October 18, 2010  
Week Four, Fall Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, October 20th - Full Faculty Meeting - Liam Clancy and Kim Rubinstein, 4-5:30pm @ GH 144  
Thursday, October 21st - Kasimir and Karoline Production Meeting, 10:00am @ GH 144

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Post Employment Benefits Town Hall Meeting - There will be a Post Employment Benefits Town Hall meeting on Friday, October 22nd. Representatives from the Office of the President will update the community about the options before the UC Regents to ensure the long-term stability of the UC Retirement Plan. (3:00 - 4:30pm in the Price Center East Ballroom.)

New Health Plan Options - Here is some advance information about the two new health plan options that will be available at Open Enrollment later this month:

The Anthem Lumenos PPO with HRA combines a traditional PPO plan with a UC-provided health reimbursement account, similar to the CIGNA Choice Fund plan, which it replaces. Enrollees can choose any medical provider they want, though in-network providers cost less. Medical expenses are paid automatically from the HRA first. Once all the funds in the HRA are used, members pay all costs until they reach the deductible, after which they pay 20% coinsurance for in-network services and 40% for out-of-network services.

The Health Net Blue & Gold plan features copayments, covered benefits, etc., that match those of the current Health Net plan. The only difference is that enrollees must use the hospitals and doctor groups in the custom network. (About 60% of current Health Net subscribers use doctors and other providers included in the Health Net Blue & Gold network.) All of UC’s medical centers are among the providers in the new plan. Those whose doctors are not in the Blue & Gold network can continue to see their doctor in the regular Health Net plan, choose a different plan that includes their doctor, or find a new doctor if they prefer to enroll in a lower-cost plan option.

All plan costs for next year are online now. Note: Adult children up to age 26 qualify for “Self plus children” premiums. (“Self plus adult” is coverage for a spouse or domestic partner.) Adult children need not be your tax dependent or live with you. Adult children are also allowed coverage under UCSD’s dental, vision, legal, and other plans. Read more.
ONSTAGE

Coming Soon


Jobs are scarce, the country's in debt, yet everyone loses money on beer, roller coasters and love. America 2010? No, Germany, 1930s. In one night at Oktoberfest, von Horváth's characters vie for a sense of worth, in a game of calculation and chance. Surrounded by music, amidst talented circus freaks, and a zeppelin circling over-head, they fall in with the world's most beautiful and dangerously manipulative power: love.
Reasons to be Pretty, directed by Eric Hunicutt, Guest Director. November 17th – 20th in the Arthur Wagner Theatre.

Neal LaBute is a playwright, screen writer, and filmmaker, who rose to prominence in the 1990s with controversial and often brutal plays such as In the Company of Men, Your Friends and Neighbors, and Bash: Latterday Plays. Three of his more recent works comprise the "trilogy" of plays tackling beauty and physical appearance: The Shape of Things, Fat Pig, and Reasons to be Pretty.

ADMINISTRIVIA

October 22nd - Last day to change grading option; Family Weekend on campus
October 24th - MFA student Pumpkin Carving Contest
October 25th - Benefits Open Enrollment period begins
November 11th – Veteran’s Day, University Holiday

ALUM UPDATES

Jose Chavarry (MFA ‘00) sends: “I've been married for the past six years to Margo Hill (a fellow UCSD alum). We have an almost 4 year old daughter named Jacquline (although she prefers the title "Rock Star)"). I am the Program Director for Kaiser Educational Theatre's conflict management/bully prevention program. The program uses live performance and workshops to help children build empathy and manage their conflicts peacefully. Each year our program is seen by 20 thousand children. This program is also provided for free to schools and communities. I've also spent the last four years directing various plays. Most recent was a collaboration with fellow UCSD alum Guillermo Aviles-Rodriguez [MFA ‘02] on a play called "The Hub of the Universe". My current passion/obsession is photography. I've been fortunate to have my images exhibited at various galleries and events this past year. Most recently one of my images was selected to be shown at the FIAF Museum in Paola, Italy.”

Jenny Slattery (MFA ‘06) is in tech as one of the stage managers for Spiderman: Turn off the Dark on Broadway in New York. We're currently set to begin performances in November with a late December opening. She writes that “In the past year I've worked on the Radio City Christmas Show, the LG Mobile International Text Messaging Competition (yes, really) and did some work with the University of Southern Indiana and La Jolla Playhouse.”
Please join UCSD Theatre & Dance during the 50th Anniversary Founders’ Weekend to honor Department Founding Chair Arthur Wagner

Saturday, November 20, 2010
UCSD Theatre District, Seuss Room • 6:30-8pm

A special reception for alumni and friends, hosted by the UCSD Alumni Association

Special Guests
Arthur and Molli Wagner
Allyson Green, Theatre and Dance Department Chair

Your RSVP is requested by Wednesday, November 17. RSVP at alumni.ucsd.edu/events.

Make your trip back to campus even more memorable by joining us for two special Founders’ Weekend premieres:

● onSIGHT, a free traveling dance tour across UCSD’s architectural landmarks, starting at 5pm.
● August Wilson’s “Joe Turner’s Come and Gone” directed by Kyle Donnelly, starting at 8pm; tickets required.

Visit theatre.ucsd.edu for information, or call 858-534-4574.
Ty Granderson Jones (MFA ‘82) writes: “I have my own production company, Creole Celina Films which I am developing mostly based on materials I am writing/co-writing. My company co-produced my current award winning film, *Napoleonic*—a dark, edgy post-Katrina vigilante character study co-written by me, Peter Compagno and Joseph Riccobono. *Napoleonic* was shot on location in New Orleans starring me along with a very noted cast. The film was produced in association with Bright Idea Entertainment and Imminent Studios. *Napoleonic* had its debut this year at Bronzeville Film Fest in Chicago and Martha’s Vineyard African-American Film Festival, and we are currently looking to show at other top festivals here in the Hollywood/Los Angeles area in 2011. I am currently developing my edgy, off-beat action thriller *The Cool and Creepy* (a finalist in the Sundance Feature Film Project). *The Cool and Creepy* is a gangster story that unfolds in Tampa Bay, Florida. We have the interest of German financing via my partners based in Cologne, Germany.”

Christopher Acebo (MFA ’08) is in Ashland, Oregon, where he is the Associate Artistic Director at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

Tom Mays (MFA ’90) writes: “Hi All, Greetings from Minneapolis where we are having a gorgeous Indian Summer. There are quite a few of us from the classes of ’90 & ’91 here. I hope to see many old friends at the Niteowl and LDI in a few weeks. MFA ’90 Scenic & Lighting Design. I am currently the Lighting Supervisor at the Guthrie. Upcoming design work: LD for *Nutcracker*, Minnesota Dance Theater; *Arsenic and Old Lace*, The Guthrie. I’ve been bouncing back and forth between Freelance and Full time employee. I did a 4 year stint as Production Director & Resident Scenic/Lighting/Video Designer for The Minnesota Opera a few years back.”

Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department’s Facebook Alumni page!

Editor’s Note: Just hit “reply” and send your info, and well share it for you! Photos are always encouraged, but don’t send huge files - please resize them from what comes off your camera - thanks! News we receive by Wednesday usually makes it into the next Monday’s edition. Be sure to let us know what your name was at graduation, if you’ve changed it.