For: Students, Faculty, and Staff  
From: David Matheson, Sheridan Coordinator  
Re: News!

1. WHAT’S NEW?

I hope that you are having a vibrant and engaging summer! There is a lot of change here in the Theatre and Drama Studies program. This summer newsletter is just the beginning of what lies ahead for us all!

We bid a fond farewell to Sheridan Professor Patrick Young who retired in June. Patrick was the founding Artistic Director of the program and saw it through 25 years of incredible development. His leadership and passion was vital to making this program what it is today.

Professor Nancy Copeland is stepping down as Director of Drama for UTM – although we are happy to say that she is not retiring! Nancy’s contribution to the program is incalculable. She has been a wonderful colleague and inspiration to students, staff and professors of both institutions alike. We are so grateful that she will still be a big part of our program going forward.

Former Chair of English and Drama, Professor Holger Syme is taking on the position of Director of Drama. Professor Syme is fresh from sabbatical and ready to provide leadership for the UTM side of the program. We are thrilled to have him back and look forward to working with him this year!

An exciting development on the Sheridan side is the appointment of our new full time professor, Meredith Scott! Professor Scott is a Voice, Text and Dialects specialist who has worked for over fifteen years across Canada. Recently, she coached the Dora Award-winning Grey Gardens. She has been a regular partial-load faculty member at Sheridan for seven years, and has a long history with this program, as she also a TDS graduate!

Theatre Erindale, our production arm, is happy to announce that Professor Melee Hutton is now Associate Artistic Director. Professor Hutton will be helping with the season planning, special events and ensuring that we continue to uphold the highest artistic standards in everything that we do. It is very exciting to have her creativity and insight for the years ahead.

That’s it for now! Take a deep breath and dive into the rest of this newsletter. It holds a lot of important details about the year ahead. If you have any questions feel free to email me at David.Matheson@sheridancollege.ca

All the best!

David
2. REGISTRATION

1. First Year Students should download the New Students Registration Guide from [https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/2017-2018-registration-guide](https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/registrar/2017-2018-registration-guide)

   Course Enrolment for first and second terms for all first-year students begins online at UTM on July 6th – details/times available June 30th. It is very important to be online right at your start time – courses fill up fast! (All other years have registered already.) Keep in mind:

   - All First Year Students should register in FIVE FULL COURSES (= 10 one-semester courses) unless you are bringing transfer credits from another institution. Include your four one-semester DRS and DRE credits. We highly recommend that you take your required Science and Social Science credits this year as well. (You can find information on classes that might be of interest on the UTM Registrar's website, where you can also find contact details should you want to schedule a consultation session with an advisor. For courses on drama-related subjects, see the website of the Department of English and Drama.)

   - You cannot proceed to second-year Acting until you have successfully completed four full credits (which can be a combination of one-semester courses [F or S] and year-long courses [Y]).

   - First Year Students: DO NOT REGISTER IN ANY OTHER COURSE TUESDAY-THURSDAY 8:30AM THROUGH 5PM. Those days and hours are reserved for DRS121 & 122H (Acting 1 & 2) Stagecraft Labs and Crew Calls or DRS221 & 222H (Acting 3 & 4) Crew Calls in both terms. Remember that there will be many calls in addition to and outside of those hours, depending on your assignment.

   - Second Year Students: Remember to book off your Tuesdays and Thursdays! You now have crew both semesters, and Tuesday and Thursday mornings will be your DRS classes. Further information on your crew hours and assignments will be provided separate from this newsletter.

   You may register for an evening class, but that may conflict with your crew schedule.

   **A NOTE ON READ-THROUGHS:**

   If you are involved in/working on the production in any way, you must be at the Design Presentation portion of the read-through. This will take about an hour. The read-through itself will only call for the cast, stage manager, theatre staff and director.

2. ALL YEARS REGISTER ONLINE AT UTM:

   You will lose your priority status for restricted DRE courses if you miss the FIRST period of registration. The UTM Registrar’s Office relays registration information to Sheridan Academic Services by mid-August.

