

Search Announced: Chair of the
International Shakespeare Association

The International Shakespeare Association announces a search for its next Chair, to succeed Peter Holbrook of the University of Queensland. The ISA is an umbrella organization formed in 1976 to connect Shakespeareans and Shakespeare societies around the world. It is a UK registered charity headquartered at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-upon-Avon and governed by an Executive Committee numbering approximately twenty. Its core missions are to organize World Shakespeare Congresses, to offer advice and assistance in the establishment of national or regional Shakespeare associations, and to advance Shakespeare research and education internationally.

The ISA welcomes nominations and self-nominations from members of its current Executive Committee, members of recent Congress Committees, and the ISA membership at large. Candidates for the Chair will ideally be scholars who have strong reputations in Shakespeare studies as well as relevant experience in academic administration, team leadership, and international coordination. Past Chairs have included Kenneth Muir (Liverpool University), J. Philip Brockbank (Shakespeare Institute), Ann Jennalie Cook (Vanderbilt University), Stanley Wells (Shakespeare Birthplace Trust), and Jill Levenson (University of Toronto), as well as Peter Holbrook.

Members of the Search Committee are also interested in a candidate's assessment of the likelihood that s/he will receive support from his/her home institution, to include travel funds for Annual General Meetings (often held at the conference of the Shakespeare Association of America), for meetings of the Executive Committee (held biennially at the International Shakespeare Conference of the Shakespeare Institute), and for other relevant Shakespeare conferences and meetings. Some released time from teaching and administration is also an appropriate, but not essential, measure of institutional commitment. The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust provides support with membership management and correspondence, website postings, and financial accounting, as overseen by Executive Secretary Nick Walton.

Responsibilities of the ISA Chair will include the following: (1) to identify a location and host for the next World Congress in 2021; (2) to develop member participation in ISA projects and activities; (3) to build the organization's funding base; (4) to conduct strategic planning for future ISA programs; (5) to refine policies and practices for board involvement, committee work, and other partnerships and collaborations; (6) to ensure compliance with its charitable status. For further information, those interested are also referred to <https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/education/research-scholars/isa/>

Nominations, comments, and questions may be sent to any member of the Search Committee, as listed below. Expressions of interest should consist of a cover letter and a copy of the candidate's *curriculum vitae* and should be sent by **21 December 2016** to Nick Walton at nick.walton@shakespeare.org.uk.

Search Committee:

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