

**Minutes of the Society for Music Theory Business Meeting
November 3, 2018 (San Antonio, Texas)**

1. Call to Order (President Robert Hatten)

President Robert Hatten called the meeting to order at 2:21 p.m. (CDT)

2. Secretary's Report (Secretary Philip Stoecker)

Philip called for the approval of the minutes from the 2017 Business Meeting in Arlington, VA (posted on SMT's web site 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 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 EB approved the basic SMT Forward logo; renamed "Childcare Grants" to "Family Care Grants"; increased the maximum of Family Care Grants from \$300 to \$400; and approved a 3-year renewable offer to Jennifer Diaz as the new Executive Director of SMT.

Philip announced the election results: Patricia Hall will be SMT's President-Elect, Jocelyn Neal will be the new Treasurer, and Nancy Yunhwa Rao and Leigh VanHandel will be the new Members-at-Large on the EB.

3. Treasurer's Report (Treasurer Jan Miyake)

Jan reported that the Annual Meeting Grants Subcommittee supported four families with the Family Care Grant, five individuals with Independent/Unsupported/Undersupported Scholar Grant, and three conference activities: 1) to cover travel and food expenses for the keynote speaker; 2) a request from the Committee for the Status of Women to cover travel and food expenses for the panelists; and 3) a request from the Improvisation Interest Group for harpsichord rental and moving.

Jan reminded members that the approved budget is on the SMT website. She then read the Society's Mission Statement aloud. Jan 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*/Oxford University Press, 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 \$348,000. 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 \$9,600.

On the advice of our Investment Committee, the EB approved a disbursement of up to \$9,600 from our FFE. This will fund the following increases to the budget for 2019: 1) a new award for the Best Student Presentation; 2) production support for *SMT-V*; 3) financial support for the editors of *MTS* and *MTO*; 4) five additional conference grants, two for minority scholars and three for Independent/Unsupported/Undersupported scholars; and 5) a second SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship.

Jan thanked everyone for making the Society fiscally healthy and expressed her gratitude for having served as Treasurer for the past four years. 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. Robert heartily thanked Jan for all her work for the Society and her leadership in managing our growing finances. Applause.

4. Vice President's Report (Nancy Rogers)

Nancy reported the SMT has 23 active Interest Groups (IGs). She will meet with IG leaders on Sunday morning to help guide them in supporting the diverse interests of our members and in avoiding the scheduling simultaneous events. Nancy met with representatives from the regional music theory societies, and these societies are thriving. Nancy acknowledged the recipients of the Subvention Grants. Donations to SMT Forward makes these subventions possible. Nancy reported that she chaired both the SMT Executive Director Transition Committee to help prepare Jennifer Diaz for her role as the new Executive Director and the Meeting Response Ad Hoc Committee (in response to legislation that directly conflicts with our mission and values, and discriminates against a segment of our membership). The Response committee organized two special sessions with AMS for the San Antonio meeting. The SMT committee's session was focused on providing tools to fight discrimination of any kind. Robert thanked Nancy for her service as Vice President. Applause.

5. In memoriam

Robert eulogized three leaders of our field whom we have lost over the past year: Edward Pearsall and Elliott Antokoletz (University of Texas at Austin) and Stephen Peles (Alabama University).

6. Committee Reports (Standing and Ad Hoc)

A. 2018 Program Committee (Roman Ivanovitch, Chair)

Roman recognized members of the Program Committee. He reported that the committee first met at the Annual Meeting in Arlington to discuss the keynote speaker and to strategize for the upcoming year. Carolyn Abbate was selected as the keynote speaker for the 2018 Annual Meeting. The committee convened in April 2018 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago to program the meeting. Roman noted that the change from 45- to 30-minute time slots increased the number of both proposal acceptances and joint sessions with AMS.

The Program Committee received 421 distinctive proposals and 143 were accepted, producing an overall acceptance rate of 33%. Two-thirds of the submissions were from men and one-third from women; each group had an acceptance rate of 33%. Of the 369 individual paper submissions 111 were accepted for a 30% acceptance rate. Of the 15 Special Sessions submissions 7 were accepted for a 46% acceptance rate. The AMS/SMT Program Committees together accepted 7 Joint Sessions out of the 15 that were proposed (also 46% acceptance).

