

# **Dr. Brian Sajko**

## **Education**

Ph.D. Bowling Green State University 1993 Theatre  
M.A. University of Minnesota 1987 Theatre Arts  
B.A. University of Dayton 1985 Theatre  
Harvard University Graduate School of Education (2008)  
Certificate from the Institute of Educational Management

## **Career summary**

20+ years in Higher Education  
Professor, Artist, Administrator and Fulbright Scholar

## **Professional Experience**

**Eureka College**  
Eureka, Illinois

**August 1993 to present**

### **Senior Vice President for Admissions, Communications and Integrated Marketing**

(Title changed from Vice President of Marketing and Admissions in July 2007 to accurately reflect scope of responsibility)  
(November 2003 to present)

Chief College Spokesperson, direct integrated marketing communication structure including communication strategies with internal and external constituents and as Chief Adviser to the President. Chief architect of the national recognized "Eureka Idea" which increased enrollment by over 50% and retention by 21%. EC moved from a discount rate of nearly 60% to one of 25%. Responsible for leadership in all aspects of branding/marketing Eureka College including all marketing and advertising plans. Supervise 13 staff members, directly supervising the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Coordinator of Media Relations/Assistant to the Vice President, Coordinator of Creative Services, Coordinator of Web Services. 16 years of overseeing donor programs and major donor relationships.

### **Director of the Ronald W. Reagan Leadership Program**

(January 2007 to August 2008)

Responsible for all aspects of the College's premiere scholarship and leadership development program. Supervise Assistant Director of Reagan/Sandifer Programs. Operating budget of \$100K+. Also directing the Durward Sandifer Mentorship Program.

### **Founding Curator of the Ronald Reagan Museum**

(December 1993 to present)

Responsible for all aspects of President Reagan's personal history museum. Conceived and designed museum displays. Serve as media representative. Museum has hosted 150,000+ visitors since 1994. Oversee \$750K support fund.

### **Professor of Theatre Arts and Drama**

(August 1993 to present)

Classes and Independent Studies Taught: Introduction to Acting, Introduction to Theatre Arts and Drama, Dramatic Literature I and II, World Theatre History and Theory I and II, Senior Seminar (Liberal Arts capstone Course), Western Civilization and Culture, Arts Administration,

Playwriting, Stage Makeup, Classical Acting, Characterization, Oral interpretation, Musical Theatre, Stage Combat, Dialects, Staging the Musical, Directing  
Taught and advised numerous regional nominees in acting and design for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival including a National winner of the Mehron Award for Excellence in Theatrical Design in Stage Makeup.

### **Chair – Fine and Performing Arts Division**

(June 1994 to November 2003)

Responsible for curriculum, teaching assignments, staffing, budgeting, strategic and long-range planning, development, marketing, alumni and served as artistic director. Created and Developed Computer Aided Design Lab for Arts Students. Supervise of nine faculty members. Operating budget of \$50,000.

Organized and developed alliance with Playwright's Kitchen Ensemble in Los Angeles. This exclusive internship program allows our students to work one-on-one with television and movie actors in Los Angeles and provides the College with major speakers on a yearly basis sans stipend.

Alliance and personal friendship with two major Hollywood and New York Theatre and Film Producers. Developed and wrote curriculum for Arts Administration program (joint program between Business and Fine and Performing Arts) at Eureka College. Developed Dance program at Eureka College (joint program with Central Illinois School of Dance/Central Illinois Ballet). Developed Assistantship arrangement with Graduate Theatre Program at Illinois State University (placement of Graduate Design Candidates as Technical Director/Staff designer at EC).

### **Director – Honors Program**

(September 1995 to May 1999)

Designed and implemented honors curriculum, recruited students, developed guidelines acted as adviser and registrar for honors students, gained membership in National Collegiate Honors Council for program.

### **Founder and Director of the Eureka College Theatre Project**

(December 1993 to September 1997)

Summer theatre workshop for high school students and teachers—including college and graduate credit. Responsible for all aspects of program.

## **Fulbright Scholar Program**

### **Fulbright Alumni Ambassador**

Nominated and trained to represent the J. William Fulbright Scholar Program at universities and conferences as assigned by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) and the U.S. Department of State.

### **U.S. Senior Fulbright Scholar**

National Sun Yat-sen University; Kaohsiung, Taiwan R.O.C.

