

**Minutes of the Society for Music Theory Business Meeting:
November 4, 2017 (Arlington, Virginia)**

1. Call to Order (President Dora Hanninen)

President Dora Hanninen called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

2. Secretary's Report (Secretary Philip Stoecker)

Philip called for the approval of the minutes from the 2016 Business Meeting in Vancouver, BC (posted on SMT's web site and shared via SMT-announce). The minutes were approved. Philip provided a summary of the Executive Board's activities over the last year, noting that the language for all motions passed by the Board is available online. This year, in addition to a number of substantive discussions regarding an array of issues before our ever-growing Society, the Executive Board approved the following: redefine the composition or workings of certain committees; create an Ad Hoc Archives Policy Committee to develop an archives policy for the Society; allow for a disbursement of \$4100 from our endowment to fund the Society's growing initiatives; establish plans to celebrate the Society's fortieth birthday at our conference here in Arlington, Virginia; award several SMT Lifetime Memberships; approve a Policy on SMT Response; move to 30-minute time slots for the 2018 joint AMS/SMT conference on a trial basis; and, following the Executive Director's decision to leave the position at the end of this year, create an Ad Hoc Search Committee and an Ad Hoc Transition Advisory Committee for a new SMT Executive Director.

3. Election Results (2017 Nominating Committee Chair Joe Kraus)

Joe announced the election results: Nancy Rogers will be SMT's Vice President, and Inessa Bazayez and Julian Hook will be the new Members-at-Large on the Executive Board. Dora thanked Joe for his excellent work.

4. Treasurer's Report (Treasurer Jan Miyake)

Jan reported that the approved budget is on the SMT website and hard copies are available. Jan began by reading the Society's Mission Statement aloud. She said that the Society's expenses are \$27,000 under budget for 2016. For 2017 the expenses will be above or right at the budget; for 2018 the Executive Board approved budget expenses of approximately \$143,000.

On the income side, the Society continues to bring in more money than budgeted. Approximately 85% of the surplus is attributed to the SMT-40 campaign fundraising. Jan thanked all of the members of the Development Committees that have worked on SMT-40 over the years. She reminded us that gifts and donations of any amount are welcome.

Jan noted that the Society's Quasi-Endowment stands at nearly \$315,000, and our contingency fund is at \$140,000. Established in 2014, with significant deposits added in 2015 and 2016, the payoff from the Quasi-Endowment is based on a 3-year average of the total. At the end of 2016, the 3-year average was just over \$200,000. As we near the end of 2017, the three-year average

increases to almost \$270,000. On the advice of our Investment Committee the Executive Board approved a disbursement of \$5,400 from our quasi-endowment. This will fund four increases to the budget for 2018: 1) \$400 for a new Accessibility Travel Grant; 2) \$750 for the Committee on Diversity Luncheon; 3) \$2,000 to increase funding for editorial support staff at *Spectrum*, commensurate with a 33% increase in the number of articles published; and 4) \$2,700 increased funding for the Workshop Programs, to more accurately reflect the AV and piano costs for the workshops.

The Executive Board is committed to continuing its commitment to funding beyond 2018. Jan reminded us that under current policy, the Society can disburse only 2% of the endowment's three-year average annually, but by November of 2018 that average could reach \$300,000, which would then allow a 3% disbursement. Jan thanked the Investment Committee, the Development Committee, the Executive Board, and Vicky Long for her long-term stewardship. Membership fees, conference attendance, and tax-deductible donations form the foundation of the Society's income. Jan thanked everyone for making the Society fiscally healthy. She closed by reminding us of two ways to keep growing the endowment of the Society: 1) renew your membership; and 2) make a donation of any size to SMT and encourage others to do the same.

5. Vice President's Report (Daphne Leong)

Daphne reported on the Society's subventions. In 2017, the Subventions Committee awarded nine subventions; Daphne acknowledged the recipients of these awards. She reported on the regional societies and the international travel grant for senior scholars, acknowledging the recipients of these awards. Daphne urged the membership to take advantage of this funding opportunity. She reported that discussions among our many (24!) and diverse Interest Groups Chairs were fruitful and that to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Society an Interest Group Fair was organized. Interest Groups were listed on the conference app and the website; Daphne thanked Brian Moseley and Sean Atkinson for their IT assistance. Daphne thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as its Vice President and announced the Nancy Rogers will take over as Vice President after the conference. Dora thanked Daphne for her service as Vice President. Applause.

