TCPAH Co-Director Chesky presents 2 keynote lectures in South Africa

September - October 2017

As an invited keynote speaker for the 11th Annual Higher Education Conference hosted by University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban South Africa, Dr. Chesky offered his perspectives on higher education and the opportunities of conducting art-integrative transdisciplinary research as a means to address complex social and behavioral problems in the performing arts. He also presented a workshop and participated in several group discussions in order to learn about the challenges for musicians in South Africa. Dr. Chesky also had the pleasure of performing during the conference gala and dinner with local jazz musicians.

Following this conference, Dr. Chesky flew to Pretoria and participated in the 2017 Performing Arts Health Symposium as an invited keynote presenter. This conference was hosted by the University of South Africa Foundation and organized by Dr. Karendra Devroop. The symposium provided the

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springboard for launching the new South Africa Performing Arts Health Association.

This was a special event for both Drs. Chesky and Devroop due their long history as faculty/mentor, professional colleagues, and close friends. With support from the Fulbright foundation, Devroop pursued his Ph.D. training at UNT and conducted award-winning research under the mentorship of Dr. Chesky.

This South African trip was topped off visits to important cultural sites including the home of Nelson Mandela. Of course, a trip like this must include a jazz concert at UNISA.