

Minutes of the MSM Faculty Meeting, Thursday, October 29, 2009  
(corrected & approved)

Attending: Bates, Bertagnolli, Clayton, Durrani, Evans, Gabbart, Grabiec, Hausmann, Hester, Krager, Koozin, Lamkin, Marmolejo, Maroney, Mishra, Morgulis, Reifinger, R. Smith, Sonnenberg, Sposato, Turner, Vasquez, Wang, Weber, Weems, L. Wheeler, Whittaker, Wilkins; Doty, Young.

Dr. Lamkin called the meeting to order at 1:05.

Minutes of the September 10<sup>th</sup> faculty meeting were approved with corrections.

**Announcements:**

Kudos to Buck, Thom, Ted Turner (conductor) and Kelly Turner (chorus preparation) and everyone else involved in success of the Rossini opera performances. Everything went well with parking on Saturday night in spite of the homecoming game!

A select group from Kelly Turner's University Men's Chorus gave a stunning performance of the National Anthem at the SMU game.

Thanks was given to Rob, Marcus, Franz and all those involved with the very successful Joan Tower Festival that took place in October.

Chamber Orchestra performance tomorrow night, October 30. Franz mentioned that Andrzej and Joey would be performing, as well, in works composed by Robert Nelson.

There were reminders of the Percussion ensemble performance on Monday, November 2, Larry Wheeler's recital on Tuesday, November 3, and Vagram Saradjian's recital on Sunday, November 8.

President Khator will deliver her Fall Address in the opera house on Wednesday, November 4, at 10:00 am. She will outline the university's current challenges and her vision and goals for the coming year, and review the university's progress toward Tier One.

Erin Doty reminded the faculty that fall auditions will be Saturday, November 7.

Carrie Young requested that area coordinators submit jury and sophomore barrier results in a spreadsheet or in list format. The data is required for the annual Institutional Effectiveness reports.

The search committee for a new CLASS dean will hold forums for CLASS faculty to meet with each of the five candidates. Each forum will be at 3:00—the first two will be in Dudley on November 3 and 6, and the remaining three in MSM room 160 on November 11, 13, and 17.

**Course evaluations:** Online evaluations will be available for courses that are not combined, or for those that do not involve extra questions (applied music and

ensembles). Students can complete the evaluations between November 11 and December 5, and will automatically receive reminders until they have completed the forms.

**Dropping students:** Undergraduate students can drop courses online through November 4 for any reason—faculty signatures are no longer required. Graduate students still need faculty signatures to drop courses.

**Faculty activities:**

Thomas Hulten won the principal trombone positions at both Houston Grand Opera and Houston Ballet orchestras.

Jenn Mishra spoke about her recent trip to Sweden for an international conference on research in music education.

Jeff Sposato talked about his being invited to give a paper in Leipzig on the origins and tradition of the New Year's Day music in the city ("New Year's in Leipzig: Building a Musical Tradition, 1781-1847") at a conference entitled "From Baroque to Romantic: Performance Practice and Musical Landscape in Transition." He expressed his excitement about the fact that he will give his paper in the Mendelssohn house.

John Snyder has been invited to speak at a Coleridge-Taylor symposium at the British Library in November.

Dennis Whittaker spoke about the Francois Rabbath masterclass on October 28. He said that it was well attended by area music educators, students, and professionals.

Betsy Weber put together a group of 60 singers who performed music from "Star Wars" with the Houston Symphony at the Toyota Center.

**Mandatory Training:** Dr. Lamkin reminded the faculty about the necessity of completing the online mandatory training in a timely manner. Every employee—work-study students, MSM staff, PCS instructors and staff, TAs and faculty—is required to complete training classes, and MSM *must* have 100% compliance. Tracking the school's 300+ employees is time consuming and cannot be left to the last minute.

**Practice room floors:** NASM required that practice room floors be repaired and the foundation problems in the office wing be addressed. The new practice room floors are beautiful and, hopefully, durable enough to last for a long time.

**Card Access:** Installation of a Card Access system for the building may begin as soon as November. When it is completed, the locks on the exterior doors will be changed and faculty will turn in their keys. This will allow the school to track those who come into the building after hours by PeopleSoft numbers. Faculty was reminded to get the new red faculty identification card if they have not already done so.

**Agenda Item: Scholarship handbook and procedures**

Noe Marmolejo explained the process of producing the current handbook, which has been posted online since June 2009.

Larry Wheeler was concerned that the Scholarship Handbook was posted online without input or notification of faculty. After a presentation of the history of the work by the current committee (scholarship procedures, handbook format and requirements in the by-laws), Mr. Marmolejo requested that Mr. Wheeler send to the Scholarship Committee a list of specific concerns and suggestions for improvement, so that these concerns and suggestions can be discussed in a Scholarship Committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Evans