January 2003 to June 2004

Scholar in residence at National Sun Yat-sen University. Assisted in organizing International Conference in Mainland China Studies. Taught graduate course in arts management. Assisted in founding and developing curriculum for new Department of Theatre. Development and research for the America Center---a resource center located

at NSYSU. Named Deputy Director of the America Center. With support of American Institute in Taiwan (defacto U.S. embassy) founded and producer Discover America Month—a month-long celebration of the arts and America for Southern Taiwan.

### **Theatre Program Review Specialist**

2004 to present

Appointed to TWO three year terms for the J. William Fulbright Program/U.S. Department of State and the Council on the International Exchange of Scholars.

### **University of Southern Indiana Evansville, Indiana**

**August 1988 to June 1990**

### **Instructor in Communications/Theatre and Director of Theatre**

Classes and Independent Studies Taught: Introduction to Acting, Introduction to Theatre Arts and Drama, Theatrical Movement, Voice and Diction, Speech, Directing, Advanced Acting, Stage Lighting, Introductory and Advanced Stage Makeup

Majors: Art, pre-Art Therapy, Arts and Letters, Arts Administration, Dance, Music, Music Education, pre-Music Therapy, Theatre Arts and Drama

### **Union Memberships**

- Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

### **Professional Memberships**

- Board of Governors for Illinois Association of Museums
- Board of Governors/Director of Advocacy—Illinois Theatre Association
- National Association for College Admission Counseling
- Rotary International
- Fulbright Association
- International Council of Fine Arts Deans
- Americans for the Arts
- National Association of Schools of Theatre
- Association for Theatre in Higher Education
- American Theatre and Drama Society
- Association of Arts Administration Educators
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
- The Drama League
- Illinois Theatre Association
- Educational Theatre Association
- Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
- National Collegiate Honors Council
- Theatre Communications Group

### **Committee Assignments**

- Search committees for Dean of the College, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Public Services Librarian, Department Chairs, Arts Faculty

- Committee experience: Academic Affairs; Trustee Committees as--Faculty Representative to Board, Admissions and Recruitment, Marketing; Convocation and Cultural Affairs; Academic Disciplinary; Arts and Lecture Series; Housing Task Force; Grants and Technology; Representative to Student Senate; General Education; Faculty Policies; Retention; Faculty Workshop
- Accepted into ATHE Leadership Development Institute—attended August 2002.
- CASE—Marketing Communications Workshops

### **Performance and Production Experience**

- Founding Associate Artistic and Managing Director of New Harmony Theatre Small Actor's Equity Association Theatre primarily summer based.
- Liaison to State of Indiana for Outdoor Drama, Served as consultant to state legislators and developed successful funding plan for biennial State budget.
- Casting Director for New Harmony Theatre and Young Abe Lincoln Outdoor Drama, traveled to numerous national sites to cast both acting and technical companies.
- Selected as Beginnings Director for Indiana Theatre Association—working with new playwrights.
- Directed classical to contemporary plays and musicals to elementary, middle school, high school, college and university, community and professional performers (Over 100 productions).
- Designed sets, lights and makeup at all levels (nearly 50 productions).
- Acted in college and university, community and professional theatres (nearly 80 productions).
- Voice Over Work, Commercial Work, Industrials

### **Curriculum Experience**

- Led Fine and Performing Arts Division through North Central Association evaluation
- Structured departments for accreditation by NAST, NASM and NASA
- Theatre Resource Person for all Schools in Roman Catholic Diocese of Peoria, Illinois
- Designed and Implemented Theatre Arts Curriculum at USI
- Program review and curriculum revision in theatre at EC
- Designed Theatre Component Music Plus program for Inner-City Youth at Bowling Green State University.
- Served as Teaching Artist and Site Coordinator for Arts Alive!—part of the Lincoln Center Institute for Aesthetic Education
- Director of Pedagogy Module for The Graduate College Professional Development Program at Bowling Green State University—essentially preparing and teaching graduate assistants how to teach.
- Spearheaded development of Computer Aided Design laboratory at Eureka College

### **Publication and Presentations**

- Encyclopedia of Modern Drama (Grolier)—entries on Robins and Hoyt 2004
- Dictionary of Literary Biography—Major Essay on Elmer Rice Vol. 8 2003
- Arts Education: A K-16 Model Education

- National Communication Association 1997
- Utopian Traditions of Theatre in New Harmony, Indiana  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education 1997
- Theatre in Utopia: The Thespian Societies of New Harmony, Indiana  
Theatre Seminar on Repertoire Americana 1997
- Democracy in the Arts: the Structure and Function of the Thespian Societies in 19th  
Century New Harmony, Indiana  
Indiana Association of Historians 1995

