

John G. Burgess

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EDUCATION:

Master of Fine Arts, *Scenic Design*

University of Arizona – Tucson, AZ - May 1995

- Thesis: Scenic Design for Caryl Churchill's **Mad Forest**.
- Won the School's award for Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design, 1995
- Won the School's award for Outstanding Achievement in Technical Direction, 1993

Bachelor of Science, *Communications/Theatre Arts and English*

James Madison University – Harrisonburg, VA - June 1989

- Won the Steve Snyder award for Outstanding Achievement in Theatre, 1987

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP:

2021-Present Associate Vice Provost for Academic Effectiveness and Evaluation

Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Curriculum, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Oversee evaluative processes for faculty, including evaluations for promotion and tenure, annual evaluations, initial evaluations, and mid-point evaluations. Oversee Academic Program Reviews (APR). Oversee faculty credentialing. Oversee and facilitate Faculty Awards and Faculty Endowment Awards. Oversee the analysis and evolution of Student Evaluations of Teaching (SETs). Oversee SACSCOC compliance for areas related to faculty and programmatic evaluation and reviews.

2019-21 Interim Dean

The Graduate School, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Oversee the Graduate School. Provide leadership for the university regarding graduate education. Oversee the allocation of \$4 million for tuition support and scholarships. Chair the Graduate Council. Chair the Graduate Council's Executive Committee.

2018-19 Interim Associate Dean - Graduate Student Services

The Graduate School, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Oversee the Graduate Student Services area of the Graduate School. Oversee the disbursement of \$4 million budget for graduate student scholarships. Oversee support for graduate students. Oversee the integrity of graduate curriculums across 7 Colleges, 53 graduate programs and 8 doctoral programs. Oversee the Graduate School's policies and procedures. Advise the Graduate Student Association.

2017-18 Associate Academic Unit Head of the School of Theatre and Dance

College of Visual and Performing Arts, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Provide support for the School's new Academic Unit Head. Serve on the College of Visual and Performing Arts Leadership Council. Oversee Assessment for the School. Assist with elements of School leadership and initiatives. Track faculty and student activities.

2016-17 Interim Academic Unit Head of the School of Theatre and Dance

College of Visual and Performing Arts, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Provide leadership for academic department involving 260+ undergraduate B.A. majors in Theatre, Dance and Musical Theatre, 20 full-time faculty members, 3 full-time and 3 part-time staff members, and numerous adjuncts and guest artists. Produce 8 major Mainstage Theatre and Dance productions, 6-10 Studio Theatre productions, 5 Earlynn J. Miller Dance Theatre student dance productions, and 5-8 Workshop Theatre productions each year. Supervise faculty. Promote and facilitate diversity in faculty and staff hiring, student recruitment, curriculum and other programmatic activities. Manage \$2.2 million budget. Lead hiring of new faculty and staff. Lead continuation of the restricted program status for Dance, Musical Theatre and Theatre. Support university SACSCOC accreditation processes. Promote faculty and staff development. Support management of the \$90 million Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. Coordinate with Forbes Center staff on building usage, promotion, marketing, box office, and front of house operations. Support fundraising for the unit and the College. Represent the College on the Provost's Diversity Council. Serve on and/or chair various committees within the unit and College and also the broader University. Raise the profiles of the JMU School of Theatre and dance both regionally and nationally.

2008-18 Director of Technical Production

School of Theatre and Dance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Oversee the production of scenery for 5 mainstage theatrical productions. Oversee the Assistant Technical Director and the operations of the 5,700 square foot scene shop. Oversee the hiring and performance of 15 student scene shop assistants. Maintain safe working environments in the scene shop, Mainstage and Studio Theatres. Oversee the equipment in the scene shop, Mainstage and Studio Theatres. Oversee the scenery production for the Studio Theatre. Oversee and facilitate scenery and prop elements for the Mainstage dance concerts. Act as a technical liaison to the Forbes Center staff for equipment and scheduling.

