

# SOUNDING BOARD

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## WRAMTA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2004 Western Regional Conference is gearing up, with proposals in, advertisers showing interest, and plans being made and confirmed. There have been a few schedule changes since the last report submitted to the Sounding Board.

See the updated conference schedule on page 5. Other events still in the planning stages are the closing session and a possible Arizona State University Music Therapy Reunion! The local committee has been very helpful and efficient, with Piper Laird-Riehle and Marty Finch (formerly Carnahan) at the helm as co-chairs. Please, *please* contact Silent Auction chair Tracy Leonard-Warner with donations! This has been an excellent fund-raiser in the past, and we want that trend to continue! Check the website for more

information as it becomes available. Look for your registration packets in the mail by the end of January. We are hoping for that to be done on-line by the next conference! The expected early bird deadline for registration will be March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. You can reserve your room at the beautiful Chaparral Suites and Resort, where each guest receives a complimentary cooked to order breakfast and happy hour, by following the directions.



WRAMTA Conference info online at  
[www.wramta.org](http://www.wramta.org)

Making group reservations online access:

- [www.chaparralsuites.com](http://www.chaparralsuites.com)
- Access Reservations/Packages button on main menu
- Click on Reservation box
- On left side, fill in required fields: arrival, departure, etc...
- On right side, in blue, you will see Group/Event ID
- Type **5168** in this box
- This accesses the group block and allows the guests to complete their group reservation by following the steps from screen to screen.

**The room block rates end on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2004, so to guarantee the \$109 per night for up to three guests, make your reservations in time!!**

I look forward to seeing all of you in Scottsdale!

Robin Rio, MA, MT-BC

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### Special points of interest:

- Regional conference information available at [WRAMTA.ORG](http://WRAMTA.ORG).
- Spring Sounding Board deadline May 15, 2004.

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Everyone! It has been a fun working on this edition of The Sounding Board. Each online edition has posed new challenges and exciting results.

The website facelift committee has been hard at work also this past few months. Thank you to Jennifer Geiger, Lisa

Klostermann, Patrick Kelliher, David Grand, and Toni Ollerton for their efforts and suggestions. A special thank you to Lauren Hamen our website mistress for all of her creativity and knowledge.

There is a new policy for website links, Sounding Board ads, and

the Calendar of Events postings listed on the next page. Please familiarize yourself with the policies as they were approved by the WRAMTA Executive Board at the 2003 National Conference in Minneapolis.

Piper Laird-Riehle, MM, MT-BC

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings & Happy New Year to you all! I hope you enjoyed the flurry of activity since conference. I have much to report; let me summarize the highlights...

**Thank you** to the 9 Assembly Delegates who participated in several hours of meetings & voted on policy decisions at conference. They represented you well! Your '04-'05 delegates met on Sunday morning & are ready for action!

**Thank you** to all of the committee representatives & substitutes for their hard work. Welcome to Robin Schmidt, Membership Committee, and Lillieth Grand, Reimbursement Committee – both are new AMTA committees this year.

Regional professors have been reminded to encourage their students to apply for our **Internship Scholarships**, two at \$800 each. Applications can be found online at [www.wramta.org](http://www.wramta.org) and are **due on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004**.

Every member is encouraged to do two things prior to February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004 – nominate a fellow MT for one of our **Professional Awards** (Service, Publication, Research & the Betty Isern Howry Award) – and apply for our

**Professional Development Grant**. All of the forms and information are available online.

Note that future AMTA conferences are planned for the following locations: Austin, TX in 2004, Orlando, FL in 2005 and likely Kansas City, MO in 2006. Your Executive Board charged me with making a formal offer to Al Bumanis of AMTA to host a conference in 2007 on the West Coast. This will help to make possible a regional conference the following spring (2008) in Hawaii!!

*For the first time in four years,  
dues to increase in 2005.*

Michele Forinash, new President of AMTA, is planning to appoint me Treasurer of AMTA. I am truly honored to serve the membership in this capacity. I was involved in the AMTA Board of Directors meetings since conference as part of my orientation for this new role. I hope to represent all of you well. I look forward to your comments, suggestions and questions as we all work together to make our national association financially solvent.

As part of these meetings, the budget was at the forefront of discussion. National Office staff has worked on reducing spending and new ways to increase revenue, but **not** cut membership services. The Board recommended a dues increase to begin in **2005**. The Assembly of Delegates passed this increase, as dues had not been raised in 4 years. The new dues for Professional and Student members will be \$200 and \$75, respectively. Remember that you can apply for the Professional Development Grant to cover your dues expenses. Our region is here to promote membership and help our members get the services they need.

Finally, congratulations to Tracy Leonard-Warner, our Past-President, who is a new member of the CBMT Board of Directors.

I am proud of our region and the work that we do to serve our members and support each other. I look forward to seeing many of you in Scottsdale, AZ for our Regional Conference, April 15-18, 2004.

