

BY-LAWS OF THE SOUTHERN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY

I. NAME

The name of the Chapter shall be the *Southern Chapter of the American Musicological Society* (hereafter, “**The Chapter**” or “**AMS-S**”).

II. OBJECT

The object of **The Chapter** shall be the same as that of the **American Musicological Society** (hereafter, “**AMS**” or “**The Society**”), as stated in the By-laws of the Society, namely, the advancement of research in the various fields of music as a branch of learning and scholarship. The Chapter is organized exclusively for educational purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

III. MEMBERSHIP and DUES

A. Membership in the Chapter shall be open to any member of the AMS in good standing.

B. Chapter membership shall be regular or student. A **Student member** is defined as any individual who does not hold a terminal degree in musicology or other scholarly area of music studies (normally the Ph.D., D.M.A., or equivalent) and is currently enrolled full time in a recognized program of studies leading to a degree in music. All other members shall be considered **Regular members**.

C. Individuals may join the Chapter through the payment of annual dues, which are payable at or before the first Chapter meeting in a calendar year. Should no meeting be held in a calendar year, dues are payable to the Secretary-Treasurer by the first day of March. Such dues and fees shall be determined by the Chapter’s Membership.

D. A Member of the Chapter in Good Standing is defined as an individual who has paid dues for the current Chapter year. The “year” for the Chapter shall begin at the opening of the first Chapter meeting in a calendar year. Should no meeting be held in a calendar year, the Chapter’s “year” shall begin on the first day of March.

IV. OFFICERS, REPRESENTATIVES and EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A. The Chapter shall be governed by an **Executive Council**, consisting of the President, Secretary-Treasurer, Abstracts Editor, Representative to the AMS Council, and either the President-Elect or Past President. The Executive Council shall meet at the discretion of the President to consult and to advise on any necessary Chapter business.

B. The **President** shall be the chief operating officer of the Chapter, and shall have the authority to enforce all rules and regulations of the Chapter. The President shall represent the Chapter in all official capacities and shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter. The President shall have the power to create committees and to appoint their members, and the President shall be a non-voting *ex-officio* member of all Chapter committees. The President shall have the power to appoint replacements of less than one year’s duration to

any empty Chapter offices. The term of President shall be two years, with the year immediately before served as President-Elect and the year immediately following served as Past President.

C. The *President-Elect* shall serve as a member of the Executive Council in the year immediately prior to assuming the office of Chapter President. The *Past President* shall serve as a member of the Executive Council in the year immediately after holding the office of Chapter President.

D. The *Secretary-Treasurer* shall be responsible for maintaining all Chapter records, correspondence, and financial accounts. The Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain an accurate list of the Chapter's members, and shall assess and collect dues from all members. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have the authority to manage the Chapter's bank accounts and to pay the Chapter's bills and debts from those accounts. The Secretary-Treasurer shall present a written report of the Chapter's finances at the annual meeting. In the absence of the Chapter's President, the Secretary-Treasurer shall temporarily assume any necessary duties of the President's office. The term of Secretary-Treasurer shall be two years.

E. The *Abstracts Editor* shall oversee the selection process for papers and other presentations at any meetings of the Chapter. The Abstracts Editor shall be the recipient of all submissions and abstracts, shall edit the accepted abstracts as necessary, and shall oversee the publication of the printed programs for any Chapter meetings. In the absence of both the Chapter's President and Secretary-Treasurer, the Abstracts Editor shall temporarily assume any necessary duties of the President's office. The term of the Abstracts Editor shall be two years.

F. The *Representative to the AMS Council* shall attend all meetings of the AMS Council and shall speak for and vote the interests of the Chapter at those meetings and any other forums to which the AMS invites Council representation. The Representative shall report annually to the Chapter on the activities of the AMS Council and any other related matters. The qualifications, other duties, and term of the Representative to the AMS Council shall be as set forth in the By-Laws of the AMS [Article IV. Council].

G. The *Student Representatives to the AMS Council* shall attend all meetings of the AMS Council. The Student Representatives shall report annually to the Chapter on the activities of the AMS Council and any other related matters. The qualifications, other duties, and terms of Student Representatives to the AMS Council shall be as set forth in the Constitution of the AMS [Article IV. Council].

H. The President shall appoint a *Chapter Webmaster*, who shall maintain the Chapter's web site, under the direction of the Executive Council. The Webmaster may serve for an indefinite term.

V. ELECTION or APPOINTMENT of OFFICERS and REPRESENTATIVES

A. The starting date for the terms of Chapter Officers (President, Secretary-Treasurer, Abstracts Editor, President-Elect, and Past President) shall begin at the close of the first Chapter meeting held in any calendar year. Should no meeting be held in a calendar year, the first day of March shall serve as the starting date for the terms of all Chapter Officers.