2012-18 Studio Theatre Faculty Advisor

School of Theatre and Dance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Oversee operations of the 6-10 student directed productions for the experimental theatre series in the Studio Theatre. Hire and oversee 2-3 Studio Theatre student managers who facilitate student production. Organize and oversee the Studio Theatre production proposal process each semester. Organize and facilitate the Studio Theatre production selection process each semester. Oversee and facilitate the Studio Theatre artistic and production team showcase each semester. Maintain the Studio Theatre production policies document, and hold students accountable for successfully adhering to the policies. Organize and oversee resources and equipment for the Studio Theatre.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

2015–18 Assistant/Associate Professor of Theatre

School of Theatre and Dance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

2009–15 Assistant/Associate Professor of Theatre

School of Theatre and Dance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

2008–09 Visiting Professor of Theatre

School of Theatre and Dance, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

1992–95 Teaching Assistant in Technical Production and Design

Department of Theatre Arts, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

NATIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Leadership Positions:

2021-24 Chair – Design, Technology and Management

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival – Region 2

2018-21 Vice Chair – Design, Technology and Management

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival – Region 2

Memberships:

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

United States Institute of Theatre Technology

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

American Association of the Colleges and Universities

Council of Graduate Schools

Conference of Southern Graduate Schools

Southeastern Theatre Conference

UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND ASSESSMENT TRAINING:

James Madison University

IMPACT³ – 2017-18 Academic Year

ASSESSMENT TRAINING – June 12th-16th, 2017

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE WORK:

James Madison University

University

Core Curriculum Appraisal Task Force, 2022-present

Internship Task Force, 2022-present

Chair, Faculty Endowment Awards Committee, 2021-present

Chair, Graduate Council, 2019-21

Chair, Graduate Council Executive Committee, 2019-21

Academic Council, 2019-21

Research and Scholarship Task Force, 2018-20

Graduate Council, 2018-19

Graduate Council Executive Committee, 2018-19

Engagement Advisory Group, 2018-19

Online Learning Policies Committee, 2018-19

Provost's Faculty Diversity Council, 2016-19

Diversity Curriculum Grant Committee, 2016-18

Distinguished General Education Faculty Award Committee, 2012-13

Search Committee – Academic Credentialing Coordinator - 2022

Search Committee – Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs and Curriculum, 2021-22

Chair, Search Committee – Academic Unit Head, Adult Degree Program, 2021-22

Chair, Search Committee – Administrative Assistant, Vice Provost's Office for Faculty Affairs and Curriculum, 2021

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Academic Council, Deans, School Directors and College Staff, 2016-present

Chair, Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee, 2013-15

Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee, Secretary, 2012-13

Cultural Connections Committee, 2011-12

Search Committee – Director of Production Services, 2015-16
Search Committee – Associate Dean, 2013-14
Search Committee – Director of the School of Theatre and Dance, 2010-11
Search Committee – Assistant Technical Production Coordinator, 2010-11
Search Committee – Technical Production Coordinator, 2009-10

School of Theatre and Dance

Recruiting Committee, 2015-present
Design and Technology Committee, 2008-present
Part Time Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2014-16
Season Selection Committee, 2015-16
Large Format General Education Task Force, 2015-16
Post Mortem Committee, 2009-10
Theatre Poster/Advertisement Task Force, 2008-09
Chair, Search Committee – Assistant Technical Director, 2014-15
Chair, Search Committee – Scene Shop Supervisor, 2013-14, 2009-10, 2008
Search Committee – General Education Faculty Line, 2011-12

UNIVERSITY SERVICE POSITIONS & ADDITIONAL SERVICE:

James Madison University – School of Theatre and Dance

Fixed Asset Coordinator, 2009-18

Work with the university's Fixed Asset Unit to track all of the School's equipment designated as a State of Virginia asset. Yearly visits from Fixed Assets documents the location and condition of all the fixed assets. In six years as the Fixed Asset Coordinator, we have never lost a fixed asset. Incoming assets are coordinated for asset identification, location, value and tracking.

Forbes Center Liaison for the Mainstage and Studio Theatres, 2011-18

Work with the College's Forbes Center production staff to coordinate the spaces, equipment and access. Maintain detailed production calendars as a resource for the Forbes Center to facilitate production scheduling, and to protect the curricular integrity of the School's production season.

Principle Recruiter for Design and Technology, 2009-18

Participate in recruiting conferences and events in support of the School's Design and Technology concentration. Attend VTA (Virginia Theatre Association) and SETC (Southeast Theatre Conference) to recruit potential high school students. Support School and College on campus recruiting events. Organize and oversee the Design and Technology portfolio review sessions four times a year.