Jennifer D. Geiger, MA, MT-BC

## WEBSITE POLICY

### Links

1. Regional colleges and universities with Music Therapy web-pages
2. Clinical internship sites with web-pages
3. AMTA website
4. CBMT website
5. State music therapy organizations
6. Student website

All other links will need to be approved via a vote by the Executive Board.

### Calendar of Events

Website will list the dates, location, activity title, and one contact person with address, phone number and/or email address.



New Policy

### Ads

Anyone wanting a larger ad can submit an ad for publication in The Sounding Board regional newsletter.

- Full page: (8 ½" X 11" with .5" margin) \$100.00
- Half page: (8 ½" X 5.5" with .5" margin) \$60.00
- Quarter page: (4.25" X 5.5" with .5" margin) \$35.00

All ads must be photo ready.

## PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

It has been a great first year of my term. I am learning a lot. This year I have been doing a lot of research on fundraising options, and brainstorming on membership issues. As we approach the final year of my term prior to my presidency, I am looking for Western Region members who are interested in being involved. All committee representatives and sev-

eral executive board members are appointed positions, so their terms will end with Jennifer's presidency. And though I will beg many of those people to keep their positions, some positions may be open. If you are a committee representative currently and wish to keep your position or change to another area of more interest to you, please let me know. If you

are a member wishing to get involved, please take a look at the possible positions and let me know what your interests are. I am really excited to get more people involved and am looking forward to this process. Thank you for the honor of serving you in this position.

Lillieth Grand, MS, MT-BC



## FIRST VICE- PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT

Thank You to everyone who has provided me with a wonderful and warm welcome to the executive board! I'm looking forward to the next 4 years of service to the region.

Looking ahead to future regional conferences, David Luce has expressed interest in hosting conference at Chapman University in 2005. Thank you, David. I am happy to report that I met recently with a group of Sacramento area music therapists and we discussed possible sites for a Sacramento conference in 2005 or 2006. If you live in either of these areas, please consider becoming involved with the local committee!

Lisa Klostermann, MT-BC

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Western Region is financially sound and approved changes to the budget have been made. Anyone may contact me via e-mail at [ksanchez@musictherapysevices.com](mailto:ksanchez@musictherapysevices.com) if they have any questions.

Karen Sanchez, MT-BC

## PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT

The bylaws committee has been working on proposed revisions to the WRAMTA constitution and bylaws. Proposed revisions have been tabled until mid-year meeting 2004. If you have suggestions for revisions or questions about the WRAMTA constitution and bylaws please contact me.

Wendy Woolsey, MT-BC

Our thoughts are with Bruce Saperson  
who lost his wife Martha in January.

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE

### **IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) Reauthorization:**

1. The committee wishes to thank AMTA membership for the response to Call to Actions over the past 18 months.

2. Even though music therapy is not listed as a related service yet, we did not fail. This is the process. We do have bi-partisan (both Democrat and Republican) support for recognition of music therapy as a related service somewhere in the regulations. Regulations are what agencies and school systems look at to assure compliance with legislation. The next call to action will submit language for inclusion in the regulations.

The membership's grassroots efforts have put our profession in a very positive position. People on the Hill (Capitol Hill) know us. We have a good relationship with the Department of Education. Thank you for making this possible. We have made many connections in being proactive.

*As a side note, it is important to remember when lobbying for our cause to be polite and kind and present our cause in a positive way.*

### **MDS (Minimum Data Set):**

This is the standardized assessment form that skilled nursing facilities use to receive funding through Medicare. This is monitored under CMS (Center for Medicaid Services), previously known as HICFA. Judy Simpson was invited to participate in a panel discussion and to submit suggestions and

comments to CMS for the revision of MDS. We are currently working on sample language for music therapists to submit to the CMS website to include music therapy in the MDS. This call to action is crucial and time is of the essence. It will happen before the end of the year.

### **Mental Health**

#### **President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health:**

Comments of music therapy and were drafted and submitted to the committee. The feedback was positive and well received.

#### **Mental Health Parity:**

This concerns equal treatments and funding for mental health as well as physical health. This is not likely to be addressed in this congressional session. You can request your own insurance company to provide parity for mental health.

### **Regional report by Patrick Kelliher, government relations representative for the Western Region Chapter of the American Music Therapy Association**

Members who are interested in being a state government representative please contact me. In addition there is a need within the State of California for representatives to help keep track of government activities that affect various special populations. These are as follows;  
Geriatrics

Drug and Alcohol (adults and youth)  
Developmental Disabilities and traumatic brain injuries (all ages)  
Mental Health (adults)  
All other groups

I will primarily track issues regarding children with emotional and behavioral problems and children in the child welfare and foster care systems. I can also help you link up to the California Legislative search website so you can track legislation in California that affects your area of practice.

Please feel free to contact me at [Patrick.kelliher@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Patrick.kelliher@dss.ca.gov)  
Or call me (916) 651-6303 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST Monday through Friday. I will be happy to talk with you.

