

**Minutes of the Society for Music Theory Business Meeting  
Saturday, November 9, 2019 (Columbus, Ohio)**

**1. Call to Order (President Robert Hatten)**

President Robert Hatten called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. (EST)

**2. Secretary's Report (Secretary Philip Stoecker)**

Philip called for the approval of the minutes from the 2018 Business Meeting in San Antonio, TX (posted on the SMT's website and shared via SMT-Announce). The minutes were approved. Philip provided a summary of the Executive Board's (EB) activities over the last year, noting that the language for all passed by the EB is available online. This year, in addition a number of substantive discussion regarding an array of issues before our ever-growing Society, the EB approved the new SMT Harassment Policy; to enlarge access to our conferences by offering free registration for all undergraduate students, local or not, for solo and joint meetings; to create an SMT Graduate Student Conference Paper Award; and to approve Contract Services with YourMembership, which is a platform that manages the customer relations content for the SMT website.

Philip announced the 2019 election results: Gretchen Horlacher will be the new Vice-President, and Anna Gawboy and Jennifer Iverson will be the new Members-at-Large on the EB.

**3. Treasurer's Report (Jocelyn Neal)**

Jocelyn reported the SMT's budget is a realization of its mission and priorities. The detailed budget is available to members as a PDF file on the SMT website. The SMT remains in good financial health. Jocelyn noted that in odd-numbered years SMT runs a solo conference, so the expenses are much larger than even-number years when SMT meets with AMS. The largest expenses include the Executive Director's salary and benefits, the solo conference expenses, and publications. The largest sources of income include membership dues, conference registrations, *Music Theory Spectrum*, and donations.

In 2014, SMT initiated a Fund Functioning as an Endowment (FFE) with an initial balance of \$125,000. Two large deposits have been added, and the FFE has grown as the markets have grown. The Society's Quasi-Endowment (FFE) is now approximately \$408,100. The payoff from the Quasi-Endowment is based on a 3-year average of the total. The current three-year average having exceeded \$300,000, we are authorized to withdraw up to 3% to spend on SMT projects. This year that 3% yielded \$9,900.

The EB approved a disbursement of \$9,900 from our FFE. This will fund the following: 1) a second SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship; 2) an additional editorial assistant for *Music Theory Spectrum*; 3) increased the Diversity Luncheon allocation; 4) two additional Accessibility Travel Grants; 5) financial support to send the Executive Director to ACLS to represent the SMT; and 6) money for special video production expenses for *SMT-V*.

Jocelyn 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.

#### **4. Vice-President's Report (Nancy Rogers)**

Nancy reported that the SMT has 22 active Interest Groups. Nancy met with representatives from the regional music theory societies, and these societies are thriving. Nancy acknowledged the eight recipients of the Subvention Grants. Donations to SMT Forward made these subventions possible. Nancy expressed her gratitude for having served as Vice-President for the past two years, and she noted that Gretchen Horlacher will take over after the conference.

#### **5. Executive Director's Report (Jennifer Diaz)**

Jennifer reported that the attendance for this year's conference is high. She thanked the EB for allowing free registration for undergraduate students and the increase in travel grant funding. Jennifer thanked the Program Committee for a successful Poster Session. The SMT successfully held its first graduate program reception this year, which featured 34 institutions. Jennifer thanked the many volunteers for this year's conference and the two sponsors. She concluded by noting that the 2022 conference will take place in New Orleans, LA, and we will be joined with AMS and SEM. Robert thanked Jennifer for her wonderful work.

#### **6. In memoriam**

Robert eulogized five leaders of our field whom we have lost over the past year: James Dapogny (University Michigan), Aleck Brinkman (Eastman School of Music), William Thomson (University of Southern California), Peter Westergaard (Princeton University), and AMS Executive Director Robert Judd.

#### **7. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)**

##### **A. 2019 Program Committee (Eric McKee, chair)**

Eric summarized two new initiatives undertaken by the Program Committee. First, the committee initiated a two-tier evaluation system in which Eric assigned four readers to evaluate a proposal, making sure that someone with expertise was on the panel. After this first round of adjudication the entire committee evaluated the proposals that ranked in the middle. This process was a huge success and much more productive. Second, the committee raised the status and visibility of the Poster Session. Eric reported that Daniel Jenkins will be the next chair of the Program Committee. Robert thanked Betsy Marvin for her help in creating such a vibrant Poster Session this year.

