

MOORES SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES  
30 October 2008

*Approved  
11/12-4-08*

ATTENDING: Azcona (guest), Barton, Bates, Bertagnolli, Bertman, Brink, Clayton, Davis, Durrani, Evans, Goldberg, Grabiec, Jones, Koozin, Krager, Lamkin, Lange, Morgulis, Maroney, Mishra, O'Connor, Ross, Saradjian, Simon, Smith, Snyder, Sonnenberg, Sposato, Vasquez, Weber, Weems, L. Wheeler, White.

Dr. White called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting (4 September 2008) were approved.

Estefan Azcona, who will be teaching next semester, was introduced.

Dr. White outlined several initiatives from the President's office:

● Information from Chairs/Directors meeting with John Antel, 10 October

- † President's priorities are clear: **energy, health** (TMC), **student success** (graduation retention), **the arts, international** (study abroad, foreign languages, global history), **international, public policy** (environment)
- † Get ready for the upcoming legislative session—No Tier 1 without State Support, we can no longer depend on raising tuition, State must give significant more money
- † Comprehensive campaign—not much overt action; affected by change in presidents; now, the fact that this did not begin under Gogue is a good thing because more momentum would have been lost
- † New service orientation emphasis, particularly undergrad service, new advisors, need to compete better with other schools. We need 45K students, but not limited to central campus. The Northwest campus seems alive again, working in collaboration with A&M, Texas State University System, Lone Star College, and Sugar Land campus
- † New programs, including idea of winter sessions for special seminars, upper division courses
- † Provost Faculty Travel—problems recognized; being revamped, and perhaps it will be reallocated to dean's office
- † Reimbursements: 60 days from end of travel or date expense was incurred

● Inspiring Excellence: The Investiture of Renu Khator

2 p.m. Friday, November 7,  
Cullen Performance Hall  
University of Houston Campus  
Business Attire

Inspiring Excellence Celebratory Reception formerly the Scholarship Dinner

4 to 6 p.m. Friday, November 7  
Atrium of Campus Recreation and Wellness Center  
Business Attire

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

- Yamaha—Michael Bates—Tim Hester—HISD—all led us to contact with Niegel Sullivan from Yamaha, who has agreed to lend us each August clarinets, flutes, saxophones, oboes (but

NOT bassoons), trumpets, trombones, violins, violas, and, in the spring, cellos, for our music education methods classes. At the end of the year, Yamaha will collect these and sell them to the schools. There will be no cost to the MSM. This is akin to the arrangement we have with Kawai for pianos.

- **Cheryl Huddleston**, one of our very wonderful bassoon instructors, has had her Bassoon Band accepted to perform at TMEA.
  - **Academic Honesty**—we all got a memo from Lynn a week or so ago that concerned a memo from Sarah Fishman in the CLASS office. Anyone who does not have one should request another. It is amazing how students seem to walk blindly into issues of academic dishonesty, not aware how easy it is to trace the sources from which they have plagiarized. There is a definite process to follow if you accuse a student of dishonesty—please be aware of it. A situation involving a charge of plagiarism against a professor at TSU was in today's paper.
  - **Juan R. Morales Endowment** to provide program support for OPERA
  - **Scott Chase Endowment** to support the OPERA
  - **The Humphreys Foundation** has given the MOC a grant to help underwrite *Florencia en el Amazonas* by Daniel Catán, one of the winter rep operas.
  - **MOC's *Orpheus in the Underworld***—thank Buck, Thom, Lucy, Betsy, the voice faculty, and all the singers and orchestra players.
  - **The Cullen Trust for the Performing Arts** has given another 50K grant to the MOC for the spring opera, *Grapes of Wrath* by the American composer Ricky Ian Gordon.
  - **Marion and Samuel W. Spain Endowment**—prizes for excellence in graduate and undergraduate violin performance and piano performance, in alternating years. 200K total, not funded until the 2009-2010 academic year.
  - **Music Library interim appointment, Rosalind Alexander**. She is a flutist and was in the Marching Band while a student at Notre Dame. A national search is underway.
  - Three of our composition students, Tyler Ruberg, Joey Love, and Michael Craig, have been commissioned by *Da Camera* to compose 5 minute works for string quartet and voice.
- Betsy Weber reported on our students' involvement in the 2008 Latin Grammys.

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Upcoming Fall concerts that are unique

- **Concert Women's Chorus, Richard Robbins, director, TEXAS WOMEN'S CHORUS FESTIVAL, UT, 1 November.**
- **Percussion Ensemble's upcoming concert on 3 November.** Dr. White mentioned that Blake is a champion of new music for Percussion Ensemble, and the forthcoming CD on the Albany label, his second recording, with him directing our Ensemble brings to national and international attention what he does on campus on a daily basis. Congratulate Blake! Also congratulations to Rob Smith and Marcus Maroney for their works on this new CD.
- **Da Camera of Houston** is presenting its first concert in the Moores Opera House on 8 November, in collaboration with the Mitchell Center for the Arts and Blaffer Gallery. Kyung Sun and Tim Hester are involved in the concert, along with musicians from Rice and from out of town.

