

HARRIS SMITH

Chair, Department of Theatre
University of Utah

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EDUCATION & TRAINING

MFA Acting

Professional Actor Training Program

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

B.A. Theatre Arts

Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

Certified Teacher of Stage Combat

National Theatre Conservatory

United Stuntmen's Association

Pacific Performance Projects

Society of American Fight Directors

Denver, CO

Seattle, WA

Seattle, WA

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

National/International

University/Resident Theatre Association (URTA) Board of Directors, 2009-2011

The University Resident Theatre Association is the nation's oldest and largest consortium of professional, graduate (MFA) theatre training programs and partnered professional theatre companies.

Responsibilities:

To evaluate MFA programs on:

- Recruitment procedures.
- Curriculum and programming.
- Examine the professional integration of each graduate program
- Revamp the National Unified Auditions

Regional Representative – Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) – 1999-2004

- Public representative for the SAFD in the Midwest region
- Field questions from members of SAFD living within the mid-west region
- Assist with coordinating workshops within the mid-west region

Administrative Training

- President Fellow – University of Utah – Fall 2019 to present
- NAST Annual Conference, 2016 – Present

- Big Ten Leadership Network
- Big Ten Theatre Chairs Retreat

University of Utah

CHAIR, Department of Theatre (July 2018-present)

Responsibilities:

- 25 full time faculty, 19 adjunct faculty, 4-8 guest artists per year. 203 undergraduates (B.A., B.F.A.)
- Foster and promote diversity in recruitment, training, and program development
- Work with Development Officers to secure funding for the department
- Serve as the point person and representative for the renovation of a new theatre building and new modified thrust theatre
- Market theatre programs both within the university and to the larger community
- Advance the reputation of the Department of Theatre nationally and internationally
- Facilitate partnerships with the resident professional theatre company (Pioneer Theatre Company)
- Collaborate with faculty and staff to set goals and provide the vision for all aspects of department operations
- Collaborate with faculty in reviewing and rewriting the curriculum
- Coordinate the recruitment and retention of undergraduate students
- Coordinate outreach activities for the department, college and university
- Oversee all committees within the department
- Manage department budget
- Active collaborative member of the Executive Committee of the College in furthering the goals and mission of the College of Fine Arts

Current Research:

- Summer 2019 - Assistant Instructor – International Stunt School, Seattle WA
- 2016 -Present - Communications Coach – New York State Defenders Association (NYSDA)
- Summer 2018 - Movement Instructor, Sichuan University Chengdu, China
- Potential Article - Incorporating Afrofuturism into stage combat

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

DIRECTOR, Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film (Jan. 2015-2018)

Responsibilities:

- 13 full time faculty, seven adjunct faculty, ten graduate teaching assistants and seven professional staff members with 130 undergraduates (B.A., B.F.A.) and 15 graduate students
- Collaborate with faculty and staff to set goals and provide the vision for all aspects of department operations
- Executive producer for Carson Film Series
- Guide faculty and staff in the development of a 5 year long strategic plan
- Collaborate with faculty in reviewing and rewriting the curriculum
- Provide vision for new degree programs with current focus on creating an undergraduate emphasis in; Directing, Dramaturgy and Stage Management, MFA in Directing for Stage and Screen
- Coordinate the recruitment and retention of graduate and undergraduate students
- Coordinate outreach activities for the department, college and university
- Schedule all Theatre Art classes
- Administrative Council for HLCFPA
- Oversee all committees within the department
- Manage budget for university productions
- Serve on Dean's Administrative Council

Accomplishments:

- Established the first study abroad program. The Johnny Carson School of Theatre & Film at Shakespeare's Globe
- Completed the search for a new Artistic Director for the "New" Nebraska Repertory Theatre
- Led the faculty to reconfigure classes to a conservatory model
- Guided faculty through Promotion and Tenure
- Secured \$150,000 of in-kind support from the Hixson Lied
- Reduced instructional budget by 30% for 2016-17 school year
- Met the school's recruitment goal for 2016-17
- Helped recruit the largest graduate class in design and technology

Interim Chair, Department of Theatre Arts (2006-2007)

Responsibilities:

- Chair department of 11 full-time faculty, seven adjunct faculty, nine graduate teaching assistants and six professional staff
- Budget management for university productions
- Executive Director of the Nebraska Repertory Theatre
- Mentor tenure-track faculty
- Prepare tenure-track faculty for promotion and tenure
- Hire adjunct faculty and guest artists
- Assist in the hiring of all professional artists for the Nebraska Repertory Theatre and University Theatre
- Coordinate the recruitment and retention of undergraduate and graduate students