3. QUESTIONS: With enquiries about DRE Courses, Contact English & Drama Undergraduate Advisor Dianne Robertson at 905-828-5201. For UTM Registration questions, contact Megan Janssen, Associate Registrar, at (905) 828-3744

8. ARRANGE YOUR SHERIDAN ONEcard AND INTERNET ACCOUNT: Email regarding Acting and Production Courses must use your Sheridan account (just as email regarding your UTM courses must use your UTMail+ account). Please activate your Sheridan...
ONEcard and email. Once your UTM registration has been recorded at Sheridan in the second half of August, you can report in person to the Sheridan Information Technology HelpDesk (in the Learning Commons in C-Wing – straight ahead after crossing the bridge) to obtain your Sheridan OneCard and activate your Sheridan account.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Sheridan does not permit late registration. To check on your Sheridan status, contact Academic Services.

![Alma Sarai in The Caucasian Chalk Circle](image)

3. TRANSIT & LOCKERS

INTER-CAMPUS TRANSIT: There will be a free shuttle bus at Deerfield Hall Tuesday & Thursday mornings to take students from the UTM campus to Sheridan College. If driving, parking passes for both schools are available to you. This information and the shuttle bus schedule will be outlined further at Sheridan orientation. Follow these links for more information on parking passes:

a) [https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/parking/permits](https://www.utm.utoronto.ca/parking/permits)
b) [https://www.sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/campus-services/parking.aspx](https://www.sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/campus-services/parking.aspx)

SHERIDAN LOCKERS:
Lockers are free, but your number must be registered with the Student Union. Come early to lay claim to the location you want.

DEERFIELD HALL LOCKERS are exclusively for Theatre & Drama Studies students. Time will be put aside for first years on orientation day to reserve their lockers with Peter Urbanek.

4. FIRST YEAR ORIENTATIONS

Joint students have two systems to get used to; so you are expected to attend both UTM and Sheridan Orientations.

(a) **UTM GENERAL ORIENTATION:** The general UTM Orientation for all incoming students (run by the Registrar's Office and Erindale College Student Union) starts Monday August 28th and runs for the rest of the week. You will receive a separate mailing about this. For more information, contact the UTM Registrar's Office at 905-569-4355, or the ECSU Enquiry line at 905-828-5249.

(b) **SHERIDAN ORIENTATION:** A special Orientation for students in joint programs is scheduled for August 29th. This is your first opportunity to meet your classmates and your professors. We are looking forward to (re)meeting you! You will be bussed to Sheridan and back along with second-year students of the CCIT and A&AH joint programs. Expect a brief campus tour, a chance to arrange ID, lockers and refreshments.

5. SEASON AUDITIONS

**Erindale Studio Theatre, THURSDAY, 31st of AUGUST:**

65TE (third year) – All students will sign up to present their general auditions in eight-minute appointments between 9:30AM and 2:00PM.

67TE (fourth year) – All students will sign up to present their general auditions in eight-minute appointments between 3:00 and 7:00PM.

**MEASUREMENTS for 4th years** will be taken 11AM-5PM in the Costume Shop. *This is a tentative time and may change.*
Each third and fourth-year student should prepare:
1. One classical monologue – verse preferred – of less than 2 minutes.
2. A contrasting contemporary monologue of less than 2 minutes.
4. Optional brief demonstration of any unique skills you have.
5. Third years must bring four photocopied photo-resumés and fourth years must bring five for the faculty & directors. It must be a colour photo.
6. Your auditions will be graded by faculty. You may be cut off if you go over time.

FOURTH YEAR CALLBACKS: Callbacks for 365 Days/365 Plays and Really Really will be conducted 10AM-1:30PM the next morning Friday September 1st. Top Girls and Clybourne Park are from 2:30-6:00PM. Casting for the season will be out by Sunday night.

THIRD YEAR CALLBACKS: None are needed for the Devised project, but those for Twelfth Night will be conducted 2:30 – 6:00PM in the Erindale Studio Theatre.

SCRIPTS:
1. Fourth years must purchase their own copies of 365 Days/365 Plays over the summer and bring their own copies to the Callbacks. Copies of Clybourne Park, Top Girls, and Really Really will be on hand.
2. For Third Year Callbacks, bring your own copies or use the working versions of Twelfth Night that will be on hand.
3. Once cast, the working versions of all scripts MUST be purchased directly from Peter Urbanek.
6. THE BECK FESTIVAL

The Beck Festival is our evening of one act plays where all four years of the program get a chance to work together. Students direct, perform in and write these pieces with minimal faculty supervision.

