From Our Chapter Chair

To fellow MPMLA members:

We in MPMLA are easily in touch through MLA-L and MPMLA-L, but seeing you all in person is even more fun, so I'll order my comments by our meeting cities.

Albuquerque: Many thanks to Dennis Davies-Wilson for organizing our MPMLA meeting in Albuquerque last May. Looking back, I’m remembering interesting papers, a vote to propose Salt Lake City as a 2015 MLA meeting site, and a concert by Dennis’s early music group. Thank you all who participated in the meeting.

Dallas: I’m looking forward to seeing you all in Dallas for the MLA meeting in February 2012. Put Thursday evening, February 16, on your docket for an MPMLA dinner. The evening schedule of MLA has changed this year and made scheduling of our traditional dinner a little less obvious. But your Board has decided to have our dinner on Thursday night as usual. Details of exact time and place will be forthcoming.

Colorado Springs: Daryll Stevens is planning the 2012 MPMLA May meeting in Colorado Springs this year. Take a moment to think about being in the beautiful Rocky Mountains at a high elevation in May (aaah …), and consider making a presentation.

Travel grant: Good news. MPMLA was awarded a travel grant of $250.00 to add to the $500.00 we have in our coffers already for travel. This money is to be used to recruit new members and conference attendees. The MPMLA Board will be talking about how to award the travel money. If you have award ideas, please talk with any member of the Board.

New MPMLA officers: 2012 is the biennial year when we vote on new officers for the MPMLA Board. Be thinking about whether you would like to nominate someone to serve on the Board or to serve yourself.

Anita Breckbill
When’s the last time you went to Texas? Be sure to visit the LAC’s site for information on the upcoming meeting next month. We’ll be going out to dinner on Thursday night as a chapter.

MPMLA 2011 Annual Meeting Report - Albuquerque, NM

Chris Mehrens, Reporter

Group Photo with special guest Ruthann McTyre!

Members of the Mountain-Plains Chapter of the Music Library Association gathered in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 20-21, 2011, for their annual spring meeting. Kudos go to Dennis Davies-Wilson of the University of New Mexico for making the arrangements. The chapter was especially honored this year to have been joined by Ruthann McTyre, Past President of the Music Library Association. Early arrivals enjoyed classic diner fare with a modern twist at Albuquerque’s Standard Diner. Featured on the popular Food Network's show, Diners, Drive-ins and Dives the diner, with offerings ranging from tempura battered lobster salad to bourbon
butter burgers, gave proof to Guy Fieri’s observation that “there’s nothin standard about the Standard Diner.”

On Friday morning, members met in the University of New Mexico’s Fine Arts and Design Library, George Pearl Hall, for registration and continental breakfast. Dennis Davies-Wilson moderated the first session starting with a paper by Beth Fleming (Oklahoma City University) titled *Downloading Printed Materials – How the Wave of the Future in Publishing Complicates Library Acquisitions Legalities*. Cheryl Taranto (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) followed with *Political Songsters for the Presidential Campaigns of 1856 and 1860*. After a break the second session began with George Gibbs (University of Kansas) presenting his paper, *Two American Ballets: Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, and Gerald Murphy*. Janet Bradford (Brigham Young University) concluded the session with *Music Beginnings in the St. George Area: Modeling for Cultural Development in Other Early Mormon Settlements*.

After a lunch break which provided time to explore the University of New Mexico Campus, the first session of the afternoon began with Thomas Bell’s (Kansas State University) *Children of God – World of Skin: The Sacred and the Profane in the Music of Swans*. After the final break of the afternoon, Myrna Layton (Brigham Young University) presented a paper on the *Takarazuka Revue in Japan*. Dennis Davies-Wilson concluded the session with his presentation, *Student-Curated Library Exhibits: Knowledge in Action*. In the evening, members made their way to Albuquerque’s Nob Hill Neighborhood to dine at Yanni’s Mediterranean Restaurant.

The Saturday morning session took place in the Valencia Room of the Hotel Andaluz. Doug Jacobson (Brigham Young University) started off the session with *R.D.A.: A New Hope*. The session was concluded by Steven Luttmann (University of Northern Colorado) with his paper, *Collecting Jazz Recordings: Do Will Still Need to Bother?* After a short break, the meeting concluded with a lunch catered by the hotel and the chapter’s business meeting.

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**Financial Report for 2010-2011**

Below, please find the final and accurate financial report for 2010-2011. Please also note that the MLA Board has given us $250.00 for the Travel Funds line and this is found below.

Chris Mehrens, Treasurer

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MPMLA Final Financial Report 2010-2011</th>
<th>Standard Funds</th>
<th>Travel Funds</th>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
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Conference Registration $415.00
Total Receipts $635.00 $250.00

Disbursements
Conference Expenses* $987.80
Bank Fees $47.00
Total Disbursements $1,034.80 $0.00

Ending Balance $4,304.69
$950.00 $5,254.69

*Conference Expenses
Hotel Andaluz $689.30
UNM Catering $298.50
Total $987.80

CHAPTER NEWS

Steve Luttmann (University of Northern Colorado) Steve is delighted to report that a proposed amendment to the university’s Faculty Constitution abolishing term limits failed in early December. This means that his last terms as faculty senator and faculty senate chair both expire at the end of June, thus freeing up his schedule somewhat. (The amendment wasn’t his idea anyway.)