6. In memoriam

Dora eulogized four leaders of our field whom we have lost over the past year: Richard Parks, Robert Hurwitz, Burdette Green, and Howard Cinnamon.

7. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

A. 2017 Program Committee (Alan Gosman, Chair)

Alan reported that the committee first met at the Vancouver Annual Meeting in November 2016 to discuss keynote speakers and to strategize for the upcoming year, including how we might celebrate the Society's fortieth anniversary. Michael Tenzer, Gretchen Horlacher and Steven Rings accepted the invitation to participate in a plenary session titled "Chase, Dance, Enchant: Music Theory's Partnerships."

Inclusion and partnership with overseas scholars were the goals of the invited session on “Improvisation, Performance, and Composition.” The Program Committee is grateful to Phillipe Canguilhem, Giorgio Sanguinetti, and Elaine Chew for accepting the invitations. Alan, Dora, and the committee decided on a Fortieth Anniversary event with Remarks and Reminiscences. This event was organized by Joseph Straus, Judith Lochhead, and Mary Wennerstrom.

Alan reported that there were 379 paper proposals from which the committee accepted 93, for an overall acceptance rate of 24.5%. Of the 342 individual/joint paper proposals submitted, the committee accepted 82, for an acceptance rate of 24%. Of the 12 Special Session proposals submitted, the committee accepted 5 for an acceptance rate of 42%. The twelve Special Sessions proposals included 59 authors and participants. The February SMT Newsletter will give the salient details about submissions and acceptances. The 2018 Call for Papers is now available on the website and will consist of 30-minute slots on a trial basis. Alan thanked the members of the 2017 Program Committee for their hard work and thanked Dora for guiding the committee throughout the year. Dora offered thanks to Alan, the members of the Program Committee, and to the Chairs of the individual special events.

B. 2017 Committee on Workshop Programs (Andrew Mead, Chair)

Andy identified the workshop leaders and topics. He reported that 38 applicants applied for the graduate workshops, representing 19 different institutions; 15 [39%] of the applicants were female. There were 26 applicants for the Peer Learning Program; 27% of the applicants were female. The application deadline for these programs is now July 1, in hopes that by that date the program is set and we can thereby avoid conflicts with graduate students presenting papers at the same time as the workshops. Vasili Byros will chair the 2018 committee next year, and the committee will select the workshop leaders. Dora thanked Andy for his service.

C. Local Arrangements (Dan Zimmerman, Local Representative)

Dan reported that approximately 730 attended the conference. He listed some of committee’s efforts, including a field trip to the Library of Congress. Dan thanked the committee and Executive Director, Vicky Long, for their efforts with local arrangements. Dora thanked Dan and the committee for their service.

D. Publications Committee (Brian Alegant, Chair – reported by President Hanninen)

Dora read Brian’s report in absentia. Brian expressed gratitude to the editors and the editorial boards. He noted that the journals are in good shape: the readership and distribution have increased; revenues are rising for *Music Theory Spectrum* (*MTS*); and *Music Theory Online* (*MTO*) will come in under budget. For the past three years the journals have consistently maintained a highly competitive acceptance rates: 19% for *MTS* and 29% for *MTO*. Publication and submission rates by women are at historically high levels.

Brian noted that the committee experienced production issues for *MTS* for the fall and spring issues. These issues caused considerable delays and much duplication of effort by the editorial teams. Communication with Oxford University Press has led to a series of changes to address these problems.

A pressing issue with *MTS* is the considerable lag between acceptance of articles and the appearance in print. A partial solution is to increase the number of essays in volumes 40.1 and 40.2. The committee plans to take advantage of advanced access so that essays will appear online before they appear in print. The primary initiative with *MTO* is to build an online management system. Brian anticipates it will be up and running by January. Dora thanked Brian for his outstanding service and thanked members of the Publication Committee that are rotating off.

