

**Mid-America Theatre Conference**  
**March 19-22, 2015 – Kansas City**  
**Business Meeting Minutes**  
Prepared by Kate Roark, Secretary

**I. Treasurer's Report:**

Tyler Smith summarized the report, which was also distributed in paper copy. The conference is in the black. The motion to approve the report was made by Rosemarie Bank, seconded by Cheryl Black, and unanimously approved.

**II. *Theatre History Studies* Report:**

Presented by Liz Reitz-Mullenix (Editor), Sara Freeman (Editor Elect), and Rob Shimko (Book Review Editor). The 2014 volume, edited by Liz, is quite large, and the 2015 edition is at press right now. The book reviews from the 2013 will be published in the 2015 issue, as well as 2015 reviews.

Liz is exiting as editor because she has been appointed Dean at her institution. Sara Freeman is the incoming Editor-Elect for the 2016 issue. Sara will accept submissions on a rolling basis for upcoming issues. Brian Cook will also co-edit the 2017 issue with the theme, Theatres On and Across the Line. Stacy Connelly moved to approve the report, Karen Jean Martinson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**III. *Theatre Practice* Report**

Founding editor, Peter Campbell, reported the third volume is on the website and volume four is in the works to come out later this year. Submissions are open now through June 1 for volume five. Anyone who presents in the Practice/Production Symposium or the Pedagogy Symposium is welcome to submit. Peter is ending his term as editor, and Jennifer Schlueter is the incoming editor, to helm the next 3 issues. Cheryl Black moved to accept the report, Beth Osborne seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Graduate Student Coordinators Report**

The two current Graduate Student Coordinators (Christine Simonian Bean and Alicia Hernandez) were unable to attend this year's conference, however Weston Twardowski reported to the business meeting in their place. This year marks the successful third year of the Graduate Student Assistance Fund. 11 students applied for 3 slots. There is a new Facebook page for the MATC graduate students, which has proven very useful for many of the graduate students, particularly in finding roommates for the conference. At the Graduate Student Social on Saturday evening, elections will be held for the incoming coordinator. Scott Magelssen moved to accept the report, Dorothy Chansky seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**V. Elections**

No position is up for election this year. Next year we will hold elections for Associate Conference Coordinator and Secretary. Look for the call for nominations

(either self-nomination or to nominate a colleague) in the fall. Associate Conference Coordinator is the first step in an 8-year commitment to MATC, serving 2 years as ACC, then two more years in each of the following positions in succession, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Conference Coordinator, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and finally President of MATC. The Secretary serves a 4-year term.

**VI. Approval of 2014 Business Meeting minutes.**

Moved by Shawna Mefferd Kelty, seconded by Sara Freeman, and passed unanimously.

**VII. Announcements**

The 2016 Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN and the conference theme will be Variety.

For the 2017 Conference, we are looking to explore beyond our traditional Midwestern locations. Houston, Louisville and Memphis are the cities under consideration. There was a question about how the dates of the conference are selected, and John Fletcher explained it depends on hotel availability and pricing.

The MATC Listserv will be migrating to a new platform. Everyone attending this year's conference will be added automatically to the new listserv. We are also soliciting co-moderators for the new listserv. Please contact Mark Mallett, our Website and Listserv Coordinator if you are interested in being a co-moderator.

John Fletcher announced we are considering new awards for other symposia, such as Playwriting.

Beth Osborne announced that the 2016 conference, with its Variety theme, would be experimenting with new formats of conversation opportunities. Be on the lookout for those announcements on the new listserve.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Scott Magelssen motioned to adjourn the business meeting and Tom Robson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.