Speaigh Praises Versatility Of Theater’s ‘Thrust’ Stage

Distinguished Lecturer Robert Speaigh praised the stage used by the Baylor Theater at a Tuesday afternoon lecture to drama students in the Weston Studio of the theater.

Speaigh said the Baylor “thrust stage” is so versatile that there are very few plays that cannot be performed here.

“This modified Elizabethan stage permits the easy, musical speaking so effective in such an intimate theater,” he said.

He said the closeness of the stage to the audience has a psychological effect that requires less movement and careful voice inflection.

“Another great advantage,” he said, “is that voices travel further and faster, which makes the stage particularly good for students.”

Speaigh described the London schools of drama for intensive classical training and said the English system has been “mercifully de-centralized.”

Speaigh worked with T. S. Eliot in the production of “Murder in the Cathedral” in which Speaigh originated the part of Becket.

“Eliot was very quiet and sel-