



## New Director is Named



The Institute of Outdoor Drama at East Carolina University proudly announces Michael Hardy as the new director.

The Institute began its national search for a new director shortly after the unit was transferred from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in late summer, 2010. Our search committee was impressed with both the number and the quality of the applicants and we were dismayed in December, 2010 when the state of North Carolina enacted a hiring freeze. By the time the freeze was lifted, ECU was in the middle of a major budget reduction and our director's search was delayed even further. Thanks to the efforts of our Provost, Dr. Marilyn Sheerer, the interviews were granted permission to continue this fall and we now have wonderful news to announce.

Dr. Michael Hardy, General Manager of *The Lost Colony*, outdoor drama in Manteo, NC has accepted our offer and will assume his duties on January 30, 2012. Michael has served in executive roles in non-profit arts organizations for 40 years in addition to his consulting work and volunteer services in the field. He has been President of four major performing arts centers, an international arts association with members from 50 countries and one of the nation's largest historic preservation/adaptive re-use projects in New York City. Hardy has fundraised for and managed complex building projects, organized more than a dozen arts leadership conferences around the world and led organizations through major transitions.

Hardy holds a Ph.D. in Theatre from the University of Michigan, Masters degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Bachelor's degree from Duke University. In the 1970s he also directed and taught in the Theatre Department at East Carolina University and served as General Manager for Department Chair Edgar Loessin.

In addition to the Institute of Outdoor Drama, Hardy will teach one course per semester in ECU's School of Theatre and Dance. In the classroom, our students will gain first-hand experience from a professional who has done it all from planning Performing Arts Centers to running outdoor dramas. Additionally, Hardy brings a considerable amount of fundraising experience to our college and Institute. As you can tell, we are pretty excited.

Best Regards,

Michael A. Dorsey  
Interim Dean  
College of Fine Arts and Communication

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