B. The Officers and Representatives of the Chapter shall be elected individually at a business meeting of the Chapter. Only Chapter members in good standing present at the business meeting shall have the right to vote, and no proxies or other forms of absentee or pledged votes will be allowed. If no annual meeting is held during any calendar year, the *Executive Council* may conduct any necessary elections through paper or electronic ballots sent to all Chapter members in good standing. Any such elections must be conducted before the first day of March.

C. All elections shall be decided by a simple majority of votes. In the event that no candidate for an office receives a majority, the candidates with the two highest vote totals shall be placed in a run-off election, and the process continued until one candidate receives a simple majority of the votes.

D. Candidates for all offices shall be drawn from the slate of names presented by the *Nominating Committee* (VI.C.) or may be nominated from the floor. All Candidates must be members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nomination.

E. Nominations for the *Office of Student Representative to the AMS Council* shall be made to the Nominating Committee only by faculty members of the nominated student's academic institution. Only students enrolled in doctoral programs in any field of musical scholarship shall be eligible for nomination. The nominating committee shall ensure that nominations regularly rotate among the Chapter's academic institutions.

F. In the event that the Office of Chapter President falls vacant during the first year of the elected term, the Past President shall assume the Office of President until the next meeting of the Chapter, at which time the Chapter shall elect a member in good standing to serve the remainder of the President's term. If the Office of Chapter President falls vacant during the second year of the elected term, the President Elect shall assume the Office of President for the remainder of the unexpired term and continue to serve through his/her own elected term. If no other individual is able to serve as President, the Secretary-Treasurer shall assume the Office of Chapter President until the next meeting of Chapter, at which time the Chapter shall elect a member in good standing to serve the remainder of the President's term.

G. In the event that any other Chapter Office or Representative falls vacant, the President shall appoint a Chapter Member in good standing to serve until the next meeting of the Chapter, at which time the Chapter shall elect a member in good standing to serve the remainder of the term.

VI. COMMITTEES

A. The Chapter may establish permanent or temporary committees for any necessary purpose. Unless the Chapter determines otherwise, the president shall appoint all committee members, and all committees shall have an odd number of members.

B. With the approval of the Executive Council (IV.A.), the President shall appoint a *Program Committee* for any Meetings that the Chapter may hold. The Program Committee shall consist of three Chapter members in good standing, either regular or emeritus. Insofar as possible, the committee shall include one member who has served the previous year, but no member may serve more than three consecutive years. The Executive Council will provide directives for the committee, including the number of

presentations that may be selected and other criteria as may become necessary or desirable. If no Program Committee is appointed, the *Executive Council* (IV.A.) shall serve as the Program Committee for any Meetings that the Chapter may hold. Members of the Program Committee (or the Executive Council when functioning as the Program Committee) shall not be eligible to submit presentations for any meeting at which they determine the program.

C. A *Nominating Committee* shall prepare a slate of candidates for all regular elections of Chapter Officers and the Representative to the Council.

D. *Ad hoc Committees* may be established by the Chapter or the Executive Council for any necessary purpose. Such committees shall have clearly defined charges and limited terms, and all committee members shall be appointed by the President.

VII. ACTIVITIES of the CHAPTER

A. The Chapter shall have the authority to hold public meetings of the Chapter. Such meetings shall rotate throughout the geographic region of the Chapter, insofar as possible. Meetings may be held in conjunction with other scholarly groups at the discretion of the Chapter.

B. The Chapter shall communicate its mission and activities to its members and to the general public through a newsletter, a web site, or any other suitable means, and shall also publish a program book for any meetings.

C. The Chapter shall have the authority to award prizes and to engage in other suitable activities that support and encourage the objectives of the Chapter and the Society. Information and rules about specific prizes and other activities shall be posted on the Chapter's web site or distributed by any other suitable means.

D. The Executive Council shall have the authority to levy any necessary fees to carry out the objectives of the Chapter.

VIII. BYLAWS

A. The Chapter may amend these By-Laws by a two-thirds majority of members in good standing present at any Business Meeting

B. Proposed Amendments to these By-Laws must be presented in writing to the *Executive Council of the Chapter*, who shall distribute such amendments to the Chapter's Membership through the Chapter's normal means of communication, at least thirty days prior to a Business Meeting.

IX. DISSOLUTION of the CHAPTER

Upon the dissolution of the Chapter, assets shall be distributed to the American Musicological Society Inc. for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

X. COMPLIANCE WITH THE BY-LAWS OF THE AMERICAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY

In the event of a conflict between the By-Laws of the Southern Chapter and the By-Laws of the American Musicological Society, the By-Laws of the American Musicological Society shall take precedence.

XI. RULES

The Parliamentary procedure of all Business Meetings of the Chapter shall be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Proposed by Scott Warfield (University of Central Florida), chair; Gregory Harwood (Georgia Southern University); and Bryan Proksch (McNeese State University) on 23 February 2008.
Approved by the Membership on 28 February 2009.

Revised and approved by the Membership 19 February 2016.