Roman reported that Assistant Professors had their proposals accepted at a rate of 41.5% while graduate students had their proposals accepted at a rate of 36%. Limited terms, other appointments, and Associate Professors were each accepted at a rate of 30%. Full professors had their proposals accepted at a rate of 25%. Roman thanked the members of the 2018 Program Committee for their exceptional dedication and spirit. He also thanked members of the SMT and AMS Executive Boards and 2017 Program Chair Alan Gosman. Please direct all questions about 2019 Annual Conference to Eric McKee, incoming Chair of the SMT Program Committee. Robert offered thanks to Roman. Applause.

B. Local Arrangements (Jennifer Beavers, Local Representative)

Jennifer listed some of the efforts by Local Arrangements. She has diligently worked with the LGBTQ+ communities, and she is still accepting donations on behalf of PFLAG. Jennifer worked with Nancy Rogers to find speakers for the SMT Special Session. She also worked with Project Spectrum to organize a preconference session on diversity. Jennifer organized volunteers, many of whom are students at University of Texas at San Antonio, and she thanked Danny Jenkins for his work on the Committee on Diversity. Jennifer reported that with the help of Jennifer Diaz and the Work and Family IG they organized a supervised children's corner with toys donated by a local church. Robert thanked Jennifer for her excellent work. Applause.

C. 2018 Committee on Workshop Programs (Vasili Byros, Chair, reported by President Hatten)

Robert read Vasili's report in absentia. Two Peer Learning Workshops took place on Thursday morning and two Graduate Student Workshops took place on Friday morning. Vasili noted that graduate students were required to send notes to a faculty member at their institution to confirm their eligibility. The deadline was June 15th. The workshops were limited to 15 participants each. Vasili reported that 28 applicants applied for the graduate workshops, representing 18 different institutions. Of the 28 applicants 13 were female (46.4%). There were 16 applicants for the Peer Learning Program; 60% of the applicants were female. Richard Cohn will be the chair of this committee next year. Robert thanked Vasili in absentia. Applause.

D. Networking Committee (Brian Moseley, Chair)

Brian reported that Megan Lavengood led an initiative to enroll the SMT in the Humanities Commons, which is a discussion forum for academic communities across the world. Individuals can upload work they wish to share with others and interact with colleagues from SMT, AMS, and other humanities societies. It is open, free, and non-profit. Brian recommended that members create an account by visiting <HCommons.org>. Members of the committee felt that they should help *SMT-V* create an independent, online presence.

William O'Hara worked with the editors of *SMT-V* to create a new website <SMT-V.org>. The site provides easy access to back issues and includes information for authors who have publication ideas.

The committee has worked with Accessibility Committee to live stream selected sessions at the Annual Meeting. Brian noted that the committee worked to increase the quality of these streams and to expand the live streaming to two days. Brian thanked Bruce Quaglia for his help. Brian offered thanks to Michael McClimon for updating and maintaining the conference app (the complete program was available on cell phones). This year individuals were able to upload their handouts to the app.

Brian reported that preparations are under way for the new SMT website, which is projected to roll out in 2019. Brian 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. SMT-Discuss continues to function as the primary way to provide a robust discussion platform to members. The SMT-Announce list-serv provides announcements to subscribed members of the Society at large. A list of upcoming events and deadlines are also available on the SMT website. Brian requested that if someone has technical skills, is willing to confront technology, or knows of someone with these skills, they should please contact him. The Networking Committee needs your help. Robert offered thanks to Brian for his extraordinary work. Applause.

E. Publications Committee (Brian Alegant, Chair, reported by President Hatten)

Robert read Brian Alegant's report in absentia. Brian expressed gratitude to all our editors and editorial boards. He noted that the Society's three publications—*Music Theory Spectrum* (*MTS*), *Music Theory Online* (*MTO*), and *SMT-Video* (*SMT-V*)—are thriving. The readership is up, and the acceptance rates and gender balance are steady. The new editorial teams have made smooth transitions in their new roles. Brian noted that the Publications Committee experienced production issues for *MTS* for the fall and spring issues last year, but they have been largely resolved. *MTS* will begin publishing sixteen essays in each two-issue volume, eight per issue, instead of six. In addition, the committee is taking advantage of advance access through Oxford University Press so that essays can appear online in advance of the print version. Brian reported on the two new initiatives with *MTO*. With Brent Yorgason's assistance, *MTO* will use an online submission system beginning with issue 25.1. *MTO* entered into an arrangement with CrossRef to have Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for all content in *MTO* and *SMT-V*. Brian reported that *SMT-V* is beginning to expand its operations. The editorial team is working hard to streamline videos and achieve a higher finish rate. Robert thanked Brian for his leadership. Applause.