### **The California Child Welfare Redesign Implementation**

The California State Department of Social Services will begin implementation of a statewide redesign for the child welfare system in California. This may provide new opportunities for music therapists to provide services to children and families involved in the child welfare system. For details pull up the following website  
[www.cwsredesign.ca.gov](http://www.cwsredesign.ca.gov).

I look forward to serving you and keeping you updated legislations and other government activities that affect us.

Patrick Kelliher

Hotel deadline for Regional Conference is March 15, 2004.

Reserve your room today online, link available at

[WRAMTA.org](http://WRAMTA.org)

## CONTINUING EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE

On a regional level, as of January 1, 2004, the Western Region will be requiring a flat fee of \$100 per co-sponsored event due to the increase in the fee structure we are required to pay CBMT. The ability for the Western Region to offer pre-approved CMTE's is a benefit to our membership and not viewed as a money-maker to the region. CBMT's increase in fees supports membership based projects, (ie the CBMT Primer) as well as addressing the need for CBMT to become self-supporting in its' own continuing education committee costs.

The Western Region has co-sponsored two successful CMTE's in November, (both in Arizona), and is offering two more co-sponsored CMTE's in January, in California. In early 2004, we will be working on add-

ing a page to the Western Region's website with the co-sponsored information and application available for members to download. Hopefully, this will expedite the co-sponsorship process and answer any initial questions regarding co-sponsored activities. In the meantime, please email me if you have any questions regarding the CMTE's being offered in January, or questions regarding co-sponsored activities.

*"As of January 1, 2004,  
the Western Region  
will be requiring a flat fee of  
\$100 per co-sponsored event."*

On a national level, the AMTA Continuing Education Committee met with the CBMT continuing education

committee chair, Jennifer Gallagher. She clarified a number of the committee's concerns related to administering CMTE's on a national and regional level as well as concerns regarding co-sponsorship fee schedule changes. We also discussed CBMT's role in the recognition of training program proposed to and approved by the assembly of delegates in Minneapolis. Please stay tuned for more information regarding the development of this recognition of training program to be administered and maintained by the AMTA Continuing Education Committee.

Denise Dugal-Wulfman, MT-BC

## WRAMTAS PRESIDENT

Greetings Western Region Music Therapy Students,

National conference was amazing. It was an eye opener to see how much work goes into keeping AMTA running, both for professionals and students. Thanks to those students that were on the standing committees for 2003, Ruth Judkowitz and Joella Williams.

At the student general business meeting new bylaw revisions were voted on as well as the addition of a new scholarship for sophomores and juniors. New student officers were elected for 2004. The new officers for AMTAS 2004 are: President-A.J.

Knight, Vice President-Tony Ollerton, Secretary-Melissa Keys, Treasurer-Amy Cermak and Parliamentarian-Hillary Joy. If you need more specific information about the general business meeting you can find the minutes on the AMTAS website

Before going to conference I had the opportunity to speak with the student presidents of the music therapy student associations here in the western region. Many expressed concerns about fund raising and the need for more support. Our student website is available to share fundraising ideas and to look for new ideas, but we need input. ANYONE with ideas can

contact [sweaver@cc.usu.edu](mailto:sweaver@cc.usu.edu) in order to have this information or anything else posted on the website. This is a central site in which we can us to show support for each other also, but again we need input. Take some time to email either Stephanie or myself with an update as to what is going on at your university.

Just a couple of other things:

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE!!**

**BE THERE!!**

**AMTA MEMBERSHIP!!**

**DO IT!!**

Good luck this semester!!

Tony Ollerton

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM APPROVAL COMMITTEE

The Academic Program Approval Committee met on two consecutive days (Nov 19, 20) during the AMTA National Conference, held in Minneapolis, MN. The following topics were discussed.

I. The committee approved three proposed revisions that were voted upon at the General Assembly:

1. A revision to AMTA Standards for Education and Clinical Training, "Clinical Training Component," which clarifies terminology for the development of the student's individualized training plans (ITP).

2. A proposed new standard to the AMTA Standards for Education and Clinical Training, "General Standards for Academic Institutions". In institutions that have AMTA approved baccalaureate and/or master's degree programs, AMTA program approval will be required for both degree programs (if offered) of one degree program has AMTA approval.

3. a. A proposed new competency for the AMTA list of Professional Competencies:

Professional Role/Ethics:

21.12: "Demonstrate basic knowledge of music therapy service reimbursement and financing sources (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, Private Health Insurance, State and Local Health and/or Educational Agencies, Grants.)"

3. b. Revision of competency under: Documentation:

19.1 "Produce documentation that accurately reflects client change and

meets the requirements of internal and external legal, regulatory, and reimbursement bodies."

II. Jane Creagan reported that some educators still need to send in the enrollment data form. This information is used especially as new AMTA approved programs are developed. She also reported that we currently offer 175 internship sites, and asked that educators on the committee poll their regional programs to determine the number of university affiliated internships.

