



**John Robert O'Toole**

**Professor**

**Foundation Chair of Arts Education**

**Faculty of Arts**

**University of Melbourne**

### ***Academic Qualifications***

MA (Cambridge 1965, BA 1962)

Advanced Diploma in Drama Education (Durham 1970)

M.Ed. by thesis (Newcastle upon Tyne 1977)

Ph.D. (Queensland 1990)

Professor John O'Toole is the Foundation Chair of Arts Education at the University of Melbourne (and also Australia's first professor or chair of Arts Education). He was formerly Professor of Drama Education and Applied Theatre at Griffith University. He spent twelve years teaching in secondary schools, becoming a Senior Teacher and Head of Curriculum, and also worked in theatre-in-education and community theatre companies as writer, education officer and director. For over thirty years he has been teaching and researching in Colleges of Advanced Education and Universities, and has taught and demonstrated arts pedagogy and curriculum at all levels from pre-school to adult, and on all continents.

He has been intimately involved with the development of drama and arts education in Australia, being a founder member of the drama teachers' associations of Queensland (QADIE, now Drama Queensland), nationally (NADIE, now Drama Australia) and internationally (IDEA). He co-wrote the first syllabus for Senior Drama in Queensland (1991), and established the first Drama and Dance teacher education courses in Queensland (Brisbane CAE1980-1986). At Griffith Professor O'Toole established the B.Ed in Drama and the BA in Applied Theatre). He has many international connections, and in 1995 was Co-Convenor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> IDEA World Congress in Brisbane and from 1995-2004 was IDEA Director of Publications. More broadly across the Arts, he was the National Coordinator of the Mayer Key Competencies Arts Education Project (1996), co-wrote the Advocacy Paper for the National Affiliation of Arts Educators (1996), and in 2005 and 2006 he was appointed by MCEETYA as the Australian representative of Arts Education at the UNESCO Conferences on Arts Education in Korea and Lisbon (the first UNESCO World Conference).

Professor O'Toole is a prolific writer and co-writer of both textbooks and scholarly publications, with standard text-books like *Dramawise* (1987, with Brad Haseman) and *Pretending to Learn*

(2004 with Julie Dunn) translated into Chinese, Danish and Italian, and most recently *Education in the Arts* (2008, with Chris Sinclair & Neryl Jeanneret). Standard scholarly texts include the first book on *Theatre in Education* (1977), *The Process of Drama* (1992), *Cooling Conflict* - on using drama and peer teaching to empower students to manage bullying and conflict in schools (2004 with Bruce Burton) - and just published, *Drama and Curriculum* (with Madonna Stinson). In 2001 he was awarded the American Alliance for Theatre and Education Award for Lifetime Achievement.

### **Academic Awards**

- 2009 Best Resource for Drama/Theatre Award: Drama Victoria (for *Education in the Arts* with Christine Sinclair and Neryl Jeanneret)
- 2004 Griffith University Excellence in Teaching Award (Research Supervision) and nominee for the AUT national award (Social Sciences) 2005.
- 2004 Nominee, BHERT Award for outstanding achievement in collaboration in research & development and education & training.
- 2003 President's Award, Drama Australia
- 2003 Primary Textbook of the Year: Australian Publishers Assn. (for *Pretending to Learn* – with Julie Dunn)
- 2002 Text-book of the Year Award: Drama Victoria (for *Pretending to Learn* with Julie Dunn)
- 2001 American Alliance for Theatre and Education: Judith Kase-Cooper Hon Lifetime Research Award
- 2000 Life Membership: Queensland Association for Drama in Education
- 1999 Inaugural Distinguished Research Award: Centre for Applied Theatre Research
- 1985 Innovation Award: Australian Society for Education and the Arts (for *Be Aware* - with Jacqueline Hamilton)

### **Employment History**

- 2005 - Foundation Chair of Arts Education, University of Melbourne.
- 2002-5 Professor, Director of Applied Theatre Research, Griffith University
- 1997-2001 Co-ordinator of Drama, Faculty of Education, Griffith University
- 1992-6 Assoc. Professor, Head of School of Communication and Learning in the Arts, Griffith University
- 1991 Co-ordinator of Drama, Faculty of Education, Griffith University
- 1986-90 Head of Department of Expressive Arts, BCAE
- 1985 - 1990 Arts Advisory Panel, Queensland Board of Senior School Studies (Chair 1986)
- 1986 Chair, Drama and Theatre Committee (rewriting the syllabuses) Queensland Board of Senior School Studies
- 1985 Acting Head of Department, Dance, BCAE
- 1984-86 Senior Lecturer and Coordinator, Teacher Programs, Drama Department BCAE
- 1981-83 Lecturer and Co-ordinator, Teacher Programs, Drama Department Brisbane CAE

1980 Education Officer and Writer in Residence, Tynewear Theatre in Education UK

1976-79 Lecturer in Drama Education, North Brisbane CAE

1978 Australia Council Fellowship - Writer in Residence, La Boite Theatre Brisbane

1969-75 Head of English & Senior Teacher i/c Curriculum, Highfield School Gateshead UK

1973/4 Seconded Schools Fellow, University of Newcastle upon Tyne UK

1971-75 (Part-time) Actor, Writer and Director, Durham Theatre in Education UK

1966-69 Second in English Dept., Hylton Comprehensive School, Sunderland UK

1963-66 English Teacher, Soham Grammar School, Cambridgeshire UK

### ***Selected Publications - Books and Research Monographs***

2010 (in press) *Performing Research: Tensions, triumphs and trade-offs of ethnodrama*. with Judith Ackroyd. London: Trentham.

