

Theatre and Musical Theatre, Department of
Assessment Plan Summary

Theatre and Musical Theatre, Department of

Continue Application For NAST

Goal Description:

The department has completed the self study for certification by NAST. Submission of the self study will occur in Spring 2017.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

The Department Of Theatre & Musical Theatre Will Be Certified By NAST

Performance Objective Description:

A departmental self study has been completed to assess the strengths, weaknesses, and needs as they currently stand in the Department of Theatre & Musical Theatre

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

NAST review

KPI Description:

One of the co-authors of the NAST document received a sabbatical to Prague in the Spring '16 semester, because of his absence both the department and the NAST accrediting review team agreed that the on site visitation would best be served in the following year.

Results Description:

This process is on hold until 2016-2017 academic year.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

On sight evaluation by NAST

Action Description:

After completing the NAST self study, the organization has been contacted to schedule an on sight review of the department and its programs. The target is fall of 2016 or early spring 2017.

Preparing students for success

Goal Description:

The department strives to prepare a student for the professional world upon graduation. It will monitor the progress of the student throughout his/her career.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Academic and program appropriate student placement

Performance Objective Description:

The department has in place three emphasis: Acting/ Directing, Design/Tech and Musical Theatre. A student can also have a minor that provides the opportunity to earn teaching certification in either of the first two areas. The faculty believes that many of our present students would benefit by an additional emphasis that will allow a student more flexibility in their undergraduate study of theatre.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Development of a theatre emphasis

KPI Description:

The department has reworked the theatre requirements to accommodate students that wish to have a more rounded undergraduate education in theatre. This emphasis will carry equal weight in all areas of theatre: acting, design, technology, history/criticism, and directing instead of the tight focus of the other emphasis that are already recognized by the University. The goal is to provide a place, in particular for stage managers, playwrights and those interested in secondary education as well as those students who have interests that cross between the other emphasis.

Attached Files

 [BFA in Theatre](#)

Results Description:

The department has submitted the proposed emphasis in Theatre to the upper administration and is waiting for approval to implement.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Creation of new emphasis

Action Description:

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RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Theatre emphasis integration

Action Description:

The department will utilize the reworked emphasis in theatre to guide those students who do not readily fit into the existing emphasizes into a more successful path of study upon its approval by upper administration.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Student preparedness

Performance Objective Description:

The department of Theatre and Musical Theatre holds juries at the end of every semester in order to evaluate the progress of its students.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Assessment of Student Academic Success

KPI Description:

Faculty in the direct specialties that the students are exploring will sit on the jury for that student. At all times, at least two faculty will be involved in the assessment process. Part of the jury involves an interview with the student. Students are encouraged to meet with their faculty advisor for further clarification of progress.

The department has set a goal of 90% of the students in the program to be deemed ready for the professional world upon graduation. Each area of study within the department varies with its success of this goal. The jury process at the end of the spring semester rates the student on their progress based on their academic classification.

Results Description:

Musical Theatre students have been assessed at 80-95% successful within their classification. The low end has been in the dance area. This area of our program continues to struggle with continuity of instructors. 90-95% of the students have been deemed classification level successful.

Acting students have been found to be 80% ready by classification level to be proficient. This is the largest group within the department. The jury assessment at the end of the semesters has been put into place to help raise the success of the students in this area.

Design/Tech students have been assessed to be 85% ready by classification level to be proficient. The jury assessment continues to raise this number.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Student success

Action Description:

The department will continue to utilize the jury system of evaluation at the end of each long semester as this has proven to aid the student in understanding their development in the program.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Development of a theatre emphasis

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[!\[\]\(26cddea01ddf7f002af4ba779c4999ee_img.jpg\) BFA in Theatre](#)

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Procure Appropriate Resources To Facilitate The Academic Mission Of The Department

Goal Description:

The department will monitor the classroom, laboratory, research, and out-reach (service) needs of the unit. Budget requests will reflect these needs.