III. Jane also reported that educators will be receiving a Workforce Priority Survey from AMTA. A goal of the organization is to reach 10,000 music therapists nationwide. Educators are asked to determine their program's capacity to handle more students in each academic program. Rationale: the demand for music therapy services is rising.

IV. Nicki Cohen, Council Coordinator, reported that descriptions/functions of all committees are now online.

V. APAC is discussing strategies/plans for reapplying for AMTA Academic Program Approval. Letters will be sent to all educators in 2003, informing them of their review years. Those reviews will coincide with the NASM review.

VI. APAC met jointly with the Internship Approval Committee. We agreed to propose joint Roundtable Forums for upcoming Regional Conferences to

include regional representatives, regional educators, and regional clinical training directors. These forums provide important networking opportunities, and an opportunity to exchange information regarding the implementation of the new competency based standards for education and clinical training.

VII. An APAC sub-committee approved (and the Executive Board approved) the undergraduate music therapy program at the University of Windsor, Ontario CANADA, (Sandi Curtis, Director) pending NAMS affirmation. Their NASM site visit is scheduled for March.

VIII. APAC also met jointly with the International Relations Committee. Present were Sandi Curtis, Chair of International Relations, Connie Isenberg-Grezda, Chair of the WFMT Council on Education, and Beth York, US representative to the WFMT Council on Education. Connie reported that the Council's priorities are:

- 1) Updating the world-wide directory of music therapy programs
- 2) Discussing the potential of defining international competencies
- 3) Determining the theme for the upcoming Educators Symposium at the 2005 World Congress to be held in Brisbane, Australia.
- 4) Licensure, regulatory issues may be the theme for an upcoming joint AMTA/CAMT conference (to possibly be held in 2007).

Elizabeth York, PhD, MT-BC

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

The 2004 WRAMTA Conference Schedule at Chaparral Suites in Scottsdale, AZ:

- GIM Level One Institute ~ Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>- Thursday April 15<sup>th</sup>
- CMTE's ~Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Opening Session and Keynote with Fran Goldberg ~ Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Concurrent Sessions ~ Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>
- Awards Luncheon ~ Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Songwriting Concurrent Session with Jana Stanfield ~ Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>
- Silent Auction and Dinner ~ Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>
- Jana Stanfield Concert ~ Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

Visit [www.wramta.org](http://www.wramta.org)  
for more  
information about the  
WRAMTA Regional  
Conference  
in Scottsdale, Arizona

## ASSOCIATION INTERNSHIP APPROVAL

Our committee meetings were tremendously productive this year at the National AMTA Conference in Minneapolis. Our committee has developed the following "talking points" for reporting purposes. I hope you find these useful and, as always, feel free to contact me by phone at 818-996-0783 or email [htbaxter@flash.net](mailto:htbaxter@flash.net) for any of your internship questions or concerns.

Association Internship Approval Committee Talking Points:

1. "Best Practices" – The Best Practices Notebook is an on-going project designed to share examples of forms and documents with Internship Sites. The Western Region is working towards developing this project on its regional website and it is hoped that this will be completed by the spring. The West-

ern Region is hoping to share this information with other regions as soon as it is complete.

2. Intern Welcome Letter – The National Office is preparing a new letter to interns providing contact information for Association Internship Committee regional representatives. It will be asked of Internship Directors that this be distributed to interns as part of their orientation process.

3. Training Development – Comments from the membership regarding the current Association Internship Committee CMTE Course has resulted in the development of a new concurrent session entitled "Internship Update", which focuses on "grandfathered" internships and integrating the new guidelines and standards. We are also look-

ing towards developing additional sessions on the topics of application writing and supervision.

4. Reminder Regarding Video Applications – Please remember that internship sites may no longer request prospective interns to supply video of work including clientele due to confidentiality issues. Please be sure to update your application information wherever it may be posted.

5. National Roster Internship Listing – The National Roster Internship Listing is no longer in the sourcebook. It may be found instead under the "Careers" section of the AMTA website at [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

Holly Baxter, MT-BC

## RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The AMTA Research Committee met on Thursday, November 20, 2003 from 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Hilton Minneapolis Hotel. The meeting was devoted to the discussion of the establishment of a research fund/award for music therapy clinicians conducting applied research within their work settings. The funding for this award(s) will be derived from contributions that

have been made to the Research Committee over the years and that has now accumulated into a dollar amount sufficient for supporting research projects. The award amounts will range from \$500 to \$3000.00. Clinicians will be required to submit a concise proposal (with IRB approval) along with a detailed budget describing their proposed projects. The AMTA Research Com-

mittee will be responsible for reviewing and selecting the recipients of these awards. More specific information concerning this new research funding source will be forthcoming in AMTA announcements/publications.