2009 *Educational Research - Creative thinking and doing*. With David Beckett. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

2009 *Drama and Curriculum: a giant at the door*. With Madonna Stinson & Tiina Moore. Amsterdam: Springer.

2008 *Education in the Arts – teaching and learning in the contemporary curriculum*. With Chris Sinclair & Neryl Jeannret. Melbourne: Oxford University Press.

2006 *Doing Drama Research*. Melbourne: Drama Australia.

2004 *Cooling Conflict*. With Bruce Burton. Sydney: Pearson. (2007 Chinese edition)

2002 *Pretending to Learn*. With Julie Dunn. Sydney: Pearson. (2005 Chinese Edition ; 2004 Danish Edition)

2000 *Drama for Life*. With Margret Lepp. Brisbane: Playlab Press

1996 *Drama, Culture and Empowerment*. With Kate Donelan. Brisbane: IDEA Publications.

1992 *The Process of Drama*. London: Routledge

1991-2 Co-writer, Queensland Senior Drama Syllabus

1991 *Oracy, the Forgotten Basic*. Brisbane: Minister's Consultative Committee on Curriculum.

1990 *Communicate Live!* With Brad Haseman. Melbourne: Heinemann

1988 *Dramawise*. With Brad Haseman. London: Heinemann.

(2003 Chinese Edition; 2002 Italian Edition; 1995 Danish Edition)

1987 *Hello Othello* Sydney: Educational Drama Association

1977 *Theatre in Education*. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

**Keynote Presentations - International and National Conferences (Selection since 1995)**

2009 *I, meta-fellow on the stair* 6th International Drama in Education institute, Sydney July

2009 *To make believe is to make true* International Drama Education conference, Fukuoka, February

2008 *Black is white – or it might be* International Creativity Summit, Hong Kong November

2008 *Making daisy chains- research in applied theatre*. Theatre for development conference, Johannesburg November

2008 *Proteus comes knocking* International Drama education conference, Athens, March

2007 *Power, permission & protection* 6<sup>th</sup> IDEA World Congress, Hong Kong, July

2007 *Dialogues for dinosaurs – bringing English to life* English Teachers conference, Tainan, Taiwan, May

2007 *Applied theatre in contemporary settings* Theatre and education conference Tainan, Taiwan, May

2006 *Reflective keynote*. Creativity Symposium, Stratford on Avon, UK, December.

2006 *Applied Theatre history and definitions*. Applied Theatre Symposium, Warwick, UK. December.

2006 *Arts and Aesthetic education*. Arts Education Symposium. Vaasa Finland, December.

2006 *The dramatic Art of English teaching*. Drama and English: Imagination and Action. Sydney, October.

2006 *Dialogues with dinosaurs*. Art Educators Australia, Melbourne July.

2006 *Ace in the Hole With Alice*. Dialogues and Differences, Tertiary Arts Symposium, Melbourne April.

2005 *Establishing drama in schools*. ADAT Conference, Taiwan, July.

2004 *Deconstructing the Mosaic – Reflective Keynote*, 5<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Drama/Theatre and Education, Ottawa, Canada, July.

2003 *Illuminated Texts: from Homer to the home-page* - Drama Australia, Brisbane October

- 2003 *Illuminating Text* - Qld Council for Adult Literacy, Brisbane, August.
- 2003 *Schools, Reform and Drama* National Arts Consultants Conference, Wellington, NZ, Feb.
- 2003 *Mentoral Health* – with Peter O'Connor, IDIERI, Northampton, UK, July.
- 2003 *Making Daisychains – playing to learn to research into playing...* Inaugural Professorial Lecture, Griffith University, April.
- 2002 *New Pedagogies* - Theatre in Schools, Hong Kong, July.
- 2001 *Putting Down New Roots* - National Arts Council, Singapore, March.
- 2000 *Passport to Presentability* - Theatre and Education 2000, Hong Kong Arts Council, August.
- 2000 *Cooling Conflicts* - American Alliance for Theatre and Education, Washington DC. June.

### ***Visiting Professorships and Fellowships***

- 2008 University of Athens, Northampton University UK.
- 2006 Universities of Vaasa, Finland, University of Warwick, UK.
- 2002 Universities of Vaasa & Jyvaskyla, Finland,
- 2002 University of Trondheim, Norway
- 1997 Eichstätt University Germany
- 1995 Edith Cowan University WA
- 1993 Eichstätt University Germany
- 1992 University of British Columbia Canada
- 1992 University of Victoria Canada
- 1991 University of Victoria Canada
- 1973-4 Newcastle upon Tyne University UK