This year's festival is scheduled for December 14-17 (during the Exam Period). All years will have access, as the final Production Schedule will be arranged around individual exam commitments. The Beck proposal deadline was June 10th. The shows that have been accepted into the Beck Festival will be announced at the “Welcome Back” program meeting on September 5th. Faculty liaisons will be assigned for each show in September.

7. WORK-STUDY POSITIONS

The following jobs are available (and you do not have to be on OSAP to apply):

Box Office Assistant  
Technical Theatre Assistant  
Production Assistant  
Wardrobe Assistant  
Rehearsal Hall Attendant  
Mist Theatre Assistant

These positions pay for a maximum of 196 hours. For eligibility criteria and applications contact Peter Urbanek.

8. REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

**EXERCISE MATS:** Bring your own yoga mat to voice and movement classes.

**1ST YEAR USHERS:** All first year students usher for Theatre Erindale. Dress sharply in a white top (must be ironed!) and black pants or skirt.

**FOOTWEAR:**  
All first and second-year students are required to wear CSA-approved safety shoes or boots during all Crew Calls right from the start (ushers excepted). Look for the green triangle. You can try Walmart, Mark’s Work Warehouse, or Peter Urbanek also has a limited stock of used safety shoes available for $10.00 a pair.

**REHEARSAL CLOTHES:** All students are required to supply appropriate rehearsal clothes for scene study and Production rehearsals.

For men, this means a suit jacket and dress shoes with a heel.  
For women, this means a full and heavy, floor-length skirt and character shoes.
9. SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 5th:

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS attend an introductory meeting for Production Crews 2:00 - 5:00 PM at the Erindale Studio Theatre. 6:00PM –10:00PM “Welcome Back” FOR ALL YEARS in the Erindale Studio Theatre. Greet each other after the long summer, meet the faculty, and get familiar with course outlines, timetables, and waiver forms. We look forward to sharing some exciting changes with you and giving you the opportunity to ask questions.

Wednesday, September 6th, 6:00PM-7:00PM:

ALL FIRST, SECOND, AND FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS: Director and Design presentation and First Reading for 365 Days/365 Plays in the RHA in Deerfield Hall.

Thursday, September 7th and September 14th, 6:15PM-10:15PM:

FOURTH YEAR STUDENTS: Stage Combat Workshop (Weapons) at UTM with Daniel Levinson.

Friday, September 8th, 6:00PM-10PM:

FIRST AND SECOND YEAR STUDENTS IMPORTANT PRODUCTION MEETING at Erindale Studio Theatre. More information about this to come.

Wednesday, September 13th, 6:00PM-10PM:

THIRD YEAR STUDENTS: First Rehearsal for Twelfth Night in Rehearsal Hall A.

ARTS: In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of UTM there is going to be an Arts Day happening on Wednesday, September 13th. There will be several student performances happening on campus, along the path between the MiST Theatre and the Erindale Studio Theatre. Some students will be approached regarding performances, but we are open to suggestions! The performances must be repeatable, as this will happen over the course of a few hours. Please feel free to get in touch!

Friday, September 15th – ALL STUDENTS:

AWARDS GALA:

Our Awards Gala is where we reward the top achievers of last year, and incoming students, with scholarships and bursaries There will be fabulous performances and we will acknowledge some special guests. 6:30PM Food Set-Up, 7:00 Eat, 8:00 Awards Ceremony.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO FIRST YEARS! – This is a pot luck event, please bring some food and don’t be shy to join us!

Saturday, September 16th - STRATFORD FESTIVAL TRIP FOR FIRST YEAR:

All First Year students will travel together by bus with faculty to the Stratford Festival to see productions of The Madwoman of Chaillot (Directed by Donna Feore) at 2:00 PM and Bakkhai (Directed by Jillian Keiley) at 8:00 PM. Both productions are at the Tom Patterson Theatre. Your tickets are already booked and paid for (through regular fees). We leave early in the morning and return to UTM around midnight! Details to follow!

