June 9, 2010  
Attending: Edmiston, Dibble, Wong, Webber, Chiu, Williams, Hyland, Krstansky, McKittrick, King, Schoonmaker

**Topics: Mission of the Undergraduate Theater Arts Degree**

The discussion opened the next day with a review of the mission statement of the department and a conversation about how this should be adjusted in the future. The questions posed were: Who do we serve? What is essential for a Brandeis theatre student to know?

The idea of creating theater artists and theater citizens was discussed, as opposed to the idea of an undergraduate professional training program. The curriculum could prepare students to engage in the art of theater, in their chosen way, after graduation, whether that be as an actor, writer, designer, director, etc. This led to the question of what skills should a theater major have when they graduate. What should be the learning outcomes of the major? Among the ideas discussed were discipline, form, analytical thinking, collaboration, competent writing and listening skills, all the while keeping an element of social justice in mind. What type of training should we be providing for our students, including not just majors, but also students majoring in other fields.

Two subcommittees were created: Mission Statement and Practicum. Adrianne Krstansky, Becky Webber and Alicia Hyland have agreed to serve on the Mission Statement Subcommittee. Leslie Chiu, Ben Williams and Alicia Hyland have agreed to serve on the Practicum Subcommittee. Committee members also suggested events and programs (e.g., fall open house; weekly or bi-weekly brown bag lunches featuring faculty, staff, graduate students; opening night or end of the year parties) that could help the department be more welcoming to the wider community and also contribute to community-building within the department.