E. Networking Committee (Sean Atkinson, Chair)

Sean reported that the Networking committee continues not only to maintain our Society's online presence, but also to explore ways we can improve the membership's experience and interaction in those online spaces. He provided an update on SMT's technological offerings: SMT-discuss continues to function as the primary way to provide a robust discussion platform to members; SMT-announce list server provides announcements to subscribed members of the Society at large; a list of upcoming events and deadlines are available on the SMT website; the mobile app provides the conference schedule and also contains handouts and abstracts. Thanks to Michael McClimon, incoming Webmaster of the Networking Committee, for updating and maintaining the conference app.

Sean announced the future plans to update the SMT website, which will be more mobile friendly and easier to use. The redesigned SMT website should be up and running within the next year. Sean thanked the members of the Networking Committee, especially Jeremiah Goyette and Brian Moseley, the incoming Chair of the Networking Committee. He encouraged next year's presenters to submit their handouts online. Any comments or suggestions about the Society's online resources should be sent to the Networking Committee. Dora thanked Sean for his excellent work as Chair of the Networking Committee.

F. Professional Development Committee (Roger Graybill, Chair)

Roger reported that this year's Special Session is on "converting a dissertation into articles" and "preparing musical examples, graphics, and audio/visual materials for the publication." He thanked the speakers for both sessions. The Conference Guide Program assisted 27 new members. A total of 125 members attended the Annual Student Breakfast, and the CV Review Session drew 38 participants. Roger thanked those members who reviewed CVs. Roger reported that the committee will add a new member "who is trained as a music theorist but now employed in a field other than university teaching."

G. SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship Committee (John Roeder, Chair)

John reported that the 2017 and inaugural SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship was awarded to Kristen Wallentinsen, a PhD candidate at University of Western Ontario, for her dissertation "Fuzzy Family Ties: Measuring Familial Similarity between Contours of Different Cardinalities." In addition to adjudicating the award, the committee has developed a recusal policy to cover cases of conflict of interest. The committee has received 17 applications for the 2018 cycle; it will announce the winner early in the new year through the Society website and the February Newsletter.

H. Accessibility Committee (Bruce Quaglia, Chair)

Bruce reported on the function of the Committee and noted the close partnership with the Executive Board to improve access to our conference. He announced that the Society has created a new Accessibility Grant to offset additional costs that are incurred by some members with disabilities when attending our meetings. Bruce reported that this is the fifth year of live streaming select sessions from the conference. He thanked the Committee, members of the Networking Committee, the student volunteers, and the Executive Board. Please contact Bruce with inquiries or reports of issues you observe. Dora thanked Bruce for his work.

I. Committee on Diversity (Daniel Jenkins, Chair)

Danny reported on the Minority and International Travel Grants and recognized the winners of these grants. He thanked the Program Budget Subcommittee, which funded a lunch for current and past winners. Forty people attended the Travel Grant Luncheon this year and ten students attended the conference through the local outreach programs. In the past year the committee's Facebook page went live, reaching almost 100 members. There is also a dedicated list-serve for diversity issues; to join please contact Danny. The AP Music Theory Outreach Project continues.

J. Committee on the Status of Women (Jennifer Bain, Chair)

Jennifer announced that the Committee's activities and individual achievements by women in music theory are documented in the SMT Newsletter, blog, and Facebook page. She also noted that the Committee has a new Twitter account (@CSWMusicTheory). Jennifer encouraged women music theorists to include themselves in the women and music theory directory, which is located on their blog. The Committee continues to offer their mentoring programs; the programs have been revamped and now offer mentoring from senior women in the field through Skype or Google Hangouts. CSW and the Diversity Committee have worked together to create a document that provides strategies for diversifying the applicant pool. Jennifer reported that this year's session focused on the music of internationally renowned composer Dr. Chen Yi. For the 2018 meeting in San Antonio, the Committee will sponsor a workshop on implicit bias and ways to counter it through pedagogical and research inclusivity. Jennifer offered many thanks to members of the Committee. Dora thanked Jennifer for her excellent service.