Respectfully submitted by  
David Wolfe

## AFFILIATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

This year's national conference committee was chaired by Victoria Storm, Great Lakes Regional Representative, in my absence. The talking points agreed upon by the committee are:

1. Update the list of conferences and conference submission deadlines for the following:
  - A. Health and Wellness
  - B. Nursing
  - C. Counseling and Mental Health
  - D. Autism
  - E. Traumatic Brain Injury
2. Add a list of journals, websites, conferences and conference submissions deadlines for the following:
  - A. Developmental Disability
  - B. School Age
  - C. Elderly
  - D. Behavior Disorder
3. Add the additional information regarding conferences and conference submission deadlines for the fields of Art Therapy, Drama Ther-

- apy, Dance/Movement Therapy, and Poetry Therapy
4. Foster membership communication within the region by:
  - A. Invite and encourage members to report their excellent work of educating others about the profession and tasks of music therapists, locally and nationally via presentations and publications, and via participation and membership in other affiliate organizations.
  - B. Send thank you notes of recognition via email from the ARC.
  - C. Create and keep updated a "Did You Know..." section of the website announcing these activities
5. Alert the AMTA Executive Board of a need for increased visibility of the resources made available to the members by the ARC.

6. The committee will check and update all current links on the website.

Please see the "Member's Only" section on the [musictherapy.org](http://musictherapy.org) website for the new information that will be added according to the talking points listed above.

This marks the end of my term as Affiliate Relations Committee Chair, and a new national chairperson will be appointed by Michele Forinash. Since I was acting in a dual capacity as Western Regional Representative in addition to my role as chair, a representative from the Western region will be appointed by our president, Jennifer Geiger. I appreciate having had this learning experience and the opportunity to serve, and look forward to seeing the progress this committee makes in the future!

Robin Rio, MA, MT-BC

## EMPLOYMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

These are the following points addressed during the committee meeting:

Continued work with AMTA in connecting potential consumers with music therapists in our regions.

Making Public Relations material more easily available to AMTA members.

Reminder to members to check the

AMTA web-site and other regional web-site periodically for updates.

AMTA is showcasing music therapists on their web-site by providing music therapist profiles. Each region can submit profiles of music therapists using a list of pre-approved interview questions.

Members are encouraged to take part on the E & PR Committee on a regional level. Contact Barbara Dunn if interested.

submitted by Karen Sanchez /  
substitute for Barbara Dunn

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The International Relations Committee has nine continuing working tasks. The committee discussed progress on each of those tasks during the annual meetings in Minneapolis. The first of those tasks is to announce the following international conference information.

The 6<sup>th</sup> European Music Therapy Congress will be held in Jyväskylä, Finland from June 16-20, 2004. The Congress will include several unique touring opportunities including boat cruises of the fjords and a post-Congress tour of St. Petersburg. The registration fee of \$400 (Euro-dollars) includes the boat cruises, the opening concert, lunch and coffee. The fee is \$280 (Euro-dollars) for students. Hotel accommodations range from \$37-110 (Euro-dollars) depending upon how far the hotel is from the Congress, at most the distance is a 20-minute walk. There will also be a special program for spouses. The call for papers deadline is December 31, 2003. Conference attendees are reminded that Finland has 24 hours of daylight at this time of year. More information is available on the web at

[www.musictherapyworld.net](http://www.musictherapyworld.net).

The 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Music Therapy, "From Lullaby to Lament" will be held in Brisbane, Australia from July 19-23, 2005. Information and registration for the 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress is available online at

[www.musictherapy2005.com](http://www.musictherapy2005.com).

The 2004 Canadian Music Therapy Association Conference, "Music Therapy in the Spirit of Community" will be held May 6-8, 2004 in Perth, Ontario.

The second task is to encourage you, the members of the region to share your experiences of international travel through announcements, reports, or in the newsletter. Remember that your experiences may benefit other members who are planning to travel to other countries.

A third task is to discuss international issues as they affect or relate to other committees. With that in mind, the IRC discussed immigration issues and the committee's role given the increased levels of se-

curity in the United States, especially as it affects international students. The committee concluded that with the rapid changes in the law, students could get the most current and accurate information from their international counselors at school.

The committee's fourth task is to facilitate the exchange of opportunities among professionals. The committee has worked with national office to establish and maintain web links to other countries and international organizations through the AMTA web site. The "Not for Members Only" section of the International Relations Committee on the AMTA website will be reserved for hyperlinks to websites of appropriate organizations that will maintain their own information regarding conferences and other information.

A fifth task of the committee is to facilitate conference events. The IRC hosted its International Networking Luncheon on Saturday during the conference, and will work with the local planning committee in Austin Texas to include culturally diverse musical performances. Additionally, the committee charged regional representatives to explore fundraising, grant-writing and sponsorship possibilities within the regions to help subsidize international and cultural performers at Regional and National Conferences.

The IRC's sixth task is to provide educational strategies for international students and to help develop internships in other countries. The international student listserv is available at [mtstudentworld@yahoo.com](mailto:mtstudentworld@yahoo.com). Students are encouraged to participate. The IRC also wants to encourage local music therapists to help identify local and international hosts and host families for international students while they are attending conferences. Frequently, they are available through the universities and community service organizations such as Rotary International, or churches. Additionally, the committee members agreed to work with academic program directors to encourage and develop international internship opportunities.

