

Documenting and Evaluating Creative Work

A National Communication Association Performance Studies Division Preconference

San Antonio, TX

Wednesday November 15, 2006

Organizers: Donna Nudd, Florida State University; Craig Gingrich-Philbrook, Southern Illinois University; Mindy Fenske, University of South Carolina

Purpose

Performance scholars face the continuing challenge and exciting task of communicating the scope and value of creative “work” for a variety of institutional and disciplinary audiences. In the process of creating, producing, and performing creative work performance scholars and practitioners must simultaneously acquire grant resources, find performance venues, and make the case for the academic importance of this work to college and university promotion and tenure committees. The preconference provides a context for a national discussion of review processes and resource acquisition for performance-oriented work for the purpose of supporting individual artists/scholars in their professional development at their individual academic institutions. The preconference will address the issues and procedures concerning the status, review, evaluation, and documentation of creative work for the purposes of promotion, tenure, and yearly evaluations. Participants will discuss these issues in breakout groups in order to begin collaborating on creating an infrastructure of support for professional development for artists and artist/scholars in the Performance Studies Division of NCA.

General Description of Events

The preconference is divided into four sections. The first event includes keynote presentations addressing the primary concerns that face performance studies artist/scholars in terms of the review and documentation of performance work in various academic institutional settings and at various levels of the promotion and tenure process.

The second section consists of five simultaneous working groups led by facilitators with specialized expertise in the areas of dossier construction and evaluation, performance festivals, review standards and practices for on-campus productions, journal publication, and production grant and venue acquisition. Preconference participants will choose a working group to participate in depending, of course, on their own interests, needs, and expertise. Group discussants will meet under the guidance of the facilitators to discuss the conceptual and practical issues of supporting scholars and practitioners in each of these contexts.

In the third section of the preconference, representatives from each working group will report back to the entire assembly. These reports will summarize the primary conceptual and practical issues discussed and provide recommendations for how to address these issues.

In the fourth and final section of the preconference, closing keynote speakers will discuss strategies and

directions for the future.

Documenting and Evaluating Creative Work
Preconference Schedule

8:30: Welcome/Breakfast: HBGCC 214A

Christie Logan, California State University-Northridge

8:45: Opening Keynote presentations “Key Understandings in Evaluating and Documenting Creative Work” HBGCC 214A

Donna Nudd, Florida State University

Ronald Shields, Bowling Green State University

9:30: Coffee Break

9:45- 12:00: Break Out Sessions

Session Moderator: Mindy Fenske, University of South Carolina

** designates panel Chairperson*

Festival Reviews: HBGCC 211

Facilitators

Gary Balfantz, Lake Superior State University, LSSU Superior Festival

Dan Heaton, Capital University, Patricia Pace Performance Festival

**Tami Spry, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud State Performance Studies Festival*

Kelly Taylor, University of North Texas, Petit Jean Performance Festival

Dossier Reviews: HBGCC 212A

Facilitators

Tim Gura, Brooklyn College

Ron Pelias, Southern Illinois University

**Della Pollock, University of North Carolina*

Carol Simpson Stern, Northwestern University

Frank Trezza, SUNY-New Paltz

Outside Reviews for Local/Campus Productions: HBGCC 212B

Facilitators

**Elizabeth Bell, University of South Florida*

Ruth Bowman, Louisiana State University

Nathan Stucky, Southern Illinois University

Journal Publication of Performances, Scripts, and Reviews: HBGCC 213A

Facilitators

Marcy Chvasta, University of South Florida, *Liminalities, TPQ*

Scott Dillard, Georgia College and State University, *TPQ*

**Bruce Henderson, Ithaca College, TPQ*

Michael LeVan, University of South Florida, *Liminalities*

Production Grants and Venue Proposals: HBGCC 213B

Facilitators

**Linda Park-Fuller, Arizona State University*

Trish Suchy, Louisiana State University

Elizabeth Whitney, Emerson College

12:00:-1:30: Lunch

1:30-5:00: Plenary Session HBGCC 214A

Moderator: Mindy Fenske

- 1:30-2:00: Festival Review Report followed by discussion
- 2:00-2:30: Outside Reviews Report followed by discussion.
- 2:30-3:00 Dossier Report followed by discussion
- 3:00-3:15: Break
- 3:15-3:45: Journal Review and Publication followed by discussion
- 3:45-4:15 Production Grants and Venues followed by discussion
- 4:15-4:45 General Discussion
- 4:45-5:00 break

5:00-5:30: Closing Keynote Presentations: “Future Directions” HBGCC 214A

Craig Gingrich-Philbrook, Southern Illinois University

Judith Hamera, Texas A&M University

6:00 Offsite Reception (Directions and Maps provided at the convention—but it is very near the convention location)