K. Development Committee (Joel Lester, Chair)

Since its inception, SMT-40 raised over \$83,000 (220 members). Joel named the initiatives supported by SMT-40 (travel and childcare grants, subventions, new dissertation fellowship, and peer learning workshops). The Committee's next step is to approach foundations for additional grants from outside sources. Joel announced the new "SMT Forward" campaign building on the momentum of SMT-40. Thanks to those already participating in the campaign, Joel encouraged everyone to consider participating.

L. Executive Director Search Committee (Eric Isaacson, Chair)

Eric reported that the Search Committee for a new Executive Director has been hard at work, and they are pleased with the applicants for the position. Second round of interviews will take place shortly after the conference. The Committee hopes that the position will be occupied

before Vicky's last day at the end of the year. Eric reported on the transition committee, chaired by Nancy Rogers, with members Robert Hatten, Dora Hanninen, Philip Stoecker, and Eric Isaacson. The Society will be notified once the position is filled. Dora thanked Eric for a tremendous job.

Dora then recognized by name everyone serving on a committee in 2017 and for those rotating off of committees and boards this year.

8. New Business

No new business to report.

Dora read the notice sent on SMT-announce about revisions to the SMT Bylaws. Dora noted the concerns that were raised about changing the Bylaws. The Executive Board decided not to proceed with a vote at this time.

9. Special Awards Presentation

President Hanninen recognized the recipients of the SMT Lifetime Memberships: Mary Arlin, Maureen Carr, Robert Morris, and Peter Westergaard. A fifth recipient, Benjamin Boretz, later declined. Applause ensued. Five people presented tributes: Lynne Rogers for Arlin, Taylor Greer for Carr, Andy Mead for Morris, Marianne Kielian-Gilbert for Boretz, and Jeff Perry for Westergaard.

10. Recognition of Executive Director

Dora recognized Vicky Long for her 16 years of tireless effort for the Society. She also recognized the University of Chicago for supplying office space and other resources for the Society's benefit. Steven Rings read a tribute, and Debbie Rifkin and Yonatan Malin presented Vicky with a gift on behalf of the Society, to which many individual members chose to contribute. Lengthy applause followed. Vicky thanked members of the Society.

Dora reminded members that we will elect a new President, Treasurer, and two new Members-at-Large to the Executive Board. She encouraged nominations and members to volunteer to serve the Society; please email her do so. Dora also reminded members that Daylight Saving Time goes into effect early the next morning.

11. Publication Awards Committee Report/Awards Presentation (Boyd Pomeroy, Chair)

Boyd offered thanks to the members of the Committee and to Dora. He announced the winners of this year's publication awards:

- Emerging Scholar Award (article): Matthew Boyle and Paul Sherrill, "Galant Recitative Schemas." *Journal of Music Theory* 59/1 (2015): 1–61.

- Emerging Scholar Award (book): Seth Monahan, *Mahler's Symphonic Sonatas*. Oxford University Press, 2015.
- Outstanding Publication Award: Vasili Byros, “Prelude on a Partimento: Invention in the Compositional Pedagogy of the German States in the Time of J. S. Bach.” *Music Theory Online* 21/3 (2015).
- Wallace Berry Award: Daniel Harrison, *Pieces of Tradition: An Analysis of Contemporary Tonal Music*. Oxford University Press, 2016.
- Outstanding Multi-Author Collection: Laurel Parsons and Brenda Ravenscraft, eds. *Analytical Essays on Music by Women Composers: Concert Music, 1960–2000*. Oxford University Press, 2016.
- Citation of Special Merit: Carl Schachter, *The Art of Tonal Analysis: Twelve Lessons in Schenkerian Theory*. Edited by Joseph N. Straus. Oxford University Press, 2016.

Dora thanked Boyd and the entire Committee for working so hard to read all the submissions. Applause.

12. Closing Remarks/Adjournment (Hanninen, President-Elect Robert Hatten)

Dora reviewed the growth of the Society over the past 40 years. She thanked members of the Executive Board, Committee Chairs, and the 2017 Program Committee. She then passed the gavel to our President-Elect, Robert Hatten. Applause followed. Robert thanked Dora for her long-standing service to our community and Society. Applause followed.

Robert adjourned the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Stoecker, Secretary