The committee's seventh task is to provide transitional support for international students as they return to their home countries. The committee will provide information to

students about the support that is available from the IRC, including contact information for music therapists in their home countries. The committee will also be seeking to identify the number of international students that are studying in the United States and the number of students from the US that are studying abroad. The committee is actively seeking information from the students as to how the committee can better serve them. Students who want information about how to contact music therapists in their home countries should contact Piper Laird-Riehle at [wramta2vp@aol.com](mailto:wramta2vp@aol.com).

As part of the IRC's eighth task to inform members about upcoming international conferences, regional webmasters are being asked to consider a hyperlink to the IRC and to post international conference information on the web sites. Information about International Conferences will be posted on the Calendar of Events on the [wramta.org](http://wramta.org) site.

Finally, as part of the IRC's mission and purpose, the committee participated in a joint meeting with the AMTA Academic Program Approval Committee and representatives of the World Federation of Music Therapy to discuss competency based education at an international level. Representing the WFMT, Connie Isenberg-Grzeda noted that an attempt to conduct a survey among the WFMT educational programs had produced inconsistent responses from the various countries. She asked for suggestions of what the international community might want to know about the status of competency based education. She particularly noted that the distinctive difference between the WFMT and AMTA is the culture that surrounds an educational system developed for graduate education verses undergraduate education. This distinctive difference significantly affects the international community's sense of "who we are and how we teach". Thus, the work of the music therapist - in the international community - is significantly different and that changes how music therapy is taught. AMTA representatives of the joint committees also provided input as to how WFMT could inform music therapists in the United States about music therapy in other countries and cultures.

David Luce, PhD, MT-BC

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The membership committee met for the first time during the recent American Music Therapy Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Committee members represented all eight regions and were diverse with regards to race, age, time in the profession and years involved with the AMTA. This diversity mirrors the membership of AMTA and the profession of Music Therapy and was helpful to us, as a committee, when discussing important issues.

The charges given to us by the Executive Board of the AMTA included conducting annual membership drives, coordinating membership drives with AMTAS, and promoting the value of membership in publications, both inside and outside the profession. The goals given to us by the Executive Board of the AMTA included deter-

mining ways to increase membership, promoting the value of all categories of AMTA membership and evaluating the needs of AMTA members.

Some of the ideas we came up with for the above charges and goals were to recognize new members with stickers for their badges at the next National Conference and having a get together at the start of the conference where new members can connect and meet current members of AMTA. We also would like to encourage members who are moving to register their address change with the AMTA and their membership committee representative in a timely fashion. That way we can eliminate losing members when they move from region to region or even within a particular region, which has happened in the past.

One of the important issues that we discussed was the lack of connection some members are feeling. Some ways we came up with to help alleviate that would be having more personal stories shared in our publications about our members, a mentor program for new members who are new to the profession, and the membership drives.

The most important thing we need is you! If you're happy with AMTA let me know. If you're unhappy, please let me know. I might be able to help or know someone who can. Either way we want to know! Together we can make the AMTA an association that is helpful and useful to all members.

Robin W. Schmidt, MA, MT-BC  
[rsmusictx@hotmail.com](mailto:rsmusictx@hotmail.com)

## PROFESSIONAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Professional Advocacy Committee continues to advocate for the professional representation of music therapy. The term "Music Therapy" is becoming more widely used and we are beginning to see more cases of misrepresentation occurring in printed media, such as books, the world wide web, and newspaper ads.

The Professional Advocacy Committee asks all members who respond to misrepresentation to include their regional representative in the communication and also forward any responses received to the regional representative. The committee keeps an ongoing list of needs and often the same people doing the misrepresentation are showing up in different states and regions repeating the same misrepresentation.

The Professional Advocacy Committee assists members in responding to misrepresentation of music therapy. Examples of current issues we are assisting members with include:

Hospital that included Music Therapy in the listing on website of services provided with no evidence of a Music Therapist on staff.

Metropolitan TV news station broadcast indicated/stated that a program using music to down-regulate hyperactive children was a "new method" and "not conventional music therapy" among other things.

Website: individual business

This site sells recordings of an individual certified as a music practitioner (harp therapist) and is marketing it under the music therapy name.

The Professional Advocacy Committee is developing a professional self-assessment tool, *Music Therapy Self-Assessment Guide*. We are working in consultation with the Standards and Special Populations Committee to format the Standards of Clinical Practice as a self-rating tool for professionals to implement in their own clinical practice.

The committee is also developing a comparison sheet for Music and Healing Modalities. Areas to be covered include: Music Therapy, Music uses in Medical Treatment, Music Practitioners, Harp Therapy, Sound Healers and Music Thantology. We are hoping to have both publications complete and available within the next year.

