Faculty Research Grant
Final Project Summary
Fall 2007
presented by
Dr. Richard Herman, Dr. Carla Maltus
Dr. Kenneth Wood

Dr. Harold Mortimer from Ball State University came to the University of Central Missouri for a one week residency. This residency was in conjunction with preparation for Side By Side By Sondheim, a joint production between the Departments of Theatre and Music.

Prior to Dr. Mortimer’s residency, cast and crew members completed a survey. This survey provided researchers with demographic information, information about the students’ prior experiences in musical theater and information about the students’ levels of commitment to musical theatre as an occupational choice.

During Dr. Mortimer’s residency, the students had an opportunity to obtain private vocal coaching from Dr. Mortimer. Mortimer also presented a master class on preparing a song for staging, and led a workshop called “Auditioning for the Musical Theater.” Each evening of the residency, Dr. Mortimer attended rehearsals, working along with the director and musical director of the production to provide coaching for the actors.

Surveys completed after Dr. Mortimer’s residency revealed that students found this experience to be valuable. Some of the responses from the open question, “Describe what you learned from the experiences provided by Dr. Mortimer’s visit that are not typically attainable on campus at the University of Central Missouri” included the following statements:
*He is a great motivator. It was great watching him instruct different performers.

*It was nice to have a fresh, unbiased opinion on our performance.

*I absolutely loved it. Dr. Mortimer’s visit was a creative breath of fresh air. His guidance was very helpful in my character process.

*A sense of professionalism that shows how directors/actors/technicians should be acting. Another good voice and opinion to hear.

*Help me see yet another director’s voice.

*He was amazing and really inspired energy in the cast. I enjoyed him thoroughly

*He is so full of energy and has inspired me to become better.

The surveys will be tabulated and the results will be shared with Dean Nelson and the heads of the music and theatre departments. Additionally, the results may be included in articles published about music theatre education and the role of guest clinicians in the development of the musicians/actors’ level of commitment to the profession.
Mortimer's Verbal Comments—Post Visit.

*Real one on one attention and specific exercises to improve my own vocal abilities. Thanks for everything.

*I feel that Dr. Mortimer understood the genre as a whole: not just musically or not just acting wise, but in musical theater. I feel that he helped me sell the song, while telling me vocally how to do it. And at times, I feel that both aspects are to (sic) divided.

*A fresh set of eyes, someone who does not know me and was impartial to my work.

*He is a great motivator. It was great watching him instruct different performers.

*It provided a different perspective about where to put my energy.
  
  - Never met with him. Not much interaction, was energetic in teaching us. Not sure he was a good idea. Questions above do not reflect his visit, he did not effect my decisions or questions.

*Description of real-world audition experience and profession.

*Confidence in myself from compliments given by someone who participates in theatre and music outside of UCM on a regular basis.

*It was nice to hav a fresh, unbiased opinion on our performance.

*I absolutely loved it. Dr. Mortimer's visit was a creative breath of fresh air. His guidance was very helpful in my character process. Thanks, Carla!

*Difference couples in little things we do together. Act your age of couple.

*To never apologize for your singing even if it's wrong and to try your best in whatever you do.

*A sense of professionalism that shows how directors/actors/technicians should be acting. Another good voice and opinion to hear.

*Help me see yet another director's voice.

*Different types of breathing how to reach higher notes

He was amazing and really inspired energy in the cast. I enjoyed him thoroughly

Didn't do solo work ☹

  - He is so full of energy and has inspired me to become better.
*Music theater is not just tedious music work, but also fun faces, etc.*
Players
Fifty 00.00

U.S. BANK
615 NORTH MAUROUE
WARRENSBURG, MO 64093

Gift card

TAX DEDUCTIBLE ITEM
NOT NEGOTIABLE

Please make check to
Carla Maltas
Expenses for  
Dr. Harold Mortimer  
Artist-In-Residence  
October 29-November 2, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Car 520 x round trip x .415</td>
<td>$430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>(Provided by host family--$50 gift certificate to Players Restaurant and 4 comp tickets to show)</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
<td>$25 per diem x 6 days</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorarium</td>
<td></td>
<td>$370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

send payment to:
Dr. Harold Mortimer  
Asst Professor of Musical Theatre  
Ball State University  
Muncie, IN 47306

-50 (gift card to Players)  
$950