June 8, 2010
Attending: Edmiston, Dibble, Wong, Webber, Chiu, Williams, Hyland, Krstansky, McKittrick, King, Schoonmaker

Topics: Undergraduate Curriculum

The committee began the meeting with a discussion of the students served by the undergraduate theater arts curriculum: current students, future students, non-majors, etc. This led to a conversation about courses that the committee felt would complement our current offerings and courses that could fill gaps in what is not currently included in the curriculum. There was a feeling that the curriculum was strong on acting courses but would benefit from more non-western courses and greater cultural diversity. Some examples include: LGBT Theater, Non-western Theater, African-American Theater, Political Theater, Japanese Theatre, Feminist Theater/Women Playwrights, The History of Broadway, Contemporary Playwrights, Advanced Directing and Advanced Playwriting.

The conversation then broke into the specific areas of study: acting, directing, design, literature, history, stagecraft, etc. The committee discussed the current class offerings and the place of future offerings. Much of the discussion centered on the idea of building a series of courses that would start with the 2a/2b courses, followed by a similar course for each “track” area, then leading students into specializations. The benefits and difficulties of the “track” system were also discussed.