

(<https://unodriftwood.com/feed/rss/>) (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfmZqqkMvtf6xSp1aOSEsdw>)
(<https://instagram.com/unodriftwood>) (<https://twitter.com/unodriftwood>) (<https://www.facebook.com/UNODriftwood/>)



Driftwood

THE UNIVERSITY of NEW ORLEANS • SINCE 1959

(<https://unodriftwood.com>)

- [News \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/news/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/news/)
- [UNO \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/university/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/university/)
- [Features \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/features/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/features/)
- [Sports \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/sports/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/sports/)
- [Entertainment \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/entertainment/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/entertainment/)
- [Opinion \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/opinion/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/opinion/)
- [Comics \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/comics/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/comics/)
- [Video \(https://unodriftwood.com/category/video/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/category/video/)
- [Print \(https://unodriftwood.com/print/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/print/)
- [About \(https://unodriftwood.com/about/\)](https://unodriftwood.com/about/)

POLLS

[Polls Archive \(/pollsarchive\)](#)

Producer Bochen Zhang leads Production Workshop





Anjanae Crump

([https://unodriftwood.com/staff/?](https://unodriftwood.com/staff/?writer=Anjanae%20Crump)

writer=Anjanae%20Crump), Editor-in-Chief

November 4, 2017

Filed under News

(<https://unodriftwood.com/category/news/>)



(<https://unodriftwood.com/2121/news/producer-bochen-zhang-leads-production-workshop/#respond>)



(<https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Funodriftwood.com%2F2121%2Fnews%2Fproducer-bochen-zhang-leads-production-workshop%2F>)



(<https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=Producer+Bochen+Zhang+leads+Production+Workshop&url=https%3A%2F%2Funodriftwood.com%2F2121%2Fnews%2Fproducer-bochen-zhang-leads-production-workshop%2F>)



On Oct. 21 and Oct. 22, the department of film and theatre hosted a producing workshop in partnership with the American Film Institute (AFI).

This workshop materialized after Hurricane Katrina when the AFI lent its hand to help UNO. Since then, mentors and former Fellows of the AFI Conservatory have taught the UNO-AFI workshops. This workshop was led by Los Angeles-based producer Bochen Zhang.

Zhang has helped produce various shows and films, such as Netflix’s “Ultimate Beastmaster,” HBO’s “Wonderland” and digital teaser content for AMC’s hit show, “The Walking Dead.” She also produced the first ancient Chinese language short film for the American Film Institute, where she received her MFA.

She shared her production experience with 12 students who participated in the workshop. A total of

students who participated in the workshop. A total of 11 students graduated, with one having to depart early due to an illness.

“I just walked them through pre-production, production and post-production – the three major components, and the three times you get to tell your story,” said Zhang.

Because production is such a long and complicated process, according to Zhang, she shared case studies to show how many roles a person can play. “I walked them from an idea to an execution and distribution of the work they’ve done for a short film, or a feature or for TV,” she said.

With a typical day in production averaging around 12 hours, sometimes lasting as much as 15, planning is a big part of the job. “You get used to it because you’re not thinking about the fact that you’re working for 15 hours, you’re thinking about what’s happening, what needs to be taken care of,” Zhang said.

Managing the budget is the primary job of the producer, who has to figure out how to spend the money within the budget to efficiently and effectively deliver the expected final product. However, there is more to the job.

“You, as a leader, need to guide your director and your different departments, but you have to support them as well,” said Zhang.

Before taking on her role as a leader, Zhang wore different hats. “I think I was born a producer even before I found out there was production as a career,” said Zhang. “I was working on my job and I always had the urge to create something on the side ... some sort of club or cultural-related activity and events.”

While living in China, her home country, she worked as a producer in a marketing agency, where she mainly created content for brands and commercials. Upon deciding that this creative outlet was no longer enough for her, she dropped everything and moved to Los Angeles to pursue her film-producing career, starting with earning her MFA at AFI.

“I think the decision was probably one of the biggest [challenges],” she said. “[I was] leaving my family, leaving my friends, leaving my circle and choosing to stay open for the unknown completely.”

However, she said that she doesn’t regret working for so long before following her dreams because it allowed her to connect with people better.

“As a producer, you can manage your project however you want to, but if you have lived a little bit, you’re going to come in a different way,” said Zhang. Students can only learn so much in college. Real-world experience can push them to the next level.

While Zhang said she couldn’t see herself teaching full-time, she thoroughly enjoyed sharing and was like a “proud teacher” watching her students in the production workshop.

“I told them the mistakes I made so that they don’t have to [make them too],” she said. “ I told them the tricks I’ve played after being in the industry for so long so that they can just grab them from me without going through it themselves.”

Zhang offered some words of advice for aspiring filmmakers.

“It’s a long process to go from where you are in school

to where you feel you're successful. The best way is to keep at it; you're not going to have time to doubt yourself."

She encouraged students to never give up and to "be a collector of mentors and peers, because that's your treasure."

Tags: film (<https://unodriftwood.com/tag/film/>),
workshop (<https://unodriftwood.com/tag/workshop/>)

About the Writer



Anjanae Crump, Editor-In-Chief

(<https://unodriftwood.com/staff/?writer=Anjanae+Crump>)

This is the editor-in-chief of Driftwood @sadecru – Her name is Anjanae Crump, though her last name will be changing this year after her wedding! She's also a poet and author of 2 books of poetry. ("Tinted Windows: Surviving While Black" and "Love on Fire.") She's currently studying here at UNO to get her bachelor's degree in English...

Leave a Comment



(<https://unodriftwood.com/feed/rss/>) (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfmZqqkMvtf6xSp1aOSEsdw>)
(<https://instagram.com/unodriftwood>) (<https://twitter.com/unodriftwood>)
(<https://www.facebook.com/UNODriftwood/>)



Search 

About

(<https://unodriftwood.com/about/>)

Advertise

(<https://unodriftwood.com/advertising/>)

Print

(<https://unodriftwood.com/print/>)

Staff

(<https://unodriftwood.com/staff/>)

© 2018 • Privacy Policy (<https://snosites.com/client-site-privacy-policy/>) • FLEX WordPress Theme (<https://snosites.com/why-sno/>) by SNO
(<http://snosites.com>) • Log in (<https://unodriftwood.com/wp-login.php>)