F. Committee on Diversity (Daniel Jenkins, Chair)

Danny reported that 45 individuals attended the Minority and International Travel Grants luncheon, which included local outreach participants. 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. If you would like to know more about the Music Theory Outreach Project, please attend the Outreach Project social after the keynote. Robert thanked Danny for his service on this Committee. Applause.

G. Committee on the Status of Women (Judy Lochhead, Chair)

Judy announced the mission of the CSW. The committee sponsored a session in San Antonio on minimizing implicit bias and a session on the issues that arise in today's classroom. Judy thanked the speakers and panelists for these two sessions. CSW offers a proposal mentoring program and a peer mentoring research program; these two programs are announced through SMT-Announce. The Committee also runs a blog focusing on women in music theory, as well as a situational mentoring program to assist individuals having to deal with issues from their own institutions. Robert offered thanks to Judy and the members of the Committee for their excellent work. Applause.

H. Professional Development Committee (Roger Graybill, Chair)

Roger reported that this year's Special Session was on "The Dynamics of the Job Interview." He thanked the panel for this session. The Conference Guide Program assisted 21 new members. A total of 68 students attended the Annual Student Breakfast, and the CV Review Session drew 22 participants. Roger thanked faculty members who reviewed CVs. Roger reported that the committee added a new category to their membership, for one "who is trained as a music theorist but is now employed in a field other than university teaching." Roger thanked members of the committee for their hard work. Stan Kleppinger will be the next chair of the Professional Development Committee. Robert thanked Roger for his outstanding service as Chair. Applause ensued.

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

John reported that the 2018 SMT-40 Dissertation Fellowship was awarded to Antares Boyle, a Ph.D. candidate at University of British Columbia, for her dissertation "Formation and Process in Repetitive Post-Tonal Music." In addition to adjudicating the award, the committee continues to implement a recusal policy to cover instances of conflict of interest. The committee received 17 applications. Ellie Hisama will be chair next year. Robert thanked John for his excellent work.

J. Accessibility Committee (Bruce Quaglia, Chair – Hatten in absentia)

Bruce reported on the function of the Accessibility Committee and noted the close partnership with the EB to improve access to our conference. The Committee urges all of our members to be conscientious in adhering to the Society's accessibility guidelines, which may be found on the SMT website. The committee proposed an Accessibility Travel Grant in 2017 to offset expenses related to travel, and the EB approved. The committee continues to offer live streaming of selected conference sessions in coordination with the Networking Committee and the Executive Director. Bruce noted that this is the sixth year of streaming for the conference. Please contact Bruce with inquiries or reports of accessibility issues you observe here in San Antonio. Robert thanked Bruce for his extensive contributions. Applause.

K. Development Committee (Joel Lester, Chair – Hatten in absentia)

Robert noted that he will fold Joel Lester's report into his address. He thanked Joel for his service as Chair of the Development Committee. Applause.

7. New Business

No new business to report.

8. President's Address

Robert welcomed and introduced Jennifer Diaz as the new Executive Director of the SMT. Applause. Jennifer took the podium to thank the members for their support. She reported that the SMT office has successfully moved to the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University (Bloomington, IN). She expressed thanks to Victoria Long, Eric Isaacson, and Nancy Rogers for their assistance during this transition. Jennifer also thanked Roman Ivanovitch, Chair of the Program Committee; AMS Executive Director Robert Judd and his administrative aide Katie VanDerMeer; Jennifer Beavers, Local Arrangements Committee; the SMT Executive Board, and chairs of the various committees. Jennifer announced that the Annual Meeting in 2021 will take place in Jacksonville, FL. Applause.

Robert resumed his report by summarizing the hiring procedures for the new Executive Director. He also thanked Eric Isaacson for physically moving the boxes from the University of Chicago to Indiana University. Robert is extremely grateful to Vicky Long for consulting with Jennifer and for helping provide for a smooth transition. He also thanked Nancy Rogers, who led the transition committee, and Jan Miyake who helped with finances and contracts.

Robert reported that the EB faced numerous challenges in responding to events beyond the Society's control, most notably the fallout with the Texas law discriminating the LGBTQ+ community and California's response to deny funding to state employees traveling to Texas and other states that had such discriminatory laws. The SMT EB formed an ad hoc SMT committee led by Nancy Rogers, who also worked with AMS on a collaborative committee. SMT's responses have appeared on the SMT website. Robert thanked Maryam Moshaver, who led the Executive Board's communications subcommittee in crafting those responses and our response policy. Robert noted that although the SMT bylaws state that the Society is not to participate in any political activities, the EB will continue to respond in ways that express our intentions to preserve and to protect the basic human rights and dignities of our members whenever and wherever they may be threatened, including bans on travel effecting members with family ties to various countries. We consider the values in our Mission Statement to be above politics. Although we cannot as a Society lobby for particular political candidates or causes when those values appear to be threatened, we will respond by fostering educational forums where members are assured of the academic freedom to consider and debate difficult issues that affect our members, along with explorations of music's many roles in society. Robert noted that two principles govern our responses: 1) caring for our members by defending their rights and dignity; and 2) providing educational opportunities for our members to explore current issues both as they affect member's lives and as they have bearing on their understanding of music in all of its cultural and social complexity. Robert thanked the officers and board members who have guided our responses. Applause.