Directed and created Original Production by Students in Music Plus Program for Inner-City Students

- Music Educators National Conference 1994
- The Tripartite Model of Teaching, Research and Service for Graduate Assistants  
Graduate Students National Teachers Conference U of IL 1994
- Theatre in New Harmony: The Golden Troupe  
Featured Speaker at Harmoniefest New Harmony, IN 1993
- Using Theories of Student Development in the Teaching of Theatre  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education 1992
- Catholic Theatre in America: Plays, Production and Press  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education 1990
- Numerous regional speaking engagements on the arts and various other subjects.
- Publications Editor for 3 years for Illinois Theatre Association's Followspot

### **Grants**

- American Institute in Taiwan (US Govt Grant )
- Lily Endowment Grant to write and implement theatre curriculum for all schools in  
Roman Catholic Diocese of Evansville, Indiana.
- Illinois Arts Council grant in support of Eureka College Theatre Project
- Peoria Area Arts Council grants
- On Grants and Technology team which received \$200,000 grant from Caterpillar and  
\$100,000 grant from Central Illinois Light Company in support of technological  
improvements.
- Served on numerous granting panels for Arts in Education division of  
Illinois Arts Council and Peoria Area Arts and Sciences Council

### **Awards and Honors and Offices Held**

- Advisory Council Member for the League of Cultural Towns initiative
- Awarded the Silver Pineapple from the Peoria Area Convention and Visitors  
Bureau—in recognition of outstanding service to tourism in the region.
- Americans for the Arts: Emerging Leaders Council Member
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Executive Committee Region III
- Co-Host of KCACTF Region III Festival with Illinois State University
- Parliamentarian—International Council of Fine Arts Deans
- J. William Fulbright Scholar Finalist—Lecturer in Taiwan 2001/2002
- Dance Advisory Panel—Central Illinois Ballet Peoria, IL

- Appointed by Governor of Indiana as Visiting Scholar in Theatre for Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Historic Sites
- Appointed by Governor of Illinois as Regional Team Leader to Illinois Citizens Committee for the Arts
- Named one of Forty Community and Business Leaders Under Forty in Central Illinois
- Outstanding Graduate Student in Theatre at Bowling Green State University
- University of Minnesota Henry Luce Scholar
- Appointed to Peoria Image task Force
- Appointed to Illinois Presidential Corridor Project
- Former Vice-President of Indiana Theatre Association
- Founder and Director of Indiana Literacy Improvisation Theatre (part of AmCorp)
- Served as Preliminary Round Judge for Irene Ryan Acting Competition at KC/ACTF
- Adjudicator for Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival
- Mentored National Finalist in Mehron Award for Theatrical Design in Makeup
- Focus Group Member—Illinois State Board of Education Teacher Training

### **Development**

- Organized, hosted and scripted major donor events for the College.
- Primary liaison to Reagan related donors at the College.
- Have solicited and acquired major gifts working with donors of all levels.
- Developed Friends of Theatre and \$150,000 Theatre Endowment Fund
- Founded Eureka College Fine and Performing Arts Hall of Honor
- Began FPA Celebration-internal celebration of arts students.
- Worked with donors and alumni at all levels for FPA Division at Eureka College.
- Worked with donors at all levels for New Harmony Theatre.
- Worked with donors to develop an endowed theatre scholarship at Eureka College.
- Began and edited an alumni and donor newsletter for the arts at Eureka College.

### **Marketing**

- Chair of Sesquicentennial Planning Committee at Eureka College
- New Harmony Theatre -- Responsible for all marketing aspects.
- The Arts at Eureka College -- Responsible for all marketing aspects.
- Marketing Advisory Team at Eureka College -- As team chair (1999-2001), spearheaded and accomplished central marketing plan for the entire college. Implemented recommendations including a trustee marketing committee and a Special Assistant to the President for Marketing. Reappointed Chair in 2003.

### **Other Interests**

- Founding Archivist of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education
- Founding Archivist Theatre as a Liberal Art Focus Group of the ATHiE
- Named a Master Gardener by University of Illinois
- President of Parish Pastoral Council —St. Patrick's Catholic Church Washington, IL
- Cantor-- St. Patrick's Catholic Church Washington, IL

- Born and Raised in Gary, Indiana