

MATC Business Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2004

The minutes of last year's Business Meeting were approved with no amendments or corrections.

Officers and elections:

John Poole will take office as the MATC President after the Business Meeting. Many thanks to Rhona for her two years of service.

Because the conference is growing, the office of Conference Planner could use some assistance. The Executive Committee would like to add an office of Associate Conference Planner, as reflected in the amended By-Laws. Ann Haugo will become the Associate Conference Planner, for a term of two years.

The office of Secretary has been vacated. Mark Mallett was nominated, and the vote to accept the nomination was unanimous. No other candidates were nominated. Welcome Mark Mallett as the new MATC Secretary, for a term of two years.

*Theatre History Studies* report

Bob Schanke distributed a written report. To summarize:

- Print subscriptions have decreased, in part due to one of the jobbers declaring bankruptcy. Print subscriptions might also be somewhat affected by the number of people who can read the journal online.
- Royalties have increased due to the electronic databases that *THS* is now a part of.
- Budget looks fine. MATC will again provide about \$3,000 to supplement the account. Current balance: 10,595.03. (Not including the \$3,000 from MATC.)
- Rhona Justice-Malloy has been appointed as the new editor. She will serve as Book Review Editor for a year (Volume 25) and assume full responsibility as editor in the Spring of 2005 for Volume 26.

MATC Fellows

No nominations were made this year. Rhona urged the membership to make nominations for next year. A letter of nomination and the nominee's c.v. should be sent to John Poole.

Conference Planner's Report

MATC will have about \$14,000-\$15,000 in the account after the conference.

The Executive Committee is considering booking the same hotel – Allerton Crowne Plaza – for the 2006 conference.

Conference registrations have increased by 50%, from 97 at the last Chicago conference to over 140 for this conference.

#### By-Laws

Revised by-laws were distributed for members to review and vote to accept/refuse.

Mark Mallett asked about the office of Archivist, which had been discussed at the last Business Meeting.

- Ann Haugo explained that that issue has been floating around for a while, with little resolution, but that the office of Webmaster (which appears in the By-Laws revision as an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee) has become increasingly important.
- Tom Mitchell suggested that the Secretary review the need for an Archivist over the next term.
- MATC records are dispersed in various areas. Mary Cutler has a set of Treasurer's records. Bob Schanke has several boxes of material from *Theatre History Studies*, including back issues of the journal. Ann Haugo has a crate of files that have been passed on to her.

John Poole moved to accept the By-Laws; Bob Schanke seconded. The revised By-Laws passed unanimously. They will be circulated to members via the listserv.

#### Listserv

The MATC membership renewal form will be revised to carry a box that allows members to opt out of the listserv. Starting with the next conference, members will be automatically added to the listserv unless they opt out.

#### Symposia chairs

A question was raised about how symposia chairs are chosen/appointed. Rhona Justice-Malloy and John Poole clarified that the symposia chairs are selected by the Executive Committee but that the Executive Committee welcomes people to indicate their interest in the positions.

Symposia Chairs for the 2005 Conference are as follows:

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Directing:       | Gaye Burgess (University of North Dakota)<br>Chuck Ney (Texas State University—San Marcos)           |
| Pedagogy:        | Rebecca Fishel Bright (Southern Illinois University)<br>Anne Fletcher (Southern Illinois University) |
| Playwriting:     | David Crespy (University of Missouri)<br>David Rush (Southern Illinois University)                   |
| Theatre History: | Stacey Connelly (Trinity University)<br>Mark Cosdon (Allegheny College)                              |
| Young Scholars:  | Scott Magelssen (Augustana College)  |

Next year's conference will have a scheduled meeting for the Executive Committee and Symposia Chairs.

Janet Wilson asked why MATC does not have an Acting Symposium. Rhona replied that this had been discussed occasionally in the past and that it is something that could be attempted next year by organizing one or two panels to see how the response is. It will require working with next year's coordinators.

Bill Jenkins noted that several presenters had not shown up for this conference and asked symposia chairs to communicate clearly with presenters for next year's conference. We can also share a list of presenters who did not arrive with next year's symposia chairs and request that they communicate directly with any of those presenters who propose a paper again next year, explaining that we know that they didn't come this year and want to make sure that they are indeed committed to come this time.

It was pointed out that this year's conference conflicted with SETC. Members discussed whether the MATC conference could be reschedule to a different weekend. Bill Jenkins clarified that conferences are planned nearly two years in advance, in order to secure hotel contracts. If any changes would be made, it would be for the 2006 conference at this point, as the contract has already been secured for 2005.

David Crespy reminded members that conference expenses are tax-deductible for faculty.

Kirsten Ogden asked whether anything had been decided about support for grad students, monetarily or simply a support network. The subject had been raised at last year's Business Meeting.

For the 2005 conference, the conference planners will note in the database whether presenters/registrants are faculty or graduate students and will communicate with Kirsten about possible plans.

Bill suggested that the graduate students could have a social hour at the same time as the Fellows Reception.

Rhona explained that the Executive Committee had discussed options for helping graduate students who present with their registration costs, perhaps by starting an account in Al Wertheim's name. Several members present expressed that they thought this was a good idea, and the Executive Committee will continue to pursue this avenue.

Next year's conference will be held at the Kansas City Hyatt Regency Crowne Point. Room rate is \$99/night. The conference will be held March 3-6, 2005.