Robert appointed a new task force to design a new set of more inclusive categories for providing more accurate demographic information on our diversity. We will introduce a new reporting form this year to be completed by each member when they renew their membership. With proper

guarantees for privacy and anonymity, the database will provide more accurate demographic information in a more consistent format whenever individuals participate in any of the major activities of the Society, including submission to the Program Committee, *MTS*, *MTO*, and *SMT-V*. Robert thanked Deborah Rifkin's superb leadership on this taskforce, and Jennine Brown, for her excellent work as SMT statistician. Applause.

Robert announced a new charge for the Development Committee and its new Chair, Alexander Rehding. SMT Forward is the name for our ongoing development effort, following the successful five-year SMT-40 campaign. As outgoing Chair of the Publication Awards Committee, Alex drafted a proposal to create a new Best Student Paper Award [subsequently titled SMT Student Presentation Award]. With EB approval, the guidelines for this award are being currently designed by a subcommittee chaired by Blair Johnston. Robert hopes to launch this award in 2019 at our meeting in Columbus, OH. This and other initiatives, such as the first accessibility travel grant, require financial support, and it is through our Fund Functioning as Endowment that we are able to create such opportunities. Robert urges members to consider ways to contribute financially to the needs of our community of scholars and to watch for new initiatives.

The new Annual Meetings Subcommittee, chaired by EB member Catherine Losada, conducted a survey; 350 individuals completed the survey in advance of this year's meeting. Survey results indicated a strong support for moving to a 30-minute time slot for papers. Robert reported that we will have another survey, led by Julian Hook, to receive input from the San Antonio meeting, to help guide our planning for the 2020 joint meeting with AMS in Minneapolis, MN. He also noted that members can access previous Newsletters on the SMT website by selecting Archives from the menu. Robert reported that the SMT website will receive an update, making the website more efficient. The editorial boards for *MTO* and *MTS* have been expanded by adding extra assistants to accommodate increased submissions, and an increase in the number of articles published in *MTO* and *MTS*.; We have also increased the budget for both Publications and Networking to address targeted needs.

Robert also appointed a task force for our Interest Groups. Led by former Vice President Daphne Leong, this subcommittee has prepared its report with recommendations for accommodating further growth. As we continue to envision the future of the Society, Robert invites members to share ideas, to volunteer for committees, and to support SMT Forward.

Robert recognized by name everyone serving on a committee in 2018 and for those rotating off of committees and boards this year. Robert recognized outgoing EB members Debbie Rifkin and Catherine Losada. Robert graciously thanked Jan Miyake (Treasurer) and Dora Hanninen (Past President) for their guidance, service, and excellent work. Applause.

9. Publication Awards Ceremony (Alexander Rehding, Chair)

Alex offered thanks to the members of the Committee and to Robert. He reported that the committee received 68 submissions. Alex announced the winners of this year's publication awards, who were publically recognized and presented with their awards:

- Emerging Scholar Award (article): Bryan J. Parkhurst, “Making a Virtue of Necessity: Schenker and Kantian Teleology.” *Journal of Music Theory* 61/1 (2017): 59–109.
- Emerging Scholar Award (book): Andrew Hicks, *Composing the World: Harmony in the Medieval Platonic Cosmos*. Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Outstanding Multi-Author Collection: Markus Neuwirth and Pieter Bergé, eds. *What Is a Cadence? Theoretical and Analytical Perspectives on Cadences in the Classical Repertoire*. Leuven University Press, 2015.
- Outstanding Publication Award: Anna Zayaruznaya, “Intelligibility Redux: Motets and the Modern Medieval Sound.” *Music Theory Online* 23/2 (2017).
- Wallace Berry Award: Steven Vande Moortele, *The Romantic Overture and Musical Form from Rossini to Wagner*. Cambridge University Press, 2017.

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

10. Adjournment (Robert Hatten, President)

Robert adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m. (CDT)

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Stoecker, Secretary