Message from the Chair

Spring is finally arriving in Lawrence so it must almost be time for the annual Chapter meeting of MPMLA. This year, in the words of Beth Fleming, we’ll be “stormin’ Norman” in mid-May. MPMLA members represent a small number of institutions spread out over a large geographic region. The distances and the cost of getting there present special challenges for the chapter. I hope that you will be able to attend the meeting in Norman and I look forward to seeing you there.

There are a number of reasons that I am anticipating the upcoming meeting. First and primary, it is the opportunity to see colleagues in a more relaxed setting than the annual MLA meeting. Second, I will pass on the office of Chair to Daryll Stevens and move to Past Chair duties. Daryll and I will be the only two continuing members of the Board. We are currently holding elections for the other three offices.

On the down side the meeting in Norman is likely to be my last MLA or MPMLA meeting. I will be retiring in December and my future involvement will be via email. I have enjoyed meeting and working with you. I especially appreciate the friendly welcome I received as an MPMLA member and the support you have shown me in my relatively short music librarianship career.

George Gibbs,  
University of Kansas

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The earthquakes aren’t scaring us off, MPMLA is meeting May 16-17 at the University of Oklahoma. Beth (Fleming) has sent out a call for presentations and will be putting together the final program shortly. When I checked with the hotel earlier in the week they had only received two reservations, so here’s the details again:  http://cc.nced.com/suites/rooms.aspx

“The group code for this event will be 2507. The guests can make their reservations by calling 405-447-9000 and providing the group code. Your group rooms coordinator will be Brittany Hoggan. She will be able to assist you with any questions you may have about your block from here moving forward.”

“As we discussed we can offer you the Queen room and the Double twin at the $83.00 rate and the Queen connector for up to four people at the $133.00 rate (That’s $33.25 per person @ 4 ppl per room). If we have the names in advance then we can split the rate between each person in the room and that rate will also get them complimentary breakfast for up to for people per room. We can also offer you complimentary transportation for up to 24 people to and from campus once in the morning and once in the afternoon. If you have any other questions or need further assistance, please let me know”

Breakfast each day is included and they operate their own shuttle to and from the airport. In my conversations they’ve always been quite helpful – they should be easy to work with for anyone who needs early check-in etc.

For anyone who would like to arrive early, we’re arranging a visit to our History of Science Collection for 3:00 on Thursday the 15th. http://ouhos.org/, http://libraries.ou.edu/locations/?id=20.

Friday afternoon we’ll be visiting the American Organ Institute’s shop for a behind the scenes look at the process of restoring the “Mighty Möller”. http://www.ou.edu/aoi/index.html.

Matthew Stock
University of Oklahoma

American Organ Institute
George Gibbs from University of Kansas is using Ballotbin.com to run the survey/election: MPMLA Election 2014

When you arrive at work on Monday April 14, you will find an email with a registration code that you will need in order to vote in the MPMLA election. The email will also contain instructions on how to vote. The ballot will be available until midnight CST on Thursday April 17. If you have any difficulties, please contact me. George Gibbs g gibbs@ku.edu

Anita Breckbill - University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Anita Breckbill is on sabbatical in Pune, India this spring, working with her husband in the library at the Union Biblical Seminary. With the help of the faculty and staff in the library here, they have been defining their duties based on the library’s needs. After decades of having staff, who speak English as their second or third language, inputting materials directly into the catalog rather than downloading from a utility, the catalog has a very high error rate. Just fixing spelling errors could take all of our time. Also, there has been no name-authority file, and Anita has been working to gather together the records for an author under one name--she's seen names entered seven different ways, or even more! Cultural differences and library concerns will make for a presentation at MPMLA in 2015, perhaps.

Chapter News

There are two photos attached. The first is Anita and David preparing to attend a Hindu wedding.

