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## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

There are no meetings scheduled at this time.



## FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

The Committee on Distinguished Teaching of the Academic Senate invites you to submit nominations for the 2009-2010 Academic Senate [Distinguished Teaching Awards](#) in the following categories:

- Distinguished Teaching Award, Senate Members
- Barbara and Paul Saltman Distinguished Teaching Award, Non-Senate Members
- Barbara and Paul Saltman Excellent Teaching Award, Graduate Students

The Awards Ceremony and Reception, held at the Faculty Club, is an opportunity to convey the importance placed on teaching by academic departments and programs and to underscore the high quality of teaching at UCSD. Your participation in the nomination process and the ceremony provides deserved recognition of excellence in teaching. If you have questions, please contact Tina Royster at 858-534-3640 or via email at [senatetemp@ucsd.edu](mailto:senatetemp@ucsd.edu). The deadline for nominations is June 4<sup>th</sup>.



## DEPARTMENT NEWS

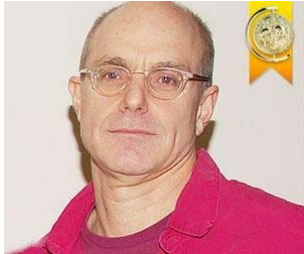
**Bumper Crop of Graduate Applicants!** – The Department recently undertook the annual audition tour, with close to 550 applicants and audition walk-in hopefuls (up from 446 last year) applying to the graduate programs at audition sites around the country. Of the 458 actors who applied, eight were admitted. The Department will also welcome six new design MFA students this fall (3 costumers, 1 lighting, 1 sound, and 1 scenic designer), three stage managers, one playwright, one director, one new dance theatre student, and two new PhD students.

Incoming MFA actors are: **Ngozi Anyanwu** (Point Park College), **Sarah Halford** (Westmont College), **Regan Linton** (University of Denver), **Matthew MacNelly** (Georgetown), **Mary Katherine McGehee** (NYU), **Jack Mikesell** (University of Nevada, Las Vegas), **Scott Patteson** (UCLA), and **Maurice Williams** (Temple University). New design students are: costume - **Orli Nativ** (Hampshire College), **Halei Prichard** (North Texas) and **Mary Rochon** (Illinois Institute of Art); lighting – **Kristin Hayes** (Emerson); and, scenic – **Christopher Murillo** (UCLA). New stage management students are **Zachary Kennedy** (South Carolina), **Cheng Yu Wei** (National Taiwan University), and **Laura Zingle** (Mt. Holyoke). The new directing student is **Joshua Brody** (Yale), and **Shariff Hamdeh** (UCSB) joins the playwriting program. New to the MFA dance

## MORE...

theatre program is **Anya Cloud** (Montana). The two newly admitted PhD students are **Matthieu Chapman** (Mary Baldwin College) and **Sonia Fernandez** (SFU).

We expect great things from all!



**Another Tony Nominee!** - Broadway musical sensation [\*FELA!\*](#) has topped the list of Tony nominations with a whopping eleven nominations. Based on the life and music of Afrobeat legend [Fela Kuti](#), the musical debuted on Broadway in 2009 (after a successful limited run off-Broadway in 2008). *Fela!* is based on the book of **Jim Lewis** & Bill T. Jones. **Jim Lewis** is a MFA '86 dramaturgy alum of the UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department. This is Mr. Lewis's second Tony nomination.



## ONSTAGE



**Running Now** – [\*Seven Against Thebes\*](#), directed by Charlie Oates. May 13<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, in the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.

**Charlie Oates** directs **Marianne McDonald's** translation of Aeschylus' epic tale of Oedipus' two sons pitted against each other over control of the kingdom of Thebes in this classic award-winning play on the morality of war, messy family dysfunction, and questions of right and wrong.

**Coming Soon** [\*New Directions\*](#) -- **MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase**, plus works from our top undergraduate choreographers, directed by **Liam Clancy**. June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>.

Click for [ticket information](#) for all shows.

On Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, following the performance of *Seven Against Thebes*, the Department will be honoring **Marianne McDonald** for her years of teaching and dedication to our students as well as her scholarship and artistry as a playwright and translator of all the Greek tragedies. Her translation of *Seven Against Thebes* has been produced as a recognition of her work and it is fitting that we gather following a performance to acknowledge all that she has done for the Department. If you aren't attending the performance that night, the show comes down at approximately 9:15pm and the festivities will begin shortly after. Light refreshments will be served.

## ALUM UPDATES

2010 MFA Playwrite **Stephanie Timm's** play, *[On the Nature of Dust](#)*, is being produced by New Century Theatre Company, the accomplished Seattle company who previously produced *The Adding Machine* and *Orange Flower Water* at ACT. The show opened May 5<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Department welcomes **Ansel Bodie Smith**, born at home to dance faculty Alison D. Smith on May 11<sup>th</sup>, weighing 9lbs. 2oz., and measuring in at 22 inches.



**Editor's Note:** Just hit "reply" to [tanddnews@yahoo.com](mailto:tanddnews@yahoo.com) and share your info. Photos are always encouraged. Also, be sure to let us know if you're using a different name than you did here at UCSD. News that arrives by Wednesdays usually makes it into the next Monday's edition. We look forward to hearing from you! (Note, the last edition of the Newsletter for the 2009-10 academic year will go out on Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.)