As book review editor for Notes, Steve also attended the 2011 meeting of the American Musicological Society in San Francisco. Because he didn’t win the Powerball, he flew home when the meeting was over. He’s also wrapping up the 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status application for the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG), which he chairs through February 2012.

It’s often said that once one starts getting large donations in a particular media format, that that format is dying. Maybe so; in any case, the UNC Music Library received two donations of nearly a thousand CDs each during the second half of 2011: from the estate of an alumnus who taught guitar in the Santa Fe area, and from the estate of a brother of the university’s subject librarian for Education. We may well be acquiring our 20,000th CD during 2012. Now if only we could stream any of them . . .

Carolyn Dow (Polley Music Library). The Polley Music Library wants people to like us on Facebook. I also established a personal Facebook page for a place to try things out before I screw up the music library page. I'm maintaining the music library blog and putting out occasional e-mail booklists all in the name of using social media for library promotion. I'm doing lots of performing (picc in orchestra, oboe in 2 concert bands, and solo flute and voice gigs) and having a ball doing so, while promoting the library as a performing musician.

Janet Bradford (BYU)
Here’s a tidbit about me: Janet participated in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Christmas Concerts, December 15-18. Guest artists this year were Nathan Gunn and Jane Seymour.
David Day (BYU) Concerning BYU Music Special Collections News:

Most of the acquisitions for BYU’s Music Special Collections came in the spring of 2011 and were reported on in the last newsletter. More recently we acquired a couple of interesting manuscripts and two Meyerbeer editions.

First is a beautiful copyist’s manuscript of Johann Adolf Hasse’s celebrated Miserere. It is a 92 page full score with 10 staves. It is of English provenance dating from about 1730. Second is a copyist’s manuscript of Pleyel’s string quartet No. 6 from the opus 22. It is of Neapolitan origins and was part of the Talleyrand estate from which BYU previously purchased a major collection of Paisiello opera scores. The Meyerbeer editions consists of his Collection des Mélodies (Schlesinger ca. 1849) and a piano reduction of his Tragödie Struensee (Schlesinger ca. 1847). BYU has, for many years, developed a significant collection of Meyerbeer first editions, correspondence, and engravings.

David is focusing much of his energies in projects that engage students with primary sources. At the IAML meeting in Dublin last summer, he presented a paper on the topic. He is currently partnering with the teaching faculty in a creative experiment to bring about 300 students from a civilization survey course into Music Special Collections. The students will have a selection of materials and topics to choose from and will write short essays reflecting original critical thought based in primary sources. Some of the student projects include evaluating early sheet music based on a variety of themes ranging from the Civil War to presidential politics to the sinking of major sea vessels. Other assignment options included examining manuscripts and early editions, transcribing letters and dairies, transcribing oral history interviews, and evaluating early instrumental methods. We plan to experiment with the idea of students blogging their essays and experiences using special collections. Graduate students participating in the winter semester seminar for 17th and 18th century music will be given the opportunity to write term papers based in corresponding resources from Music Special Collections.

Updating and refining the Music and Dance Reference website and database is another project David is focused on. Working with student assistants we have added hundreds of new print and online resources and over one hundred new critiques. Unfortunately, due to the BYU Library’s migration to an OCLC hosted version of ContentDM, all of these updates will not be visible to the public until early 2012 (we’re crossing our fingers). He will make a presentation on the project at MLA, so be sure to attend!

David spent the Thanksgiving week in Brussels continuing his work on a catalogue of the opera and ballet collection of the Théâtre de la Monnaie. The visit included a quick weekend trip down to Naples where he met with librarians interested in a project to document Neapolitan copyists working for Luigi Marescalchi in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. BYU holds many manuscripts from this era and location and will collaborate with librarians working with related materials at the Naples Conservatory.

Scans of harp music contributed to the Internet Archive reached 1,673. We will be renewing this project in January 2012 and hope to add about 800 additional titles in short order.
Anita Breckbill (University of Nebraska—Lincoln)
We have a new employee: Sara Baguyos, a new half-time Music Library staff member, who comes to us from a career as an orchestra librarian. Sara worked with the National Symphony and the Washington National Opera at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and at the Aspen Music Festival. She can tell exciting stories about working with Placido Domingo (all good), Kathleen Battle (not so much), and other luminaries.

Daryll Stevens (The Colorado College)
Here at the Seay Music Library we’re making preparations to host MPMLA’s Annual Meeting, from May 17th –19th. Join us at Colorado College, at the foot of the Rockies in Colorado Springs. Besides providing the venue for an invigorating meeting, we plan to tantalize you with a choice of delectable area restaurants, natural wonders, and a performance of Mahler’s 1st, conducted by the newly hired conductor of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic (word has is that he’s our own Dudamel!).
As for humdrum library news, we are hoping to get a makeover of our 1970s furniture, to move us into the digital era.

Suzanne Moulton-Gertig (University of Denver)
The good news: we got a bunch of new graduate students this past fall. The bad news: I have two sections of Introduction to Graduate Studies instead of one to teach. Otherwise all is well at DU. I have a great new hourly graduate student this year, a violin performance diploma candidate from Oberlin, Rachel Perkins.
About December: at least in the Denver area, it certainly was a good month for harp gigs. I haven’t worked this much in fifteen years. In fact, I ran into Eric Harbeson from CU Boulder on two of them. We played two performances of Amahl and the Night Visitors in Boulder and the December concert of the Denver Philharmonic together. Go figure.