TDS students arrive at Shaw Festival
Saturday, September 23rd – SHAW FESTIVAL TRIP FOR SECOND YEAR:

All Second Year students will travel to the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake to see *Saint Joan* (directed by Tim Carroll) at 2:00 PM and *The Madness of George III* (directed by Kevin Bennett) at 8:00 PM.

10. OUTSIDE COMMITMENTS POLICY

HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Remember that when classes are in session, attendance is mandatory. Rehearsals and crew calls are classes, and they finish the week on Saturday, not Friday. Make sure that your parents – or anyone else who books your holidays – understand that **under no circumstances** are early departures or late returns permitted at Thanksgiving, in December/January, or at Reading Week.

OUTSIDE JOBS

Please remember that program activities are often scheduled for evening and weekend time. Conflicts with class and production work are not permitted.

OUTSIDE ENGAGEMENTS

There are many opportunities available to you as a student: UTM Drama Club, UTM Musical Theatre Club, Dance Club, etc. However, while you are in professional training during the term, we highly recommend you don’t spread yourself too thin. You may apply for permission to take part in one of these overlapping productions. First and Second years wishing to take part can apply to Peter Urbanek for permission. Third and Fourth years apply to David Matheson. Applications must specify in writing and in detail the schedule of the extra-curricular activity.

Permission will NOT be granted to engage in more than one overlapping production, in one with a conflicting schedule, or in one that will require rehearsal within two working weeks or performance within four working weeks prior to the Theatre Erindale opening. Specific writers or crew-members may qualify for exceptions.

11. CONTACTING FACULTY OVER THE SUMMER

A reminder that professor David Matheson will be available in emergency situations via email. For all questions concerning UTM courses, you can contact Professor Holger Syme throughout the summer; his email is holger.syme@utoronto.ca. Professors Matheson, Hutton and Scott are on vacation from June 24th and will be back on August 20th. Have a wonderful summer!!!
Theatre Students in Spotlight at Shaw Festival

UTM students pull back the curtain on the unique world of repertory theatre

"REPERTORY THEATRE IN PRACTICE" is an innovative new summer field course offered by U of T Mississauga’s department of English and Drama that provides students with behind-the-scenes experience at the Shaw Festival. With its Niagara-on-the-Lake location, the second-largest repertory theatre company in North America is almost in U of T’s backyard.

Premiering last July with 19 students, the 10-day course is open to second-, third- and fourth-year students. They not only dive into literature and history, but also learn about the repertory system of theatre production, which involves performing multiple plays at once, with actors playing parts in more than one production, and using commercially viable shows to fund the development of new plays.

Last summer’s students spent each day learning directly from actors, directors, designers and administrators. They were able to interview Shaw dramaturges (writers who adapt plays to fit the logistics of a particular company), and Shaw associate director Eda Holmes led them in activities such as a scene study and staged readings. The students also learned from a theatre historian about the festival’s evolution, and saw five Shaw productions.

“We have a unique opportunity right on our doorstep to acquaint students with the greatest English-language plays on Earth, and then to let them learn from and with the people they’ve just been watching on stage,” says professor Lawrence Switzky, who organized the course. “In exchange, the students energize the company with their passion, their skepticism and their curiosity.”

The course, which is running again this summer, has three costs: a half-course tuition fee; a $350 laboratory fee for additional instructional and transportation expenses and theatre tickets; and $45 per night for lodging.

What enhanced the course, Switzky says, were the many informal conversations students had with artists, such as veteran Shaw performer Fiona Reid, who he says made time to offer personalized career advice to each student.

Another unscripted learning experience occurred when Holmes conducted mock auditions with the students, which participant Laura McCallum found particularly helpful.

“She talked to us about what to wear and what to say, and we all got to practise walking into a room and introducing ourselves. It was such a great nugget to get out of someone who’s been doing this for 25 years,” says McCallum, who just graduated from the UTM Theatre and Drama Studies program.

Another big highlight, she says, was talking one-on-one with those responsible for marketing, public outreach and actor scheduling at the festival.

“I had no intention to become an actor when I started in the UTM theatre program, but I wanted to work in theatre,” McCallum says. “This opened my eyes to so many administrative roles I didn’t even know existed, and that without them the Shaw doesn’t happen. So it helped me secure some new goals.” – SHARON ASCHAIK