

MIZZOU ADVANCE

A National Science Foundation and University of Missouri Program

March 2009

The Mizzou ADVANCE Interactive Theatre Troupe has debuted a new play, "Foie Gras." "Foie Gras" portrays a female associate professor contemplating coming up for promotion to professor and the feedback she receives from her mentor and department chair.

In early March, the troupe performed the sketch for CAFNR faculty, mentors and mentees. The thought-provoking performances were followed by spirited discussions with the audience. Additional performances have been scheduled for later in the semester (see Upcoming Events listed below).

"Foie Gras" follows the troupe's well-received play "A Knock at the Door," which is a sketch portraying a search committee and the dynamics of a faculty interview and search committee meeting.

Since its first performance in Spring 2008, the theatre troupe has explored gender dynamics among senior faculty. The troupe engages the audience in a facilitated discussion to create dialogue about gender equity issues.

Cast members of "Foie Gras" include actors from the MU Theatre Department as well as faculty, staff, community, and professional actors.

For more information on the theatre troupe or to schedule a performance of either "A Knock at the Door" or "Foie Gras," please contact us at MizzouADVANCE@missouri.edu.



Members of the Interactive Theatre troupe stay in role during a rehearsal for the Mizzou ADVANCE Interactive Theatre Troupe's play "Foie Gras."

Faculty Spotlight

• **Dr. Kate Trauth** received a Tribute to MU Women 2009 award from the Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Women. Among her many noteworthy accomplishments is her ongoing work to encourage women to pursue careers in engineering.

• **Dr. Jerry Taylor** and his colleagues developed a new genetic device, the SNP Chip, to identify DNA markers in livestock. As noted in CAFNR news, the new SNP-chip will primarily be used by beef producers to help select livestock for breeding.

People are Talking About ...

• **March 25** - [Chronicle of Higher Education](#): "Role Models and Mentors: Don't underestimate the importance to female graduate students of seeing successful female professors with children."

• **March 4** - [Inside Higher Ed](#): "Scholar gained unusually close access to the panels that award grants and fellowships--and shares her findings about biases, disciplinary differences and the meaning of excellence."

• **March 2** - [Chronicle of Higher Education](#): "To keep new faculty and staff hires, colleges learn they need to find jobs for spouses as well. But the recession is making that task more difficult than ever."

Upcoming Events...

• **April 10: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 572 Life Sciences Center** - Lunch & Learn: Gaining Recognition for Your Contributions (for all STEM faculty)

• **April 15: 4:00-5:0 p.m., Corner Playhouse, Fine Arts Annex** - Interactive Theatre Performance: Foie Gras (for the Chancellor's Diversity Initiative and the Committee on the Status of Women)

• **April 21: 1:00-2:30 p.m., 325 Strickland Hall** - STRIDE Meeting

• **April 22: 3:30-5:00 p.m.** - Interactive Theatre Performance: A Knock at the Door (for invited STEM faculty)

• **April 24: 3:15-4:30 p.m., 325 Strickland Hall** - Steering Board Meeting

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