

**Technical Theater Advisory Committee
Folsom Lake College & Sierra College**

Minutes

Friday, May 5th, 2017

5:30 PM – 7:15 PM

PAC 1061, Stage 2

1. Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM and introductions were made.
See attached sign-in sheet for members present.

2. Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of the committee were reviewed.

3. Sierra College Report

A. Review Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

- i. Wrapped up spring production of *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. It was well received.
- ii. Perkins and college funding. Overall district funds have allowed purchase of dimmer packs, mobile light lab. This year asked for LED spotlight, more moving wash lights, video LED panels. Last couple of years schools has put in \$500,000 to upgrade theater. Recently spent \$150,000 to upgrade lighting system: 40 LED 2s, 30 D60s 14 color source spots, 12 color source PARS, 6 elation moving lights. New clear com wireless com system. Replacing cyc in theater. New mic stands. New Berenger X32 compact audio board, and new Berenger Air.
- iii. Lighting Class. New adjunct professor of Lighting Class: Carey Babka. Class using new mobile light lab, running LED lights off of ETC nomad. Very successful.
- iv. Lighting design for *Jekyll* used new lighting equipment. Designed by Patrick Thrasher with student assistant designer. Design very well executed. Used new ETC programming wing. Need new touchscreens to use with it.
- v. *Jekyll* had audience risers on stage, leaving 20'x20' acting space. Gives students an opportunity to work in different environment. Adjunct Cary Babka designed sound.
- vi. 22 classes approved in curriculum review. Plans for Stage management, sound design and one acts classes. Will keep asking for part time costume and properties help.
- vii. Last fall produced large production of *Anything Goes*. Lots of work for students.
- viii. Participating in KCTF for first time this year - some students received nominations. Also participated in SARTA.
- ix. CTE liaison presented to Colfax High School in front of approx 60 students. Also present to other parent nights and other events. Continuing outreach to high schools.

B. Plans for 2017/2018

- i. Fall 2017 producing *Servant of Two Masters*- Commedia style, physical comedy.
- Spring 2018 producing *Importance of Being Earnest* on stage in the round.

4. Folsom Lake College Report

A. Review of Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

i. Participated in Ghost Light Project, national event where theaters declared themselves as safe spaces.

ii. Fall 2016 production of *You Can't Take it With You*. Set design relied heavily on CNC router, purchased with Perkins grant funding in a previous year. Students operated the CNC machine, did all the scenic artistry of faux wood graining.

iii. Inter-departmental projects: Aquaponics station. Students designed and built fish tank station- other departments contributed, such as CIS, Biology, Data Science club. Also collaborated with Communications department to create a Comm Lab styled as a British phone booth. Stagecraft students built and painted the booth.

iv. Spring 2017 production of *Cyrano*. Student lighting and sound designers. Lighting in show run off Nomad Puck (purchased with Perkins funds), while light board is in a classroom for lighting class to use on projects. Video trailer of *Cyrano* shown to board members.

B. Plans for 2017/2018

i. Fall 2017 producing *Marat/Sade*. Spring 2018 producing the musical *Hair* in Stage One of the Harris Center- six shows over 2 weekends. *Marat/Sade* will be designed as an environmental world in Stage 2 and the scene shop. First three weekends in November.

C. Current Curriculum

i. Handout provided to board listing full course offerings as part of Technical Theater Certificate. Courses include Stagecraft, Adv Tech Theater, Stage Lighting, Stagehand Practices, Stagehand Pre-Apprenticeship and Production classes. Offering 2 capstone classes on a rotation every fall. One of last classes as part of Stagehand Practices, invited IATSE (International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees) local 50 to the class. IATSE rep discussed the union to students and gave info on how to get started with union and taking union work calls. Some students after the class took advantage of that once the semester ended.

ii. Sierra offers scenic painting, properties, costume history and costume construction class in 2 year rotations.

D. Perkins Grant Proposal for improvements and Major Expenditures

i. Handout provided to board members detailing proposed equipment needs of Folsom Lake College theater department for possible Perkins Grant funding. List includes video projection equipment, automation equipment, and additional intelligent lighting fixtures. Looking at possibly purchasing a high lumen laser projector manufactured by Epson. Epson complete warranty a big selling point. Innovation center on campus may pay for some CNC router upgrades in exchange for shared usage of the CNC router.

ii. Sierra College has a maker space with many advanced CNC tools.

iii. Ian Wallace moved for approval of FLC Theater Perkins Grant proposal. Sam Coquerille seconded. Board approved proposal unanimously.

5. General Discussion

A. USITT ETCP certification with ESTA. Need ongoing certification. New online training being offered. ETCP light: student can go online for free and take basic skills tests. Paired with practical test in person at national conventions. Will be up to 12 certifications available. In future may have open source curriculum online through USITT. Sierra took six students in a previous

year when convention was in Long Beach. Sierra Alum got internship with Cirque du Soleil, now getting masters in management at UC Irvine.

B. Need stronger connections with high school partners. Getting more high schools students on college campus to see what they could do there. Need to highlight paths for high school students.

C. Folsom offers spotlight night to high school students and current college students- good model for showing students what departments have to offer.

D. Capital Stage applauds efforts by both Sierra and Folsom in preparing students with necessary skills.

E. CMT (California Musical Theater) applauds Folsom for inter-disciplinary work with other departments. Innovative work that is the future of theater. Folsom Theater Dept demonstrating new manufacturing and new industry possibilities.

F. Harris Center is able to hire Folsom Lake College students on touring professional productions. Excellent on the job, paid experiences for Folsom students. Good relationship between the Harris Center and FLC Theater Dept. Students learn soft skills working on touring shows and events. Students get experience working with variety of clients: from small community productions to large scale Broadway tours.

G. Sierra alum currently an apprentice with IATSE.

H. Discussion of local needs for automation in theater. CMT operates an automated turntable built into their theater. Some touring productions use automation- Harris Center sees it 2-3 times a year. San Diego State trains in automation. Becoming more common. Networking skills becoming more necessary in theater lighting and audio systems. Sierra encouraging students to take drafting, welding and mechatronics classes.

6. Adjournment/Future Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

The fall 2017 meeting will be at Sierra College.

The spring 2018 meeting will be at Folsom Lake College.