

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2007

2008 Super-Regional Conference

April 3–5, 2008
Gettysburg College (Gettysburg, PA)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter! I hope this marks the end of another successful school year for you, and that you are already looking toward a relaxing and interesting summer. As you consider your list of summer projects, I encourage you to write a proposal for the **Mid-Atlantic/**

Northeast Super-Regional Conference, which will be held **April 3-5, 2008** at **Gettysburg College** in Pennsylvania. The proposal deadline is **October 1, 2007**—watch for email announcements of the “Call for Participation,” “Call for Scores,” and “Call for Community Engagement Proposals”—all of these will be posted on the CMS website very soon!

The 2007 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, held March 16-17 at Gardner-Webb University, was a big success, thanks to the hard work of Conference Hosts Matt Whitfield and Carolyn Billings and Program Chair Reeves Shulstad. The conference theme was “*Beyond our Disciplines*,” and we enjoyed many fine lecture-recitals and pa-

per presentations, along with an excellent Composer’s Concert. Our keynote presenter was the engaging pianist **John Salmon**, who, along with his jazz combo (bassist Steve Haines, drummer Thomas Taylor, and saxophonist Chad Eby) treated us to a terrific performance of classical and jazz works.

At our business meeting, we thanked our conference hosts and program chair, along with outgoing board members Ayumi Nakamae (Community Colleges) and Carl Derfler (Composition) for their fine service. Our new board members are Joseph Santo (Composition), and Scott Schlesinger (Community Colleges). I am grateful that all of the other board members will continue in their positions—please take note of your colleagues’ names in the list on page 6. Many thanks to all who have agreed to serve!

Also at our business meeting, we discussed topics which are of particular importance to our chapter. Many common themes arose, such as interest in entrepreneurship for musicians and in strengthening the connection between elementary/secondary education and college education.

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INSIDE:

*2007 Conference Photos,
Election Results, & More . . .*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

Members also considered the questions, “How can we help make sure students are more fully prepared for college,” and “Are our music degrees relevant to today’s student?” (The full list of topics is found below.)

Looking ahead, we are excited about the upcoming Super-Regional Conference, a special collaborative effort which helps mark the 50th Anniversary of College Music Society. We have expanded the typical Regional Conference format and encourage you to submit proposals for a wide variety of session-types—along with the usual lecture-recitals and paper presentations, we are welcoming proposals for poster sessions, workshops, performances, panels, or any other format you might suggest. We have already planned to include a panel session on entrepreneurship, and we are pleased that the 2008 National Topic echoes another of the interests which emerged from our regional discussion: **The relevance of the current curriculum to today's students.**

Finally, we want to make an effort to involve more students in our regional events. As part of that commitment, we will be offering cash prizes for the Best Student Presentation and the Best Student Composition at the Super-Regional Conference. Please encourage your students (both undergraduate and graduate) to get involved!

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact me at any time with your ideas, questions, and concerns (lkeiter@mbc.edu). I will be glad to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Lise Keiter-Brotzman
President, CMS-MA

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE CMS MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER

(These topics have been passed on to the National Office)

Career/Development

- Advice on Tenure/Promotion
- Business Skills for Musicians; Entrepreneurship
- Packaging oneself well for the Higher Education job market
- Advice on contract negotiation

Our students

- How can we help make sure students are more fully prepared for college (both in general, and musically speaking)?
- Can we make our music degrees more relevant to today’s student?
- We need more connections between Elementary/Secondary Education and College/University Education. What can CMS do to nurture young musicians and music educators?
- Can online learning be effective for a music course?
- Are there special ways in which we can help music students who plan to have careers outside of classical music? (Or even outside of music?)

“Big Questions”

- Do we still have a musical canon?
- Do creativity and critical thinking go together? Can we encourage both?

2007 MID-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE



Chapter President
Lise Keiter-Brotzman



Keynote Speaker and Performer John Salmon



President-Elect/Program Chair
Reeves Shulstad



Deanna Cash Moore



Sheila A Browne
and David Brunell



Springfield Trio by CMS Past-President
C. Tayloe Harding



Jonathan Green listens as his
Sisyphian Summer is performed

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Minutes—Annual Business Meeting College Music Society—Mid-Atlantic Chapter Gardner-Webb University—March 17, 2007

The meeting began after lunch at 1:57 p.m., Chapter President Lise Keiter-Brotzman presiding.

The minutes from the 2006 meeting were distributed and approved with two spelling corrections.