The Professional Advocacy Committee plans to continue to provide education and seminars for handling misrepresentation with music therapy through presenting at conferences, writing articles for music therapy newsletters and developing resource materials for music therapists.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve in the capacity of WRAMTA Representative to the Professional Advocacy Committee. Should you have any concerns please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Terri Smith-Morse, MT-BC

## SPECIAL TARGET POPULATIONS

The goals of this new committee are to provide networking opportunities for practitioners of different target populations, between committees and with professions in related fields, and to inform AMTA members of the work of this committee via regional and national publications, as well as on the "members only" section of the AMTA website.

The tasks of this committee were threefold: To develop resources and structures to support music therapists who work with special target populations.

To host an unopposed round-table (with cash luncheon) to further expand the development of special target population subgroups

Each committee member will submit a description of their committee's work at their regional meeting in Minneapolis and will also submit a report to their region newsletters. Each committee member facilitated a Special Target

Populations networking session at the conference and will submit a report on that groups work for publication on the "members only" section of the AMTA website.

At the networking sessions each group prioritized areas to focus on in 2-year, 5-year and 10-year plans. Lists were generated for mentors, speakers, affiliate persons or organizations, web-links, bibliographies and music therapists interested in having their names posted on the AMTA Special Target Populations web page and actively participating in networking.

Members of this committee really want the committee work to reflect what practice is truly like "in the trenches." Please get involved because your involvement will have an impact on how the national organization serves music therapy practitioners. Any member interested in participating in a specific networking group should contact the region committee representative Anna Gon-

zales Berezin at [anna@berezin.com](mailto:anna@berezin.com) or phone (949) 581-8378. Current special target population networking groups include: Mental Health, Forensics, Physical Disabilities, School settings, Hospital settings, Private practice/Consulting, Developmental Disabilities, NICU, Hospice, Early Childhood, Geriatrics and Wellness settings.

In conclusion, the committee representative from WRAMTA has suggested that unopposed networking of this type be included in the region conference program. If region members are in support of this proposition, please give this feedback to the conference planning committee and an effort will be made to highlight opportunities at future Western Region conferences.

Anna Gonzales Berezin, MS, OTR/I, MT-BC

## STUDENT AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD

Happy Holiday, everyone! An introduction is in order as I am the new Western Region Advisor on the Student Affairs Advisory Board. My name is Amy Small and I've been a practicing clinician for 5 years, working with adults with developmental disabilities and more recently with women in labor. I have been a part of the WRAMTA for 9 years both as a student and professional. I am pleased to be taking this role in our region and am eager to assist the students as best I can.

The SAAB met at the fifth annual AMTA conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota on November 20, 2003. A great deal of information sharing occurred and I will touch on a few key points.

First, Tony Ollerton, the WRAMTAS president and the women on the student executive board, are doing phenomenal work this year. This is a new board as they all assumed their offices in March of this year. In the very beginning of their assignment, two students had to give up their positions on the board and Tony found replacements almost immediately. The student board has been attacking such issues as the by-laws, communication, their

website, and fund raising ideas, just to name a few. They are to be commended for their diligence and dedication.

Second, attending the SAAB meeting for the first time was very enlightening. One topic of great import was the E. Thayer Gaston award. Unfortunately, there were no submissions to the committee for this award and sadly, a deserving student will not be receiving this honor and monetary reward for this year. Professors and professionals, please encourage students to apply for this distinguished award! In addition, the issue of communication was discussed at length and the committee has made great strides in this area. Two listserves were set up to increase communication among students and advisors. All students are encouraged to join the student listserve and become connected with students all over the U.S. Also, the AMTAS website, ([www.ser-amta.org/amtas](http://www.ser-amta.org/amtas)) and the WRAMTAS website, (<http://wramtas.lovesmusic.com>), have proven effective in bridging communication gaps. Finally, the board examined ways to attract new students to become members of AMTA, considered issues of student dues

and explored students' internship concerns. I'd be more than willing to discuss other agenda items of the SAAB meeting if anyone is interested. Please email me.

Finally, wonderful opportunities for students and professionals within their respective regions to get-acquainted and inter-mix at conferences or otherwise were entertained. Many board members had insightful suggestions and Tony and I really want to incorporate some of these ideas within our region. This is an area in which I feel the Western Region can improve and subsequently, can help us to build a cohesive union of students and professionals. If anyone has ideas on ways to bring students and clinicians together, Tony and I are, as they say, "all ears." Be looking for some new and exciting student-professional gatherings at future regional conferences!

Thank you for this opportunity to serve the region and AMTA in this capacity. I encourage all students and clinicians to contact me if any questions or suggestions arise. Have a fun and safe holiday season.

