

**MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES (approved 4/24/08)
March 27, 2008**

ATTENDING: Barton, Bates, Bertagnolli, Bertman, Ciesinski, Clark, Davis, Dirst, Durrani, Goldberg, Hausmann, Koozin, Lamkin, Lange, Maroney, Mayes, Mishra, Ross, Saradjian, Simon, R. Smith, Snyder, Sposato, Tomfohrde, Weems.

Dr. White called the meeting to order at 1:02PM. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Lynn Lamkin was applauded for her extensive work in preparing the **NASM document** for MSM's accreditation. Dr. White cited her for doing such a wonderful job and for being such a great administrative colleague. **Paul Bertagnolli** edited the final report and many faculty made significant contributions to it, including **Andrew Davis, Blake Wilkins, Jennifer Mishra, Tim Koozin, Joseph Evans, Betsy Weber, Howard Pollack, Joan O'Connor, John Snyder, Jessica Smith and Barry Brown**. Early reports are that it looks great!

Lynn reminded faculty about the **mandatory meeting with visiting NASM personnel** on Monday, March 31 at 4PM in Room 118. Faculty is expected to be familiar with the self-study report and copies of an abridged version were made available at the meeting. A master schedule of all teaching activities for Monday and Tuesday has been prepared and faculty were asked to make final corrections before Friday, March 28.

Dr. White invited faculty to the **Tuesday Recital program on Tuesday, April 1** in Dudley Recital Hall, featuring a cross-section of students from various areas and levels of study.

KUDOS:

- ❖ MSM's **Saxophone Quartet** featuring Steven Hicks, Jameka Byrd, Holly Carlson, and Bob Eason, under the direction of Karen Wiley, has been accepted to compete in the Coleman Chamber Music Competition in Pasadena, the Plowman Competition in Missouri, and the Fischhoff in Indianapolis this season. They are performing a transcription of a Marcelo Zarvos string quartet made by Darius Mackie, among other works.
- ❖ **Concert Chorale**, under the direction of Betsy Weber, was a big success at TMEA and the post-concert MSM reception was attended by a large number of former students.
- ❖ Masters voice major **Ashlyn Rust** won the grand prize in the Entergy Young Texas Artist competition in Conroe this month. She is heading to Los Angeles next season to be a part of the resident Young Artist Program, Placido Domingo director. Masters voice student **Shannon Langman** won the Encouragement award in the Gerda Lissner Foundation Vocal Competition in New York recently.
- ❖ The **voice studies** area, Joseph Evans coordinator, has an impressive list of students accepted to summer opera programs as apprentice artists and resident artists. See appendix of these minutes for details.

- ❖ Composer **Chris Theofanides** will have a work performed in Carnegie Hall April 5, by the Atlanta Symphony and Chorus, Robert Spano conducting. Chris is also being honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award by the Houston Alumni Organization on April 17.
- ❖ **David White** has been commissioned to write a piece for the dedication of the new Co-Cathedral downtown on April 2.
- ❖ Jessica Zhu, student of Nancy Weems is a finalist in the MTNA national piano competition, March 31st. [Late breaking news: SHE WON!]

Announcements

The Provost's **travel awards** of \$750 are available for tenured and tenure track faculty to present research at qualifying national and international venues. The formula for applying is modeled on a social sciences-type formula and requires competitive judging of the presentation for inclusion in a conference or symposium.

Jessica Smith, director of the Preparatory and Continuing Studies Division, sent a reminder to faculty about suggesting **PCS Development Courses** for public school teachers. The deadline is April 4 for next season's schedule.

This past Tuesday, March 25, the UH President's Cabinet approved our seeking funding for a **building expansion proposal for MSM**.

Faculty Searches

Buck Ross announced that 3 candidates for the Moores Opera Center conductor/coach position will begin campus visits on April 8.

Nancy Weems reported that, from a field of 160 applicants, 3 have been selected and are coming to MSM April 3, 10 and 15.

Old Business

Jennifer Mishra brought a proposed **Music History curriculum change**, drafted last semester, to faculty discussion. It clears up titles, prerequisites and catalog language for the undergraduate sequence. MUSI 3300, Listening to Music Masterworks has ENGL 1304 as a prerequisite. MUSI 2362, History of Music I, has MUSI 2361 as a prerequisite. MUSI 3363 History of Music II and MUSI 3364 History of Music III have the previous level of music history as prerequisites. Upper level music history courses will all require the completion of MUSI 3364 as a prerequisite. They include Music of the Baroque Period, Music of the Classic Period, Music in the Romantic Period and Opera Literature, Symphonic Literature, and Choral Literature courses. Faculty asked that Organ Literature and Vocal Literature be added to this list.

Andrew Davis presented the Graduate Committee proposal to change the title of MUSI 6300 to **Introduction to Research Methods in Musicology**, because it better describes the course content. Faculty approved the change.

Andrew Davis reported no changes in the proposed **Certificate in Music Performance** since January, so a motion for a faculty vote was approved. In discussion, a question about the need for meeting UH **TOEFL requirements** was brought up by Vagram Saradjian. The committee had discussed this and decided to leave the UH standard in place to make this program hold the same standard as other graduate programs we offer and in hopes of an earlier approval by the university. Robert Bates suggested striking a portion of the requirement as stated in Section C3 of the proposal, leaving the submission of official TOEFL scores in place but eliminating the phrase "that meet University of Houston standards." The test takes 2 - 3 weeks to process and send student scores. Abby Simon stated that applicants should be informed of the importance of the TOEFL. Buck Ross spoke to the need for adequate language skills in working with foreign students in ensembles.

Paul Bertagnolli questioned the **audition procedure** in Section E5, which states that a majority vote at the live audition gives the applicant admission to the program. He asked about the number of acceptances we might expect in a given year without a quota in place. Currently Andrew Davis, as Director of Graduate Studies, oversees the number of graduate students admitted. Jeff Sposato suggested that area faculty determine how many certificate students they can accept and forward that number of applicants to the audition committee. Vagram expressed the difficulty that some students will have gaining a visa for the required live audition. A tourist visa was suggested as an alternative with sufficient advance planning to have it in place by the time for the live auditions. David Bertman congratulated the committee on its hard work and suggested moving the proposal forward, since it will be difficult to know now all the future problems we may encounter.

The faculty voted to revise the TOEFL statement to read: 3c official TOEFL exam scores. Faculty also **approved the proposal** for the Certificate in Music Performance.

New Business

Abby Simon cited recent **recital recording** snafus and stated that degree recitals should be recorded for MSM archives. Robert Bates acknowledged that the limited staff cannot service the number of recitals on the schedule and students stop asking, preferring to make their own recordings. Matthew Dirst stated that recital recordings are often vital to committee members. Our NASM budget proposal has a line item for a full-time recording staff member, but during 'crunch' times, that will still be inadequate to cover the need.

David White announced upcoming performances by the **MSM Collegium** with Ars Lyrica Houston on March 29 at St. Philip's Presbyterian Church and by the **Moore's Opera Center** of William Bolcom's new opera *A Wedding*, April 4 - 7 in the Moore's Opera House.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Ciesinski
Faculty Secretary