The Treasurer's report was distributed and approved as printed.

Lise thanked Matt Whitfield, Carolyn Billings, and Patricia Sparti for their work as site hosts for this year's conference. She also acknowledged the contributions of Reeves Shulstad, Program Chair, and all the board members for their efforts. All performers and presenters were recognized along with Benji Tomassetti for recording the Composers' Concert. Finally Jay Grymes was thanked for agreeing to continue doing the online chapter newsletter.

Lise reported that she had attended the National Conference in San Antonio in September, and took part in a panel discussion on topic themes. Nothing was finalized.

Lise reminded the members present of the Monday deadline for voting in the National Elections online. Elections for chapter positions will be held online the week of March 27-April 2. The two open positions are Community College Representative, and Composition Chair. Scott Schlesinger from Wake Technical Community College was nominated for the Community College position. Joseph Santo, from Catholic University, was nominated as Composition Chair. There were no further nominations.

Lise announced that the dates and location of the 2008 SuperRegional Conference with the Northeast Chapter had not yet been finalized. The 2009 meeting will be March 20-21, at George Mason University, in Fairfax, Virginia.

Lise formed a Bylaws Committee, consisting of herself, Ruskin Cooper, and Reeves Shulstad. It has been ten years since the last revision of our bylaws. This committee will meet this summer, and present its proposed revisions to the Board at the November Board Meeting. The membership will have an opportunity to vote on any changes or revisions at next year's Chapter Meeting.

Lise asked the members at each table to take a few minutes to brainstorm regarding three different possible topics for future conferences to pass along to the National Office. A number of proposals were offered. Lise asked the individual members to email her if any ideas sprang to mind in the coming months.

Discussion ensued on how to increase student involvement. No real plans were formulated. The Executive Board position of Student Representative is currently vacant.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Matt Whitfield
Secretary/Treasurer, CMS-MA

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY-ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS! WE APPRECIATE THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.

Community Colleges Chair: Scott Schlesinger, Wake Tech Community College

Scott Schlesinger completed the Master of Fine Arts and Doctor of Musical Arts at UCLA and also holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Indiana University. In addition to teaching music courses full-time at Wake Tech Community College, Dr. Schlesinger is also in demand as a freelance accompanist for vocalists, string players and other instrumentalists. He teaches a wide variety of courses at Wake Tech, including Music Appreciation, a hybrid Introduction to Jazz, Fundamentals of Music, American Musical Theater and has served as accompanist for both the chorus and choral ensemble.

He has previously taught music courses at Kansas Wesleyan University and Durham Technical Community College. When not teaching or playing the organ or piano, Dr. Schlesinger also plays tuba in the Durham Community Band and other brass ensembles. He has composed several works for solo tuba and tuba ensemble, many of which are currently published and available through the Tuba-Euphonium Press.

Composition Chair: Joseph Santo, Catholic University

Joseph A. Santo holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition from The Catholic University of America where he is presently Assistant Dean for Academics and for Graduate Studies at the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music. In addition to his administrative duties, he also teaches in the Theory Division of the music school. The composer has been active in music education for over thirty years and a composer throughout his professional career. He is a member of ASCAP and recipient of ASCAP Plus Awards. He also holds active membership in the College Music Society, The American Music Center, and Music Educators National Conference.

The composer has written in a variety of genres, from solo works to chamber works to large scale compositions, including a concert Vespers for soloists, chorus, and orchestra, using texts in Latin, Spanish, and indigenous Latin American languages. His *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*, premiered in 2000, was the recipient of a generous grant from The American Music Center, through its Composer Assistance Program. His song cycle for soprano and piano, entitled *Rimas sacras*, on medieval to 16th century Spanish texts, was premiered in 2003. His *Trois épiphanies*, a three-movement work for piano solo, premiered in 2004, was chosen for performance at the 2006 Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of the College Music Society. Though some of his compositional output has been in the twelve-tone serial tradition, he has in recent years found an idiom more suitable to his temperament, without necessarily entirely abandoning serialization of certain elements. His most recent works often use centric forces that may or may not employ semi-traditional verticalities. Rhythmic and technical complexities are characteristics of much of the output, providing challenging experiences to performers willing to take them on. Interest in religious tradition has provided the incentive for a number of sacred works. The composer's lifelong interest in languages has given the stimulus for music using texts in Latin, Anglo-Saxon, medieval and modern French, Neapolitan, and Spanish, among others.

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