

AMERICAN MUSICOLOGICAL SOCIETY, SOUTHERN CHAPTER

Business Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2010

University of Florida, Gainesville

I. Call to order. In the absence of President Cummins, who missed the meeting because of health reasons, President-elect Giger called the meeting to order at 4:16 P.M.

II. Thank yous. President-elect Giger thanked all involved in the 2010 meeting: local arrangements chair Silvio dos Santos; local faculty Margaret Butler and Jennifer Thomas; and graduate students. He also thanked the various committees: the abstracts editor (William Horne); program committee (Charles Brewer, chair, Edward Hafer, Joanna Biermann); nominating committee (Douglass Seaton, chair; and Gregory Harwood); the secretary-treasurer (Margaret Butler); the AMS Council representative (Valerie Goertzen); the student representatives (Phillip Klepacki and John Spilker); and the Web master (Amy Dunning). He invited the membership to sign the get-well card for President Cummins.

III. Approval of minutes. President-elect Giger distributed copies and gave membership a few minutes to review them. A motion to approve was made by Douglass Seaton and seconded by Denise Von Glahn. The membership voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

IV: Old Business. Last year the membership approved the by-laws, which were made available on the Web site with changes/track changes visible. President-elect Giger asked if there were any motions or suggestions to amend them; no motions were made for corrections and amendments.

V: New Business: Elections of officers: Douglass Seaton, chair of the nominating committee, thanked Gregory Harwood and several chapter members who sent in nominations. Seaton announced two nominees for abstract editor: Zoë Lang and Michael O'Connor. Seaton introduced the candidates, giving brief biographical information and mentioning their interests. Nominations from the floor were solicited; none were received. Charles Brewer moved nominations be closed. Jennifer Thomas seconded. Scott Warfield asked if nominations came with recommendations from the committee and Seaton replied that both individuals were nominated with enthusiasm. Margaret Butler spoke briefly in support of Zoë Lang; no other comments from the floor were made. A move to vote was made and a vote was taken by show of hands. President-elect Giger announced the election of Zoë Lang with a clear majority of the vote.

Douglass Seaton announced two nominees for AMS Council representative: Joanna Biermann and Bryan Proksch. Seaton introduced the candidates, giving brief biographical information and mentioning their interests. Nominations from the floor were requested and none were made. A move to vote was made and a vote was taken by show of hands. President-elect Giger requested that the vote be redone and counted hands for each candidate. President-elect Giger announced the election of Joanna Biermann with a majority of the vote.

Douglass Seaton announced that John Spilker is scheduled to graduate before he is finished with his term as student representative and asked for the endorsement of Elisa Weber as replacement. President-elect Giger asked for verbal endorsement with aye/nay; no dissent was heard.

President-elect Giger announced that it was Louisiana State University's turn to nominate a student representative to replace Phillip Klepacki, and nominated Tim Love as LSU's representative. President-elect Giger asked for verbal endorsement with aye/nay; no dissent was heard.

VI: Reports

Secretary-Treasurer: Margaret Butler. Butler distributed the financial statement and reiterated that the society had a strong intake of dues last year and that the chapter is in excellent financial shape, with 17 new members having joined at this meeting. Michael Broyles asked for clarification as to what we as a chapter do with our money; Butler reiterated the disbursements made annually. President-elect Giger addressed Broyles's comment stating the executive committee's plan to discuss the amount to be allotted for meeting expenses.

Student Representative: John Spilker. Items discussed at the student representative breakfast meeting at AMS included (1) an extension of the seven-year student membership; individuals in need of this were invited to contact Bob Judd. (2) Honey Meconi gave a report on the annual meeting; the possibility of poster sessions as done by SAM was explored in the hope of increasing the slots for papers (the AMS turns away a lot of good but also a lot of poor abstracts; if you're getting rejected you're in excellent company). (3) A conference student info/etiquette sheet is being designed by Mary Natvig to help answer questions students might have. (A sort of "how-to manual"). (4) Communication. There was some discussion about facilitating communication between AMS student members and representatives and students serving on the AMS membership and professional development committee. This committee is working on setting up an unmonitored student version of the AMS list. Those with concerns or suggestions are invited to communicate with the chapter representative. It was also requested that an AMS national student Facebook group be established (a closed group). There is now an AMS-S Facebook group and student members are invited to join; schools should encourage their new students to join this group.