The second is a picture of seminary students studying hard in the library.
Christopher Mehrens - Arizona State University

I am sorry that I will be unable to attend this year’s chapter meeting in Oklahoma because, at the present time, we are gearing up for a change of administration in the ASU Libraries. Sherrie Schmidt, our University Librarian, will be retiring at the end of June. Sherrie assumed the helm of the ASU Libraries over 24 years ago and will be missed by all here. At the Music Library, we have been continuing our work with the ASU Digital Repository and by the time of the Oklahoma meeting we should have over 1,000 items added to the digital sheet music collection. Finally, the America’s Music documentary film and discussion series (mentioned in the April 2013 Conventional Title) took place this past fall at locations throughout the greater Phoenix region. The project was created by the Tribeca Film Institute in partnership with the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities and ASU was one of the first fifty organizations selected to host the series. Given the all positive responses we had at the screenings, we have decided to reprise the series next fall in partnership with the Maricopa County Library District.

Carolyn Dow – Polley Music Library, Lincoln, Nebraska

On a personal note, it's 6 months since my heart attack. I'm doing great. Back at work, and it seems, still catching up from being out.

Cheryl Taranto – University of Nevada / Las Vegas

Greetings, MPMLA! I really missed you guys in Atlanta. The surgery on my shoulder went about as well as could be expected. The physical therapy/rehab has been brutal, though. I'll be as good as new in about another 3 months. It's a 6 month healing/rehab process for rebuilt shoulders like I had done. However, it already feels better now than it has in over a year!

As far as news, nothing really new, except, that Michael Platte will be graduating with his MLS from Wayne State in May. You remember Michael, yes? He's my Library Tech III here and was at the meeting in Tempe last year. Congratulations to him from me.

David Day - Brigham Young University

We continue to develop and enlarge the Opera and Ballet Primary Sources Index.

http://lib.byu.edu/sites/obps/index-to-internet-resources/

The database now indexes about 6,100 free online resources including manuscript scores and sets of parts, rare editions, and libretti. The index now includes all of the materials that we have scanned here at BYU and in Belgium during the past two years. The index also points to digital resources provided by a variety of other institutions and national projects including UNC Chapel Hill, Harvard, the University of Toronto, and Internet Culturale.
We plan to continue our effort to index additional online resources available for free on the Internet. Several students will be working full time on the project this summer. We have identified more than 7,000 additional items (mostly libretti) and believe we can index all of these by summer’s end.

In relation to our collections we recently acquired a nice selection of rare and manuscript opera scores and libretti. Highlights include two 17th-century manuscripts containing excerpts for the operas of Lully, a unique manuscript version of Cherubini’s *Die Tage der Gefahr* (that contains numbers not found any other of the five known copies of the complete score), as well as the first editions of Handel’s *Alcides*, Bertoni’s *Orfeo*, Mendelssohn’s *Paulus*, and Piccinni’s *Buono Figliuola*. We are also in the process of purchasing a fantastic collection of 18th-century flute music.

I will be on the road a lot this summer. I leave for Brussels at the end of April. While in Europe, I will travel to Vienna to help introduce and install a student, Andrew Bjarnson, who will be photographing specimen pages of music copyists’ notation from the era of Karl VI held in the Music Division of the National Library. These images will be combined with hundreds of other specimen pages representing copyists found in the collections at BYU and in Belgium. I hope the database will be functional and ready to announce by the end of the summer. I will also travel to Paris where I will meet with an important composer, Leilei Tian, winner of the 2013 Prix de Rome. She has agreed to develop her archive here at BYU and I plan to ship or carry back her collection of manuscripts and memorabilia. After Brussels I am off to UNC Chapel Hill to attend the ARSC conference. Then off to Taipei for vacation time. I plan to be in town during most of June, but will be gone again during all of July and August. July will include the IAML conference in Antwerp, a colloquium in Paris, and attendance at the World Harp Congress in Sydney. Then back to Brussels where I will continue the work of my catalogue of the opera and ballet collection of the Théâtre de la Monnaie during all of August. In case you are green with envy, almost all of this travel will be paid for out of my own pocket. Still, it is nice to have the freedom to participate in so many conferences and research activities.

**Stephen Luttmann - University of Northern Colorado**

Greetings from – I kid you not – a Toyota dealership in Chiang Mai. I’m visiting friends here while on an extended weekend from Mahidol University, where I’ve been on a return consulting visit since March 21 (I think . . . it’s all a blur) and flying back on April 16. Highlights of this visit include a copresentation with Jittapim Yamprai (music librarian, Mahidol University) on interlibrary cooperation at the fifth annual meeting of SEADOM (Southeast Asian Directors of Music Schools) at the end of March. The other big projects are converting the Mahidol Music Library’s cataloging from Innovative to OCLC Connexion, and to finalize a five-year plan
for the Music Library with the administration of the College of Music.