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival – Supporting Faculty Member, 2011-18

Work with the School's KCACTF coordinator to help organize and facilitate participation in the KCACTF regional festivals. Assist Design and Technology students with preparations for competitions in management, design and technical production.

Guest Artists – Technical Support and Coordination, 2008-18

Work with sponsoring faculty to assist with the preparation and performances for the School's sponsored guest artists.

COURSES TAUGHT:

THEA 171 – Performance Production – Scenery
THEA 210 – Introduction to Theatre
THEA 210 – Introduction to Theatre – Large Format Class
THEA 210H – Honors Introduction to Theatre
THEA 271 – Introduction to Technical Theatre
THEA 303 – Technical Direction

THEA 371 – Advanced Technical Theatre
 THEA 372 – Scene Painting
 THEA 373 – Drafting for the Theatre
 THEA 390 – Furniture Making
 THEA 390 – Machining and Robotics
 THEA 390 – Scenic Drop Painting

UNIVERSITY PRODUCTION AND DESIGN EXPERIENCE:

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

James Madison University

Picnic	Director: Dennis Beck	Spring 2016
Guys and Dolls	Director: Julio Agustin	Spring 2016
For Sale	Director: Roger Hall	Fall 2012
Toured to participate at KCACTF Region 2 in Towson, MD. Won the region's award for most efficient technical installation.		
Servant of Two Masters	Director: Jean Petrimont	Spring/Summer 2012
Toured the production to the Festival d' Avignon, in Avignon, France. Responsible for logistics, transportation, and ground support for a cast of 12 and a student stage manager.		

SCENIC DESIGN

James Madison University

School for Scandal	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Fall 2017
The Tempest	Director: Ben Lambert	Fall 2016
Rumpelstiltskin	Director: Kate Arcchi	Summer 2016
Anton in Show Business	Director: Ingrid DeSanctis	Fall 2015
Go Dog Go	Director: Kate Arcchi	Summer 2015
Upside Down Fairytales	Director: Kate Arcchi	Summer 2015
All Shook Up	Director: Kate Arcchi	Spring 2014
SubUrbia	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Fall 2012
Sweeney Todd	Director: Kate Arcchi	Spring 2012
Letters to Sala	Director: Roger Hall	Fall 2010
Carmen	Director: Don Rierson	Fall 2009
Picasso at the Lapin Agile	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Fall 2009
Cows Don't Fly	Director: Pam Johnson	Summer 2009
70 Scenes of Halloween	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Fall 2008
Rumpelstiltskin	Director: Pam Johnson	Summer 2008
Twelfth Night	Director: Wolf Sherill	Spring 2008
Jane Eyre	Director: Roger Hall	Fall 2007

University of Arizona

Mad Forest	Director: Doug Finlayson	Spring 1995
Merchant of Venice	Director: Harold Dixon	Fall 1993
Nine	Director: Richard Hanson	Fall 1993
The Entertainers	Director: Richard Hanson	Fall 1992

LIGHTING DESIGN

James Madison University

The Diviners	Director: Roger Hall	Fall 2009
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Baby	Director: Allen Lyndrup	Summer 1986
The Foreigner	Director: Allen Lyndrup	Summer 1986

TECHNICAL DIRECTION

James Madison University

Parade	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: Richard Block	2/18
Pretty Theft	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	4/16
Wild Party	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: John Hobson	2/16
Shakuntala	Director: Snehal Desai	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	11/15
Sweet Charity	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	2/15
Machinal	Director: Terry Brino-Dean	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	11/14
Clybourne Park	Director: Terry Brino-Dean	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	5/14
Boeing Boeing	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Designer: Bill Buck	9/14
Romeo and Juliet	Director: Ingrid DeSanctis	Designer: Bill Buck	4/14
Anna in the Tropics	Director: Rick J Martinez	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	10/12
Sweeney Todd	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: John Burgess	2/12
New Dance	Director: Shane O'Hara		9/11
Arcadia	Director: Pam Johnson	Designer: Bill Buck	4/11
Kiss Me Kate	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	2/11
Letters to Sala	Director: Roger Hall	Designer: John Burgess	11/10
Metamorphosis	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	10/10
Oklahoma	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: Bill Buck	2/10
Carmen	Director: Don Rierson	Designer: John Burgess	11/09
The Diviners	Director: Roger Hall	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	10/09
New Dance	Director: Shane O'Hara		9/09
Blood Wedding	Director: Victor Maog	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	4/09
City of Angels	Director: Kate Arcchi	Designer: Jason Jamerson	2/09
The Rover	Director: Roger Hall	Designer: Richard Finkelstein	11/08
70 Scenes of Halloween	Director: Wolf Sherrill	Designer: John Burgess	10/08

