

AMERICAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY, SOUTHERN CHAPTER

Business Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2009

University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg

**I. Call to order.** President Cummins called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M.

**II. Thank yous.** President Cummins thanked all involved in the 2009 meeting: local arrangements co-chairs Ed Hafer and Chris Goertzen, Kate Goertzen (for making the map), graduate assistant Melissa Wozniak (who marshaled the forces of SAI), and Michael Miles, the director of the School of Music. She also thanked the various committees: the abstracts editor (William Horne); program committee (Margaret Butler, chair; Charles Brewer, and Edward Hafer); nominating committee (Douglass Seaton, chair; and Alice Clark); student liaison (Jennifer Thomas); and Web master (Amy Dunning).

**III. Approval of minutes.** Greg Harwood requested to add Bryan Proksch to the group of AMS-S members to be thanked for their work on the by-laws. The membership unanimously voted to follow the request. The minutes were approved as amended.

**IV Reports.**

1. Secretary-Treasurer. Andreas Giger distributed the financial statement and reported that the Society had a strong intake of dues last year and that the chapter is in excellent financial shape.
2. Student representative to the national meeting in Nashville. Phillip Klepacki reported that the students were asked to get involved in the OPUS campaign and to make contributions if only at a small dollar level. The student representatives discussed the possibility of student volunteers serving as conference buddies (in addition to the faculty members who already serve). Such an involvement might be more effective with first-time attendees who are easily intimidated. Finally, some students who submitted abstracts to the national meeting felt they were excluded because their papers did not fit a planned session; these students were encouraged to propose special topic sessions.
3. National Council Representative. Valerie Goertzen reported that the OPUS campaign (with its overall goal of \$3,500,000) is still \$300,000 short of the amount needed for an NEH match. If successful, the AMS 75 PAYS fund (a part of the NEH matching proposal), would subsidize twenty "first books" by young scholars. Further, a committee was charged with evaluating the structure of the annual meeting; to this effect, AMS members may submit suggestions to Honey Meconi <[honey.meconi@rochester.edu](mailto:honey.meconi@rochester.edu)> by 1 May 2009. Finally, the Council discussed a draft of the AMS fair use guidelines and decided that it needed to be vetted by an attorney specializing in copyright law and also with representatives from other societies before being submitted for ratification. The attorney's report should be completed by the March 2009 Board meeting. The Council was also informed of future meeting sites: Philadelphia 2009; Indianapolis (with SMT) 2010; San Francisco 2011; and possibly New Orleans (with SMT and SEM) 2012.
4. Chapter officers' breakfast. Andreas Giger reported his impression that AMS-S does not share the problems of other chapters. Whereas other chapters struggle with setting up chapter bank accounts, have problems maintaining email lists, and have problems with presenters who are not members, AMS-S has been able to focus on scholarship and polishing its by-laws. AMS-S does, however, share with other chapters the problem of getting the Bowdoin Office to responsibly update the chapter information. Denise Von Glahn brought to the membership's attention that its contribution of \$2,000 was not mentioned in the latest AMS brochure in the correct category. President Cummins promised to follow up on this problem and make sure that the donation is listed in the proper category on the AMS Web site.

**III. Old business.** Ratification of proposed Bylaws. Jan Herlinger proposed, in writing, the following changes:

1. In section V.E: “Only students enrolled in ~~terminal-degree~~ **doctoral programs in any field of musical scholarship** (Ph.D., D.M.A., etc.) shall be eligible for nomination.”
2. Also in section V.E: “The nominating committee shall ensure that nominations regularly rotate among the Chapter’s academic institutions ~~and that nominations reflect the diversity of terminal degrees in the scholarly study of music found within the Chapter.~~”
3. Section III.A: “A. Membership in the Chapter shall be open to any member of the AMS in good standing, ~~who resides within the geographic boundaries of the Chapter.~~” Delete section III. E.
4. In section VI.C: “A Nominating Committee shall ~~solicit~~ **prepare** a slate of candidates for all regular elections of Chapter Officers and the Representative to the Council.”
5. In section III.B: “An Emeritus member is defined as any individual who ~~holds emeritus faculty status or has otherwise retired permanently from active employment.~~ **permanently from active employment.**”

The membership approved the first four changes and decided to strike the clause on emeritus members, since emeritus members do not enjoy any special benefits in AMS-S. Section III.B now reads: “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.**”

Alice Clark suggested that the definition of “student member” be somewhat broader to include, for example, part-time students). The membership decided that an amendment to this effect should be submitted to the president for a vote at a later business meeting. By-laws were unanimously approved.

#### **IV. New business**

1. Election of Officers. Douglass Seaton (chair of the nominating committee) presented the slate of nominations (one in each category). No additional nominations were made from the floor. The membership elected the following officers by acclamation: President-Elect: Andreas Giger; Secretary-Treasurer: Margaret Butler; Student Representative: John Spilker.
2. Hosts for 2010 and 2011 meetings. President Cummins presented invitations from Melissa Goldsmith for Nicholls State University in 2010 or 2011 and from Jennifer Thomas for the University of Florida in 2010. The membership decided for the University of Florida in 2010 and Nicholls State University in 2011.
3. Announcements. President Cummins appointed Wallace McKenzie archivist of AMS-S. Professor McKenzie (who had joined the chapter in 1958) made arrangements with Elaine Smyth (Head of Special Collections in the LSU Libraries) to house his collection of AMS-S documents. President Cummins furthermore made the following appointments: Gregory Harwood (nominating committee) and Joanna Biermann (program committee). She also informed the membership that there had been complaints about too much email traffic on the AMS-S mailing list. The membership decided to place documents on the AMS-S Web site and to draw on AMS-ANNOUNCE to make announcements not strictly related to the Southern Chapter. Finally, the winner of student paper award was announced at the beginning of the 11:15 A.M. session, by which time all candidates had presented their papers. The Executive Council announced John Spilker the winner, for his paper “Henry Cowell’s Dissonant Counterpoint Notebook.”

#### **V. Closing remarks.**

President Cummins asked the members to fill out the form titled “Brief Survey and Opportunity to Share Views.” The meeting adjourned at 8:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Andreas Giger—Secretary-Treasurer