- Betsy has organized a **Collegiate Choral Festival** for 11 November, featuring our Concert Chorale, and choirs from HBU and St. Thomas.
- SAMUEL ADLER FESTIVAL**, celebrating Sam's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Thursday & Friday, 13 and 14 November—thanks to Howard and Rob for organizing it, and to Charles, David, and AURA, led by Rob, for the music on both evenings. Todd Frazier, one of Sam's students at Eastman, is hosting a reception following the concert on Friday, to which we are all invited.
- Collegium Musicum**, Matthew Dirst and Richard Robbins, Christ the King Lutheran Church in Rice Village. Richard's involvement came from his research into the music of Leandro Gallerano, Italian composer.
- PCS and Houston Grand Opera's Girls Chorus**, a one semester collaboration, in concert at Villa de Matel on 29 November
- Messiah, Concert Chorale and Ars Lyrica, 7 December**

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#### FACULTY ACTIVITIES IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

- Kyung Sun Lee**: great review in the Cleveland Plain Dealer for her recent Cleveland performance with Ed Arron of the Brahms Double Concerto with CityMusic Cleveland Orchestra. Kyung Sun and Ed played the piece last summer at TMF. Kyung Sun used Fredell's Strad in the concert. Just last week **Kyung Sun** performed on a concert in Augsburg, Germany, the result of her being a 1991 laureate in the Leopold Mozart International Violin Competition. This was the first of what will be an annual concert at the Augsburg-Nuremberg Conservatory of Music. Subsequent to the concert, she was invited by the head of the Mozart competition to perform at the Asiago Festival in Italy in 2009.  
  
Kyung Sun has also been invited to be a judge at the Corpus Christi International Competition for strings and piano in February 2009.
- Nancy Weems, Franz Krager, and Abbey Simon** have been invited to be judges at the International Piano Competition in Madrid beginning on 7 November. Abbey will be chair of the competition judges.
- Nancy** was recently concerto competition judge at Oberlin Conservatory and was introduced as one of the leading university piano teachers in the country.
- Betsy Weber**: NY All-State Chorus in early December
- Franz and Andrzej**: trip to Guang Zhou (JOE), China, the former Canton, to the Guang Zhou Conservatory, the largest in China. One of our former students Ming Lu, the professor of conducting at the conservatory, has invited Franz to conduct the orchestra and for Andrzej to play the S-S Concerto # 3 and do masterclasses. Also included will be a work by Bob Nelson.
- Rob Smith**: a work to be performed at the MidWest Band and Orchestra Festival in Chicago in December
- Franz**: Subscription concert of the Academic Orchestra in Leipzig that performs in the Gewandhaus, January. On that concert will also be a piece by Bob Nelson.
- Jeff Sposato**: An article recently published, "Saint Elsewhere: German and English Reactions to Mendelssohn's *Paulus*," in the journal *19<sup>th</sup>-Century Music*. His book on Mendelssohn, which was published a couple of years ago by Oxford, has just been published in paperback.
- Rose Lange**: Paper to be delivered at 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Philadelphia in late November
- Bob Walzel**, one of our graduates, recently wrote Dr. White an email, congratulating **Buck and Tim Jones** for the master class they gave at U. Utah, where Bob is director of the School of Music. Buck and Tim were there for performances with the Utah Symphony and Opera.
- Joey Evans**: recently directed, sang, and collaborated on the set design in Amarillo Opera's *Die Fledermaus*.

- **Tim Koozin:** Society for Music Theory in early November in Nashville, editor of *Music Theory Online*; paper at the College Music Society meeting in Atlanta, and another at Emory University. Also, a paper at the national meeting of the Semiotic Society of America held in Houston in a week.
- **Tali Morgulis:** a CD release recital at St. Bartholomew's Church. Interesting project: Brahms's cello sonatas played on DOUBLE BASS. Recital on 20 November.
- **Matthew Dirst:** lectures and recital for the Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative, lecture at UNT Organ Conference
- **Robert Bates:** recent recitals in Rhode Island and Detroit, and panel member, UNT Organ Conference. *Note:* from the list of participants in this organ conference, it was clear that Matthew and Robert were included among the top names in the organ world.
  
- **Andrew Davis**—papers on Puccini, including at a conference at Puccini's home at Torre del Lago; in Berlin, July 2008 (Freie Universität); and in Taipei, September 2008 (Symposium in honor of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Puccini, organized by the Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini, Lucca, Italy. In Nashville, next week, at the joint meeting of the American Musicological Society and the Society for Music Theory, a panelist and co-moderator on a Puccini panel discussion.
- **Roger Kaza:** KUHf episodes of *Engines of Our Ingenuity*.
- **Howard**—won a 2008 Deems Taylor for Gershwin. He's one of the few people to have won this award twice (the first time was for Copland).
- **Chris Theofanidis**—*The Refuge*, commissioned and premiered last year by HGO, has been released on the Albany CD label and received excellent reviews in Opera News and England's Gramophone magazine. Just a few weeks ago, Chris's violin concerto was premiered by the Pittsburgh Symphony with Sarah Chang, soloist. Chris is in his first year as composition professor at Yale.

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Lynn Lamkin reminded us of the Exam Schedule.

Noe reminded us of Jazz auditions.

There was neither Old nor New Business.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37.

Respectfully submitted,

John Snyder

Faculty Secretary