University of Arizona

Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean	Director: Doug Finlayson	Designer: Richard Ramirez	2/93
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PROP MASTER

James Madison University

Anton in Show Business	Director: Ingrid DeSanctis	Fall 2015
The Cherry Orchard	Director: Ben Lambert	Spring 2015
The Trojan Women	Director: Ingrid DeSanctis	Fall 2013
Spring Awakening	Director: Terry Brino-Dean	Spring 2013
Our Country's Good	Director: Dennis Beck	Fall 2011

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION AND DESIGN EXPERIENCE:

THEATRICAL DESIGN

Little Theatre of Alexandria – Alexandria, VA
<i>The Savanah Disputation</i> – Scenic Design – 4/19
Valley Players – Harrisonburg, VA
<i>The Nerd</i> – Scenic Design – 8/13

- Elmira Players** – Elmira, NY
The Foreigner – Scenic & Lighting Design – 05
- Evidence Room** – Los Angeles, CA
Tales of the Lost Formicans – Scenic Design – 96
Early Morning – Scenic Design – 96
- Granada Theatre** – Los Angeles, CA
Into the Woods – Lighting Design – 91
- Igloo Theatre** – Los Angeles, CA
Fathers Day – Scenic & Lighting Design – 91
- Moving Target Theatre** – Washington, DC
Orphans – Scenic & Lighting Design – 89
- International Strindberg Festival** – Washington, DC
Ghost Sonata – Lighting Design – 89

FILM & TELEVISION DESIGN

- Apocalypse Rock*** – DUO Media – Star Wipe Films
Production Designer – 4/14
- Survivor 2, 3, 4 & 5*** (Tribal Council Sets) – CBS
Set Designer – 99-02
- Creature Lab*** – Universal Studios
Production Designer – 99
- Merlin's Chamber*** – Walt Disney Co
Production Designer - 98
- Mystery Puppet Theatre*** – Walt Disney Co
Production Design - 99
- Beyond Chance*** – Lifetime Network
Set Designer – 99
- Pulp Comics*** – Comedy Central
Production Designer – 97-99
- Early Bird Special*** – Frankel Productions
Art Director – 98
- Gulliver's Travels*** – Hallmark Entertainment / CBS
Art Director – 97
- The Trojan Horse*** – Hallmark Entertainment / CBS
Art Director – 97
- 20,000 Leagues...*** – Hallmark Entertainment / CBS
Art Director - 97
- Legend*** – United Paramount Network
Art Director - 95
- Automatic*** – HBO
Conceptual Production Design - 95

COMMERCIAL DESIGN (select)

- Pantene*** – Flying Tiger Films – 99
- Chi Chi's*** – T minus 30 – 99
- Club Disney – Bug's Life*** - Walt Disney Co - 99
- Club Disney – Aladin*** - Walt Disney Co - 99
- Dodge Intrepid*** – Band Apart – 98
- Honda Civic*** – M-80 Productions – 98

Norfolk Southern Railroad – Flying Tiger Films - 97
Dupont – Lovenger/Cohn Productions – 97
Honda Passport – Assymetrical Productions – 97
Sony DVD – CPG Productions – 97
Sprite – CPG Productions – 97
Service Star – Concrete Productions – 97
Diesel Jeans – Traktor Films – 96
Nissan Ultima – Atherton & Associates – 96
American Stock Exchange – Paramount Pictures – 96
Science Diet – GMS Productions – 96
Coca Cola – GMS Productions – 96
Burger King – Concrete Productions – 96

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE - THEATRE

Weston Playhouse – Weston, VT
Technical Director – 2014 Season
Arizona Theatre Co – Tucson, AZ
Draftsman – 1994 / 95 Season
Summerfest – Birmingham, AL
Scenic Charge Painter – 1994 Season
Utah Shakespearean Festival – Cedar City, UT
Carpenter, Scenic Artist – 1992 & 94 Seasons
Folger Shakespeare Theatre – Washington, DC
Master Carpenter – 4/88-7/89
Arena Stage – Washington, DC
Carpenter, Electrician – 12/87-4/88
Kennedy Center Theatre Lab – Washington, DC
Carpenter, Electrician – 6/87-8/87