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Ongoing Assessment Of Departmental Needs

Performance Objective Description:

Continual monitoring of the financial needs for classroom, laboratory services, outreach, research and recruitment will be monitored in order to make appropriate budget requests

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Resource adjustment

KPI Description:

Working with the same budget for the past 3 years, the department must fund office needs, classroom supplies (these vary depending on the semester especially in the area of tech theatre where some classes require small amounts of financial support while others require \$500 or more. The nature of those classes are best served by bulk purchasing rather than by an individual student.), student payroll in particular to support the productions produced by our department, the cost of producing and mounting theatrical productions, faculty travel and student recruitment. The cost of producing our shows has increased, but our budgets in this area have not. The cost of a piece of lumber has more than doubled in the last 10 years and the cost of fabric has increased by about 30%. The minimum wage has increased in the past 5 years but our budget for our student payroll has not, causing us to reduce the number of hours the students can work. We continuously work towards creative solutions with funding that covers less.

Results Description:

The department has shifted funds from various areas to adjust for the lack of funds in other areas. Work study students have been utilized revealing some of the stress on the student payroll budget although finding students that are proficient in carpentry, electric,or sewing skills and that also qualify for work study is difficult and sometimes impossible. Faculty pay for some of the costs related to student recruitment and travel. Faculty and staff buy items for productions and then donate them to the department.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Assessment of departmental needs

Action Description:

Personnel and financial resources continue to be stretched in order maintain a successful program. The department will continue to creatively search for funding and monies especially for student scholarships so as to attract high caliber students into the program. Fund raising in conjunction with University Advancement are being researched both to provide scholarships and to underwrite some of the production needs.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Fund raising

Action Description:

The UIL one act workshop held by the department each spring continues to bring scholarship funds in. This will continue. The scholarship gala, having not reached its goal, will be reorganized with a broader inclusion of faculty involvement. This includes a reworking of our guest list and looking for new potential donors.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Raise \$43, 000 For Scholarships

Performance Objective Description:

Increase funds raised for scholarships.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Monies Raised Through Gala And UIL One Act Play Workshop

KPI Description:

Through a yearly gala (a night of entertainment and auctions of donated goods) held in the fall semester, the department works to raise funds for scholarships for majors. This involves all faculty, staff and students within the department.

The directing faculty and technical students provide a week of workshops in March for area high schools that pay a fee for a review of their UIL one act play submissions.

Results Description:

Netted approximately \$15,000 from Gala and \$2400 for UIL One Act Play Workshop.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

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Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify) :

The Nast self study has been extremely helpful in assessing programmatic needs. NAST has received our finished report and has scheduled a tentative visitation.

Each scholarship gala is reviewed at its conclusion as well as other fundraising events to assess effectiveness. This will continue for 2015-2016.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

NAST has been put on hold until the 2016-2017 academic year due to the sabbatical of one of its authors. Fund raising continues to be reviewed.

Plan for Continuous Improvement

Closing Summary:

Recruitment efforts across Texas by attending various high school and junior college festivals provides department visibility. Continued performance at Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology- Southwest provides opportunity for our faculty and students to showcase the department regionally.

The department is anticipating the schduled on site visit by NAST in April 2017.

Academic Assessment is particularly important for our department's progress. The department has reworked the theatre requirements to accommodate students that wish to have a more rounded undergraduate education in theatre. This emphasis will carry equal weight in all areas of theatre: acting, design, technology, history/criticism, and directing instead of the tight focus of the other emphasis that are already recognized by the University. The goal is to provide a place, in particular for stage managers, playwrights and those interested in secondary education as well as those students who have interests that cross between the other emphasis.

Fund raising in conjunction with University Advancement are being researched both to provide scholarships and to underwrite some of the production needs. A project, supported by the Dean's office and promoted by the President's office is planned to be performed the first week of school in the Fall'16. This production of "Ruffled Fourishes" will hopefully give the department a boost in their donor support for both areas. In addition, the President's office is behind finding sponsors to underwrite part of the cost of producing our Spring Musical.

RELATED ITEMS