Thomas Bell – Kansas State University

Thomas Bell continues his work at Kansas State University in Music and Arts-related disciplines. Besides continuing to teach and co-teach Introduction to Graduate Studies courses in Architecture, Planning, and Design, and Theatre, he has been appointed to the Graduate Faculty at K-State and has begun serving on Thesis Committees. He also serves as Faculty Advisor for a new Graduate Cohort for Doctoral students in Architecture (Environmental Design). He has served as Curator for two Exhibit Libraries in the past year, creating small libraries or "reading rooms" adjacent to and complementary to exhibits at the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art in Manhattan, KS. The first was "Library of Wonder," part of the Museum's Museum of Wonder exhibit in celebration of the 150th anniversary of K-State. The second is Painting Borges: Art Interpreting Literature.

"Curator Jorge J. E. Gracia selects twenty-four artistic representations of twelve of Jorge Luis Borges’ most famous stories about identity and memory, freedom and destiny, and faith and divinity. This philosophical exploration of how artists have interpreted literature makes new inroads into the understanding of Borges’ work, and introduces viewers to vibrant paintings and works on paper by sixteen contemporary Argentinean and Cuban artists." (from the Beach Museum website) [http://beach.k-state.edu/explore/exhibitions/borges.html](http://beach.k-state.edu/explore/exhibitions/borges.html)

In his capacity as Director of Collegium Musicum, the Early Music ensemble of the K-State School of Music, Theatre, and Dance, he is preparing the ensemble for an upcoming concert featuring Charpentier's Mass for 4 voices, 2 violins, and continuo as well as motets by Michael Praetorius and Heinrich Schütz.

Myrna Layton – Brigham Young University

I hope that everyone, especially those new to the chapter, take the opportunity to look at the great work Laurie Eagleson does on the MPMLA website. [http://intranet.library.arizona.edu/users/eagleson/mpmla/index.html](http://intranet.library.arizona.edu/users/eagleson/mpmla/index.html)

Laurie has been collecting and posting programs for past MPMLA Annual Meetings as well as past issues of Conventional Title. We (at BYU) noticed some holes in the collection, and our students are busily scanning programs and newsletters to add to the current offerings on the website. Janet Bradford has been very good at keeping these artifacts, but once we submit everything we have to Lori, there may still be things that are missing, so take a look over the next few months, and if you can fill in any gaps, please do so. Also, if you have taken pictures at any of our meetings, or written songs for them—let’s get these sorts of items added to our online history as well!
MPMLA TRAVEL GRANT

Chapter Meeting: Norman, Oklahoma
May 15-17, 2014
Chapter web page: http://intranet.library.arizona.edu/users/eagleson/mpmla/
Program Chair: Beth Fleming, lilaclover@sbcglobal.net (contact with presentation proposals)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 25, 2014

Eligibility: The scholarship provides monetary support for attendance at chapter meetings. The applicant must be a chapter member in good standing or agree to join the chapter upon receiving the award. Preference will be given to first-time attendees who are music librarians or library school students in the Mountain Plains area: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming—and the Canadian province of Alberta. Preference will also be given to those who are presenting at the meeting and to librarians from the Mountain Plains area in their first five years of employment in a music library.

Applications directly from individuals and nominations from chapter members are encouraged.

Date of application:

Name of applicant:

Applicant’s email address:

Name of library school, employing library, or other affiliation:

Degree date or no. of years in position:

Name of nominating chapter member, if applicable:

Please describe the applicant’s achievements and interests in music librarianship (up to 200 words). Note previous MLA or MPMLA meetings attended, if applicable, and whether or not the applicant will be presenting at the MPMLA annual meeting. The applicant should also submit a brief budget for travel and lodging.

Please submit application by e-mail or U.S. mail to:

George Gibbs
Chair, MPMLA
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ggibbs@ku.edu
785-864-3282