TECHNICAL EXPERIENCE – FILM AND TELEVISION

MagiCraft – Los Angeles, CA
Shop Foreman – 4/91-10/91
Project Foreman – 10/89-6/90
Lexington Scenery & Props – N. Hollywood, CA
Carpenter / Project Lead – 7/90-3/91
Transcontinental Fabrication – Washington, DC
Master Carpenter – 8/87-12/87

WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS:

“Supporting Diverse Graduate Students through THRIVE” – Conference of Southern Graduate Schools – Birmingham, AL – 2020
How to create an authentic support structure for diverse and underrepresented graduate students.
“Pursuing Graduate Studies in the Arts and Humanities” – Commonwealth Graduate Education Day – Charlottesville, VA – 2019
Graduate studies in the Arts and Humanities for diverse and underrepresented graduate students.
“Proper Use of Stage Weapons” – Kennedy Center American College
Theatre Festival, Region 2 – Montclair, NJ - 2018
A detailed overview of proper handling, storing, preparing and securing stage weapons.
“Technical Direction” – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2015

An overview of Technical Direction and potential career paths.

“Stage Makeup – Gore and Prosthetics” – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2014

Assisted with a workshop led by student Kati Deyerle on materials and techniques for making blood, blood effects and prosthetic appliances.

“Projections” – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2014

Assisted with a workshop led by student David Willmore on equipment, software and techniques for the use of projections in theatrical applications.

“Stage Automation” – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2014

Presented an overview of the technology, equipment, application and strategies for creating automated stage elements and flown scenery.

“International Touring and the Avignon Festival” – Southeast Theatre Conference Festival – Mobile, AL – 2014

An overview of the Avignon Festival and tips for international touring.

“Adapting Theatrical Scenic Design for the Film Industry” – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 4 – Roanoke, VA – 2014

A comparison and introduction to apply the principals of theatrical scenic design to production design for the film and television industry.

“Proper Use of Stage Weapons” – Virginia Theatre Association – Reston, VA – 2013

A detailed overview of proper handling, storing, preparing and securing stage weapons.

“Adapting Theatrical Scenic Design for the Film Industry” – Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 2 – Towson, MD – 2013

A comparison and introduction to apply the principals of theatrical scenic design to production design for the film and television industry.

“Techniques of the White Model” – Virginia Theatre Association – Reston, VA – 2012

An introduction to professional techniques of white model making for scenic design.

“Fun with Pneumatics” – Virginia Theatre Association – Reston, VA – 2011

An introduction to pneumatic systems, appliances, cylinders, rigs and effects.

“Career Paths in Scenic Design” – Virginia Theatre Association – Reston, VA – 2010

An introduction to pneumatic systems, appliances, cylinders, rigs and effects.

“Film Industry Tricks for the Stage” – Virginia Theatre Association – Reston, VA – 2009

A demonstration of film industry construction techniques for use in theatrical productions.

COMPETITION ADJUDICATION

Scenic Design Competition – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2016 & 2017
– Reston, VA – 2010-2013

Adjudicated the Scenic Design competition for high school students interested in studying scenic design at the university level. Created detailed written evaluation responses, and led Q&A discussions and feedback sessions.

Tech Olympics – Virginia Theatre Association – Norfolk, VA – 2015 & 2016

Designed and oversaw the areas of Construction and Rigging as part of VTA’s tech Olympics competition.

Tech Olympics – United States Institute of Theatre Technology – Fort Worth, TX – 2014

Adjudicated the Knot Tying element as part of USITT’s tech Olympics competition

AWARDS:

TIVA Peer Awards

Outstanding Production Design

“Apocalypse Rocks” – DUO Media – Star Wipe Films – November 2015

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Certificate of Merit – Excellence in Technical Direction

“*Sweet Charity*” – James Madison University – Spring 2014

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Certificate of Merit – Excellence in Scenic Design

“*Sweeney Todd*” – James Madison University – Spring 2012

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Certificate of Merit – Excellence in Lighting Design

“*The Diviners*” – James Madison University – Fall 2009