the use of its contents in preparing Commission correspondence. Helpful ideas and suggestions will be provided for attendees in the process of, or planning to, develop materials for Commission review.

*Presenter:* Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

### **9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Royal Salon A (Ground Floor) ROUNDTABLE FOR NON-DEGREE-GRANTING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIO SCHOOLS**

This session will provide attendees with an opportunity to pose specific issues and questions for consideration by the entire group. Topics may be determined in advance or raised during the roundtable. This roundtable is open to all attendees.

*Moderator:* Johnny Meeks, Upright Citizens Brigade Improv and Sketch Comedy Training Center

### **10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B) THE CARE AND NURTURING OF MINORITY, LOW-INCOME, AND FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS**

With the numbers of minority, low-income, and first-generation students continuing to grow, higher education must continue to find ways to support academic and personal growth of these students. In theatre programs, where students are expected to spend many hours in rehearsal, establishing a life-school balance can prove extremely challenging, and sometimes impossible. But time is not the only pressure. These students may also be facing financial

## Saturday, March 28 (Continued)

issues, family responsibilities, a lack of support at home, etc. The session will provide an opportunity to discuss the particular needs of minority, low-income, and first-generation students, along with ways in which theatre administrators, faculty, and staff can provide them with guidance, mentorship, and support.

*Presenters:* Marianne Adams, Appalachian State University  
Kim James Bey, Howard University  
Thomas Colonna, The Community College  
of Baltimore County

*Moderator:* Patricia A. Raun, Virginia Tech

### 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Royal Salon B (Ground Floor)**

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

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 Data Summaries and Special Reports for comparison among specific peer institutions, and potential users for HEADS data in local policy discussions and administrative planning.

*Presenter:* Erin Moscony, NAST National Office

### 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Vieux Carré (17th Floor)**

#### **OPEN FORUM: NAST ACCREDITATION PROCESSES – PROCEDURES, STANDARDS, GUIDELINES, AND PRACTICES**

This forum will provide an opportunity for discussion of NAST requirements and procedures with regard to applications for accreditation/reaccreditation, Plan Approval/Final Approval for Listing, and Substantive Change, as well as use of the *Handbook* and application of standards. It will be guided by the questions posed by participants, which may be prepared in advance and focus on general, rather than specific institutional issues. All meeting attendees are welcome.

*(Please note: Individuals who attend the Thursday morning session entitled “Workshop: Preparing for NAST Evaluation” may find this Open Forum helpful.)*

*Presenter:* Karen P. Moynahan, NAST National Office

### 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. **Nouvelle Orleans (Mezzanine B)**

#### **ADMINISTERING THEATRE PROGRAMS: DEALING WITH TODAY’S REALITIES**

Amidst today’s realities, the academic theatre administrator is faced with a growing set of responsibilities. This session will touch upon a number of these administrative responsibilities, including: providing leadership to the theatre unit, inspiring “buy in” from faculty members, advocating for resources and funding, promoting theatrical events, and mediating interactions between faculty and “helicopter parents.”

## **Saturday, March 28 (Continued)**

Presenters will touch upon strategies for engaging not only with the academic community but also with the wider community. Open discussion will follow.

*Presenters:* Michael Hood, Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
Tom Mardikes, University of Missouri, Kansas City

*Moderator:* Jonathan R. Michaelsen, Indiana University

**1:15 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE FIFTIETH NAST ANNUAL MEETING**

**National Association of Schools of Theatre**  
**FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING**  
**AND**  
**RETREAT FOR ADMINISTRATORS OF THEATRE PROGRAMS**  
**IN HIGHER EDUCATION**  
**March 17-19, 2016**  
**Hyatt Regency Louisville**  
**Louisville, Kentucky**

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