### **B. Publications Committee (Brian Alegant, chair)**

Brian summarized the Publications Committee's activities for 2019. The committee successfully transitioned three new editorial staff members; instituted policies for feedback to authors, particularly with respect to the revise and resubmit option; created onboarding documents and conversations with incoming editors and associate editors; addressed the delay time for acceptance in *Music Theory Spectrum* and removed the back log – three of the essays in *Spectrum* use digital media; implemented an online journal submission system for *MTO* submission process; created digital object identifiers for back issues of *SMT-V* and *MTO*. The committee recently passed anti-bullying and anti-harassment policies for reviews, which was approved by the EB. Brian reported that readership both online and in print is up. Brian thanked the editorial teams and the EB.

### **C. Networking Committee (Brian Moseley, chair)**

Brian reported that the committee has been hard at work managing the Society's six online domains. The committee has increased the Society's presence with Humanities Commons, and Brian encouraged members to sign up. Most of the committee's work this year has focused on transitioning to the new SMT website. Brian gave a brief preview of the new site and noted that it will be more compatible with cell phones. He thanked the many people who helped with the transition the past two years.

### **D. Development Committee (Alex Rehding, chair)**

Alex noted that the committee has built a wall of buttons with the motto "What's your DiverSMT?" The money raised from members buying these buttons supports projects that we care about, such as the Diversity Luncheon, the Minority Travel Grants, etc. The committee's message is that no donation is too small and every little bit helps transform the Society. The committee is trying to make it easier to donate small amounts to the Society.

### **E. Committee on Race and Ethnicity (Sam Mukherji, chair)**

Sam reported that 51 individuals attended the Diversity Travel Grant Luncheon, which also included local outreach participants. He recognized the individuals that received travel grants. Eleven high school and university students in Ohio participated in the Local Outreach Program. Sam thanked members of the SMT who helped recruit these students. The funds for the travel grants, the luncheon, and the local outreach program are budget lines and are available thanks to the success of SMT's endowment. The theme for this year's Committee on Race and Ethnicity (CoRE) session was diversity in music theory pedagogy. Resources to increase diversity in the theory classroom will be available CoRE's website. Please consult the CoRE website to learn more about the new mentoring program, which focuses on minority students in music theory.

### **F. Committee on the Status of Women (Judy Lochhead, chair)**

The Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) sponsored a session on women music technologies, which focused on various ways women have been involved in various forms of technology as musicians, composers, scholars, researchers, and to highlight the ways in which they might have been impeded or encouraged. The CSW also had a brown bag lunch to discuss

ways to create a system of support for vulnerable members of the Society. 40:21 Judy reported that Samantha Inman and Anjni Amin will join the committee. CSW offers a proposal mentoring program, a peer mentoring research program, and the AskMe situational mentoring program. The committee also has a bibliography resource on the website. Next year CSW will partner with the Queer Resource Group.

#### **G. Professional Development Committee (Stan Kleppinger, chair)**

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) sponsored a session titled “Contemplating and Making the Transition to Academic Administration.” Stan reported that 32 individuals took part in the CV Review Session. Stan thanked faculty members who reviewed CVs. The PDC sponsored the Conference Guide program in which members attending their first SMT conference are paired with experienced conference attendees; 26 pairings took place this year. The committee hosted the Student Breakfast with 80 students in attendance. PDC maintains a Facebook page for students and first-year faculty. Stan welcomed new members to the committee and thanked everyone who serves on the PDC.

#### **H. Accessibility Committee (Bruce Quaglia, chair)**

Robert read Bruce’s report for the Accessibility Committee. Bruce thanked past and current committee members. The incoming chair of the committee is Anabel Maler. Bruce announced that the Accessibility Travel Grant, which defrays the cost of travel to members who experience a disability, was given to two recipients this year. He encouraged all members who may qualify for this travel grant to contact any member of the committee with any questions. Bruce reported that the charge of the committee will be expanded. The committee continues to offer live streaming of selected conference sessions in coordination with the Networking Committee and the Executive Director. Please contact any committee member with inquiries or reports of accessibility issues you observe in Columbus.

#### **I. Committee on Workshop Programs (Rick Cohn, chair)**

Four individuals ran workshops this year: Daphne Leong (Graduate Student Workshop on twentieth-century analysis and performance), Michael Cuthbert (Graduate Student Workshop on corpus studies), and James Buhler (Peer Learning Program Workshop on film music). Susan McClary’s Peer Learning Program Workshop on the music of Monteverdi was withdrawn in August. A total of 29 graduate students applied (25 were accommodated) and 20 applicants for the Peer Learning Program; 45% women and 55% men applied for the workshops. Emily Gertsch is the incoming chair of the committee. Rick reported that Jennifer Diaz oversaw the application process.