National Council Representative: Valerie Goertzen. The AMS Council met Saturday at lunch. The Opus campaign was successful and has closed, having met the NEH challenge grant. 1,471 members participated in the campaign. New honorary members are Anthony Newcomb, Lawrence Bernstein, and Rose Rosengard Subotnik; new corresponding members are Eva Rieger and Jean-Jacques Eigeldinger. A fair use document has now been vetted by the ACLS, lawyers, and the AMS Board; a copyright lawyer will review it and it then will appear on the AMS Web site. It will be a statement to the broader public as to behavior. Committees from AMS and SMT have crafted an accessibility and accommodations statement, which has been approved by the AMS Board. It will appear on the Web site and in the directory. Doctoral Dissertations in Musicology (DDM) is going to be moved from Indiana to the AMS office. There has been a change in nomination procedure for AMS awards: works will have to be nominated by individuals or publishers; self-nominations are welcome. Second-term election of the AMS secretary will be carried out as it was done this past year (in the second, revised election), allowing time for nominations to be received by a third party, followed by a vote. There will now be an electronic version of JAMS that accommodates digital media; how this will affect the print version is a concern to some and is yet to be explored. A member of the Council asked if JAMS should be openly accessible to the public. The idea of poster sessions for the annual meeting was discussed. The possibility of a one- or one-and-a-half day symposium before the annual meeting was explored. The question of whether AMS should produce some sort of statement of eligibility for teaching music history (intended primarily for smaller schools) will go to the AMS Board.

President-elect Giger added that the Board recommended that DDM be moved but that this decision has been reversed. Scott Warfield asked for clarification as to moving "an electronic thing"; Giger explained that it means moving data but writing new search scripts. A brief discussion followed about the person who will be or will stay in charge.

Chapter Officers' breakfast: Margaret Butler. This meeting consisted of chapter representatives mentioning the obstacles and challenges they experience; very few of these are shared by the Southern chapter, which functions very smoothly in comparison.

Jan Herlinger mentioned the possibility of reluctance on the part of those who move into our chapter from others that are not as congenial or well run to join and attend our meetings; he added that we should spread the word of how positive an experience it is to be part of our chapter. Jennifer Thomas supported this comment, reiterating the necessity of personal contact; Scott Warfield asked if a list could be requested from Bob Judd of those in our region; Margaret Butler agreed to ask Bob Judd for this information and suggested the possibility of establishing a committee or focus group to undertake this outreach. Michael Broyles suggested sending a copy of the program to those people to help in these efforts, especially to make them aware of the large number of students active and actually presenting papers in our chapter. Charles Brewer mentioned that the national office might be able to send labels of those in the chapter, which could then be added to the listserv.

Archivist: Wallace McKenzie (not present). President-elect Giger mentioned on behalf of the archivist that the chapter archives are at LSU.

[V: New Business, Continued:]

Annual meeting hosts: Invitation from Melissa Goldsmith, Nicholls State in Thibodaux, in 2011.

President-elect Giger invited Melissa Goldsmith to speak to the membership about Nicholls State University, the venue of the next meeting, in Thibodaux in 2011.

Goldsmith presented a slide show providing background of and information on Nicholls State, features of the campus, strengths of the library, geography, new additions to campus, student population, facilities, background on Thibodaux, other events and festivals. [MB: This slide show will be posted on the AMS-S Web site.] Two options for dates were discussed: February 4 and 5, or March 18 and 19. Goldsmith had considered other conference dates, various schools' breaks, and Mardi Gras, which is March 8. Jennifer Thomas asked whether these coincided with public school spring breaks.

A vote for the date was taken by show of hands. There were 16 votes for February 4 and 5 and far fewer for March 18 and 19. February 4 and 5 were therefore chosen as the dates for the 2011 meeting.

Charles Brewer mentioned that the choice of dates could affect the abstracts submission procedure; Andreas Giger mentioned that for those who are flying, free transportation will be provided from the New Orleans airport.

Announcements:

Student paper award: There were no submissions so no award is made this year. There was no further discussion on this point.

Denise Von Glahn asked how much the AMS national office contributed to the student representatives' expenses; Margaret Butler answered that students were paid a percentage of their expenses and that the national office vetoed certain expenses they deemed inappropriate.

Von Glahn asked if the chapter could perhaps do something with our money; Jennifer Thomas proposed that students reading at the national meeting be given some funds. The executive council agreed to discuss this.

Closing Remarks: President-elect Giger thanked President Cummins in absentia for her service, reminding the membership to sign the card for her and requesting a round of applause for her. At 5:21 p.m. he declared the meeting adjourned. Giger's term as president began with the conclusion of this business meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Margaret Butler, Secretary-Treasurer, AMS-S