- Annual evaluation of faculty and staff
- Administrative Council for HLCFPA
- Lied Center Advisory Board
- Nebraska Repertory Theatre Board
- Responsible for all committees within the department
- Schedule all classes within the department

Accomplishments:

- Met the departmental goals for the touring venues
- Assisted with the transition and successful rebranding of Nebraska Repertory Theatre
- Successfully completed and began the implementation of the department's strategic plan
- Successfully completed and implemented the Gallup Action plan for faculty and staff
- Assisted in successfully recruiting the first class for the new MFA program in Directing for Stage and Screen
- Secured an Othmer fellowship for Mary Gaetz (\$10,000), one of our first graduate students of our new MFA in Directing for Stage and Screen
- Successfully identified the new Artistic Director for Nebraska Repertory Theatre
- Helped to successfully integrate graduate students and faculty into the Nebraska Repertory Theatre
- Helped secure a Teachers Learning Grant (TLC) from Graduate Studies. (\$4,000)
- Hired a new tenure-track Light Designer (Scott Parker)
- Established a new venue for the end of the year Theatre Banquet. (Formally known as Masquers Banquet)

Associate Director/Chair, Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film

- Work with faculty to coordinate school schedule of classes
- Review grant proposals
- Coordinate faculty mentorship

Head of Professional Actor Training Program (2004-present)

- Scheduling and sequencing acting classes
- Student advising
- Auditioning and interviewing prospective students
- Recruiting students regionally and nationally
- Evaluating student progress
- Critiquing student performances
- Responsible for curriculum development

University of Nebraska- Lincoln; Lincoln, NE (1999-present)

- Associate Professor- Department of Theatre Arts (2004-2005)
- Vice Chair/Associate Director (2003-2006)
- Head, Professional Actor Training Program (2002-present)

Committees Served:

College:

- College Executive Committee
- Travel and Grants Committee
- Hixson-Lied Dedication Committee
- Nebraska Young Artist's Award
- Grades Appeal Committee
- Search Committee, Dean of College of Fine & Performing Arts

Department:

- Recruitment and Outreach
- Curriculum
- Scholarship
- Season Selection
- Search Committees:
 - Two Assistant Professor positions in Film & New Media
 - Two Assistant Professor positions in Performance
 - Assistant professor position in Lighting
 - Chair, Professor and Head of Design/Tech program
 - Visiting Professor position in Performance
 - Chair, Professor of Practice Search Committee
- Ad-Hoc Committee for Season Selection Matrix

Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

Producer of Off Center Season

- Oversaw production schedules and chair production meetings, technical and dress rehearsals, auditions
- Worked with the Chair to establish appropriate production and shop budgets in consultation with area heads
- Maintained budgets and oversaw spending on each production in coordination with Fiscal Technician
- Coordinated production program with other department programs
- Worked with chair to recommend special guest faculty hires
- Coordinated design conferences
- Oversaw publicity and advertising of the season including programs, ads, public presentation of scenes, study guides

Farrell Scholarship Coordinator

- Submitted proposals for Executive Committee approval
- Coordinated the staffing for the proposal projects
- Reported Farrell Project goals and accomplishments to Executive Committee
- Made recommendations to Off Center Producer for projects
- Documented the process for annual review

PROFESSIONAL ACTING EXPERIENCE:

Romeo ROMEO AND JULIET

Paul Mitri

Sacramento Theatre Company

George A RAISIN IN THE SUN

Tim Ocel

Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts

Jussac THREE MUSKETEERS

Charles Morey

Burgundy KING LEAR

Paul Barnes

Triad Ensemble

Cahill BAO CHI

Jayne Taini

FEATURE FILMS

Featured CHIPS THE WAR DOG

Disney

Featured SINGLES

Cameron Crowe

Featured PASTMIDNIGHT

Jan Eliasberge

Featured SEVEN HOURS TO JUDGEMENT

Beau Bridges

Featured AMAZING GRACE CHUCK

Michael Newell

Featured RUNAWAY TRAIN

Andrei Kanchalovsky

TELEVISION

Featured PANDORA'S CLOCK

Eric Laneoville

Featured X-FILES CD-ROM Interactive

Greg Roach

Featured LOOKING GOOD

Phil Lucas

INDUSTRIAL FILM

Worker GALLUP

Host VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

CrommwellCommunications

Host ADOLESCENCE CHANGES & CHOICES

CrommewellCommunications

Son HUD HOUSING

Ann Coppel

Old/New Self NEGOTIATING SKILLS

David Culp

Friend HIGH SCHOOL DRUG

David Culp

Husband DIVERSITY TRAINING

Joel Jahnke

COMMERCIALS

Principle HOME FIRST

Principle OMAHA WORLD HERALD

Principle BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD

Principle AMERISTAR CASINO

FIGHT CHOROEGRAPHY & DIRECTING:

St. Louis Black Repertory

Knife, unarmed, rapier OTHELLO

Ron Himes

Unarmed BLACK EAGLES

Ron Himes

Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival (N.Y.)

DINNERTIME

Jeff Tangement

THE CONFIRMATION

Jeff Elwell

Whitworth College (Spokane, WA)

Unarmed, Rifle, Hand gun	FISH DON'T FLOAT	Harris Smith
Kraowskie Reminiscencje Teatraine (Krakow, Poland)		
Krakow, Poland		
Unarmed, Found weapons	FAMILY LESSONS	Virginia Smith
Illinois Shakespeare Festival		
Broadsword, Pipe, Chain	KING JOHN	Cal MacLean
Unarmed		
University of Nebraska- Lincoln		
Unarmed	MEDEA	Laura Lippman
Unarmed	REALLY, REALLY	Laura Lippman
Broadsword, unarmed	SILENCE	Dennis
Found weapons, unarmed	TAMING OF THE SHREW	Carrie Lee Patterson
Rapier, unarmed	12 TH NIGHT	Carrie Lee Patterson
Knife, unarmed	KING LEAR	Virginia Smith
Unarmed	PARAGON SPRINGS	Carrie Lee Patterson
Unarmed	GOD OF CARNAGE	Virginia Smith
Unarmed	BUS STOP	Virginia Smith
Unarmed	BRIGHT IDEAS	Virginia Smith
Directing	TWO GENTLEMAN OF VERONA	Lab Theatre
Unarmed	FEMALE TRANSPORT	Virginia Smith
Unarmed	IPHIGINIA 2.0	Shannon Cameron
Knife, Unarmed	The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940	Carrie Lee Patterson
Directing	THE BOYS NEXT DOOR	Lab Theatre
Unarmed	PHILADELPHIA STORY	Virginia Smith
Directing	GOD'S COUNTRY	Howell Theatre
Unarmed	ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL	Shirley Mason
Glenn Korf School of Music		
Unarmed	CAROUSEL	Bill Shomos
Unarmed	O'PIONEERS	Ariel Bybee
Sword Staff	JULIUS CAESAR IN EGYPT	Ariel Bybee
Central Washington University		
Rapier	SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS	Brenda Hubbard
Director	A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM	McConnell Theater
Unarmed	THE CRUCIBLE	Brenda Hubbard
Director	COLORED MUSEUM	Smith Blackbox
Rapier, Unarmed	PETER PAN	Michael Smith
Director	DOWN THE ROAD	Smith Theater
Rapier, Dagger, Unarmed	ROBIN HOOD	Jim Hawkins
Quarterstaff, Rapier, Dagger	ROMEO JULIET	Brenda Hubbard
Unarmed	DRACULA	Wesley Van Tassel
Knife, Unarmed	TOM SAWYER	Brenda Hubbard
Director	BILOXI BLUES	Smith Theater
Unarmed	OLEANNA	Wesley Van Tassel
Unarmed	LIGHT MY FIRE	Seth Mullinex

SUNY at Albany (1994)

Unarmed	AS YOU LIKE IT	Ken Bush
Small sword	LIAISONS DANGEROUS	Langdon Brown

Capital Repertory Theatre (Albany, NY)		
Unarmed	GANG ON THE ROOF	Lee Richardson

Laughing Horse Summer Theatre (Ellensburg, WA)		
Rapier	CORPS	John Kretzu

PCPA		
(Fight Captain) Rapier, Dagger, Unarmed		
	THREE MUSKETEERS	Charles Morey

Utah Shakespeare Festival (Fight Captain)		
Rapier & Dagger	ROMEO JULIET	Tony Schmidt
Dagger, Unarmed	TITUS ANDRONICUS	Richard Risso

MOVEMENT COACH:

Nebraska Repertory Theatre		
LAST TRAIN TO NIBROC		Stan Brown

Illinois Shakespeare Festival		
TAMING OF THE SHREW		Karen Kessler

Central Washington University		
AH, WILDERNESS		Brenda Hubbard

Capital Repertory Theatre		
GREETINGS		Bruce Bouchard

Laughing Horse Summer Theatre		
TALLEY'S FOLLEY		Burke Walker

Seattle Children's Theatre		
MAKE ME PELE FOR A DAY		Linda Hartzell

Professional Affiliations:

- *United Stuntmen's Association
- *Screen Actor's Guild
- *Society of American Fight Directors
- *Actor's Equity Association

WORKSHOPS INSTRUCTED:

2014,15-17	International Thespian Festival	Lincoln, NE
2010	Summer Sling	NYC, NY
2009	International Thespian Festival	Lincoln, NE

2009	Nebraska Thespian Festival	Lincoln, NE
2007, 08	Carnage in The Corn	Des Moines, IA
2005	The Seattle Sockeye	Seattle, WA
2001	“Characters in Conflict” presenter for a stage combat workshop at Region XXXIII of the Kennedy Center College Theatre Festival.	
1999	Rumble in The Rockies	Denver, CO
1998	National Stage Combat Workshop	Las Vegas, NV
1995, 98	Inland Northwest Theatre Arts Festival,	Ellensburg, WA
1997	United Stuntmen’s Association National Workshop	Seattle, WA
1994	Washington Thespian Festival	Seattle, WA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Assistant Professor- Department of Theatre Arts (1994-1999)

University of Nebraska-Lincoln		Assistant Professor, Tenure Track
8/99 present	THEA 255	Stage Movement I
	THEA 256	Stage Movement II
	THEA 401	Adv. Acting, Shakespeare
	THEA 401	Adv. Acting, Film/TV
	THEA 401	Audition Techniques
	THEA 223	Intermediate Acting I
	THEA 402	Adv. Stage Movement-Stage Combat
	THEA 802	Graduate Stage Movement
	THEA 801	Graduate Acting
	THEA 898	Special Topics, Graduate Acting Class
	THEA 114	Basic Acting I
	THEA 115	Basic Acting II
	THEA 112	Introduction to Theatre

Teaching Experience:

Central Washington University- Assistant Professor

1994-1999

TH269.1	Basic Acting Techniques I
TH269.2	Basic Acting Techniques II
TH269.3	Basic Acting Techniques III
TH252	Stage Movement I & II
TH329	Directing I
TH333	Stage Combat
TH445.01	Audition Techniques
TH475	Acting for Film and Television
TH107	Introduction to Theatre
UNIV100	Advising Seminar

Service - Central Washington University

AD HOC Committee for Salary Equity

Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts

Search Committee, Assistant Football Coach

Diversity Scholarship
Central Investment Fund
Faculty Advisor for Central Theatre Club
Search Committee, Media Producer for IMC
Search Committee, Technical Director
Board Member, Laughing Horse Summer Theatre Ellensburg, WA

SUNY Albany- Assistant Professor

1993-1994

TH 340	Intermediate Acting
TH 341	Advanced Acting for Shakespeare
TH 344	Stage Movement I
TH 345	Stage Movement II
TH 342	Voice Production I

Webster University- Adjunct

Stage combat instructor, teaching stage combat and basic safety precautions.
Preparing students for their Skills Proficiency Test. (SPT)

The Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts- Summer 1991

Stage combat instructor; teaching stage combat and safety precautions

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Award Winning Producer for “The Healing of Harman
Drama Short winner from the Independent Short Awards
Narrative Short Winner from the International Independent Awards
5 Telly Awards in the 40th annual Telly Awards competition
Gold award in the category of Non-Broadcast General—Social Responsibility
Silver award in Non-Broadcast Craft—Writing
Bronze awards in the categories of Non-Broadcast General—Diversity & Inclusion
Non-Broadcast General—Not-for-Profit and Non-Broadcast General—Social Issues
- Commencement Speaker – University of Nebraska, Summer 2017
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qV3wVkh-8BM>
- Big Ten Academic Alliance Leadership Fellow
- Three-time recipient of Parents Association and Teaching Council Award
- Top Ranked Teacher 2001 and 2004 school year Dept. of Theatre Arts, University of Nebraska
- Meritorious Achievement Award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for Fight Choreography
- Teacher Recognition Award at Central Washington University (94-96)
- All Academic Team, Big Sky Conference, Football at Montana State University
- National Champion for Football at Montana State University
- Scholarship Recipient of 200+1 Award
- Graduate Assistantship, National Theatre Conservatory, Denver, CO.

References

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