#### **J. SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship Committee (Ellie M. Hisama, chair)**

Ellie reported that the 2019 SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship was awarded to both Miriam Piilonen (Northwestern University, “Resonating Subjects: Music and Emotion in Victorian Evolutionary Thought”) and to Derek Remeš (Hochschule für Musik Freiburg, “Thoroughbass, Chorale, and Fugue: Reconstructing J. S. Bach’s *Fundamental-Regeln* Through Historical Sources”). Next year’s committee will be chaired by Karen Bottge.

One of the fellowships for next year will be awarded to support a topic that engages with diversity or to an applicant who contributes to the diversification of the SMT community.

#### **K. SMT Student Presentation Award Committee (Blair Johnston, chair)**

The SMT Student Presentation Award was created to acknowledge the contributions that our student members make every year at the Annual Meeting, most notably for an outstanding presentation. Blair reported that this award has been finalized with procedural guidelines now in place. The committee will consist of five members. Blair noted that there will be a balance in the evaluating process between the written, submitted materials and the actual presentation at the Annual Meeting. The committee decided not to have a special nominating procedure. Any currently enrolled student, graduate or undergraduate, with a paper or a poster accepted for presentation will be considered for the award. To officially be eligible for the award students will need to submit their written materials several weeks before the conference. This year, 48 students were eligible and 26 submitted their materials for review. The committee will not announce the winner at the meeting, but it will be announced soon.

#### **8. President: Acknowledgments and appreciations (outgoing service roles)**

Robert recognized by name everyone serving on a committee in 2019 and for those rotating off of committees and boards this year. Robert recognized outgoing EB members Yonatan Malin and Maryam Moshaver. Robert graciously thanked Nancy Rogers (outgoing Vice-President) for her guidance, service, and excellent work.

#### **9. New Business**

No new business

#### **10. SMT Lifetime Membership presentations**

Robert recognized the recipients of the SMT Lifetime Memberships: Michael Cherlin, Severine Neff, and David Huron. Applause ensued. Three people presented tributes: Jack Boss for Cherlin, Marianne Kielian-Gilbert for Neff, and David Temperley for Huron.

#### **11. Stwolinski Prize presentation (Stephen Laitz)**

The 2019 Gail Boyd de Stwolinski Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Music Theory Teaching and Scholarship was awarded to Peter Schubert.

#### **12. Brief Address (President Robert Hatten)**

Robert announced that due to time restraints he will put his address on the SMT webpage. He mentioned that the Executive Board expanded the mission of the Accessibility Committee to include all issues related to disability, be it physical or neurocognitive. Robert also reported that

the EB will form a task force to establish a proposal, for members to vote on, to create a new standing committee for LGBTQ+ concerns.

### **13. SMT Publication Awards Ceremony (Danuta Mirka, Chair)**

Danuta offered thanks to the members of the Committee and to Robert. She reported that the committee received a total of 162 submissions. Danuta shared the winners of this year's publication awards, who were publicly recognized and presented with their awards:

- Emerging Scholar Award (article): Christopher Brody, “Parametric Interaction in Tonal Repertoires,” *Journal of Music Theory* 60/2 (2016), 97–148.
- Emerging Scholar Award (book): Edward Klorman, *Mozart's Music of Friends: Social Interplay in the Chamber Works*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016.
- Outstanding Multi-Author Collection: *Brahms and the Shaping of Time*. Edited by Scott Murphy. Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2018.
- Outstanding Publication Award: Jennifer Iverson, “Invisible Collaboration: The Dawn and Evolution of elektronische Musik,” *Music Theory Spectrum* 39/2 (2017): 200–222.
- Wallace Berry Award: Jason Yust, *Organized Time: Rhythm, Tonality, and Form*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.
- Citation of Special Merit: *The Routledge Companion to Music Cognition*. Edited by Richard Ashley and Renee Timmers. New York: Routledge, 2017.

Robert thanked Danuta and the entire committee for their hard work in evaluating such a large number of submissions. Applause.

### **14. Closing Remarks/Adjournment (Hatten and President-Elect Patricia Hall)**

Robert passed the gavel to President-Elect Patricia Hall. Applause followed. Patricia thanked Robert for his service as the Society's President. Applause for Robert.

Patricia adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m. (EST)

Respectfully submitted,  
Philip Stoecker, Secretary