Amy Small, MT-BC, Doula

# GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Western Region Chapter, American Music Therapy Association, Inc.  
November 22, 2003  
AMTA 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Minneapolis, MN

- I. Called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Jennifer Geiger, President.
- II. Motion to approve the agenda **m/s/p**.
- III. Motion to approve minutes from the General Business Meeting in San Diego, CA as posted in the *Sounding Board*, **m/s/p**.
- IV. Officer's Reports
  - A. President – Jennifer Geiger
    1. Regional President's are working on fundraising guidelines and tax timeline
    2. Reminder that we have the Professional Development Grant available to members
    3. Regional conference is April 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> in Scottsdale, AZ; Jana Stanfield will perform for us there!
    4. 2005 conference may possibly be at Chapman University
    5. Thank you to Assembly Delegates, Committee Representatives & substitutes.
    6. From delegates meeting: no dues increase for 2004. Dues will increase in 2005. Professional dues will increase by \$10; students by \$5. This is the first increase in 4 years & the budget needs the money these dues will bring in.
  - B. Past President – Tracy Leonard-Warner
    1. Discussion of AMTA bylaws changes and the process of recalling a board member.
  - C. Parliamentarian – Wendy Woolsey (given by Tracy)
    1. WRAMTA bylaws changes are needed; most are grammatical errors and title changes
  - D. President-Elect – Lillieth Grand
    1. WRAMTA is increasing our services to you - coupon for new MT-BC's worth \$20 off regional conference.
  - E. Second Vice-President Piper Report
    1. New web site is close to completion. Look for it at [www.wramta.org](http://www.wramta.org)
    2. Get reports in for regional newsletter by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. Committee reps need to submit a report and receipts to get reimbursed.
  - F. Treasurer – Karen Sanchez
    1. All receipts need to be submitted to Karen by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> for reimbursement.
  - G. WRAMAS President - Tony
    1. The students are working on communication between schools.
    2. They need communication from Marylhurst University. If you see anyone from there, please have them contact Tony.
- V. Committee Representative Reports
  - A. Council on Education and Clinical Training
    1. Academic Program Approval Committee (APAC) – Beth York; see report in the *Sounding Board*.
    2. Association Internship Approval Committee – Holly Baxter
      - a. Please encourage interns to complete site evaluations after completion of internship
      - b. Internships may not ask for video with clients
      - c. Internship sites are in the career section of the AMTA website
    1. Continuing Education – Denise Dugal-Wulfman; see report in the *Sounding Board*.
  - B. Council on Professional Practices
    1. Government Relations – Patrick Kelliher; see report in the *Sounding Board*.
    2. Reimbursement Committee- Lillieth Grand; see report in the *Sounding Board*.
    3. Research Committee – David Wolfe; not present.
    4. Standards of Clinical Practice – Bobby Adler; see report in the *Sounding Board*.

## MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

- C. Council on Association Services
  - 1. Affiliate Relations Committee – Robin Rio, not present.
  - 2. Employment and Public Relations Committee – Barb Dunn (reported by Karen Sanchez in her absence)
    - a. Looking for volunteers to be profiled on the AMTA web site.
    - b. See report in the *Sounding Board*.
  - 3. International Relations Committee. – Piper Laird-Riehle (reported by David Luce as Piper was presenting a CMTE during the committee meeting times). See report in the *Sounding Board*. Next year's World Congress conference will be in Australia.
  - 4. Membership Committee – Robin Schmidt
    - a. Retention of membership is a problem. This new committee is working on educating people regarding inactive status and the recognition of new members. Personal connections are the best incentive to be a member.
    - b. See report in the *Sounding Board*.
  - 5. Professional Advocacy Committee – Terri Smith-Morse
    - a. The committee has a guide on how to respond to misrepresentation of MT in the members-only section of the AMTA website.
    - b. Please make sure that you cc a copy of your letter to Terri so she can track activity.
  - 6. Special Target Populations – Anna Berezin
    - a. See report in the *Sounding Board*.
    - b. A group of MT's in the LA Area now have a web site. [www.mtaadd.org](http://www.mtaadd.org) for therapists to network around autism and developmental disabilities.
- D. AMTA Boards
  - 1. Judicial Review Board – Leanne Wade
    - a. See report in the *Sounding Board*.
  - 2. Student Affairs Advisory Board – Amy Small
    - a. Would like us all to think of ideas to bridge the gap between professionals and students.
    - b. Reminded group that payment plans are available for AMTA membership.
- VI. Old Business – None
- VII. New Business
  - A. Grant and scholarships are available & applications are due on February 15th; professional awards nominations are due February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004.
  - B. Ron Borzon met with the Selica-Tesh foundation. Nothing is really happening at the moment.
  - C. Piper announced that anyone without internet access can get hard copies of the *Sounding Board*.
  - D. Amy announced that no one submitted an entry for the E. Thayer Gaston award! Encourage students that you know to do so!
- VIII. Good & Welfare
  - A. On January 31<sup>st</sup> in Danville, CA, John Graff will present a seminar on running your own business; cost will be \$55 for 5 CMTE's.
  - B. Wendy Woolsey is not with us because she has a new little girl named Olivia Grace. Congratulations to her!
  - C. Celeste Behnke announced that it is CBMT's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary!
    - 1. New re-certification manual is out. There are many new categories for earning CMTE's
    - 2. A Primer will be coming out on CD-ROM to give you words to advocate for board certification. This will help you defend against misrepresentation.
    - 3. The 5<sup>th</sup> practice analysis completed.
    - 4. New committee added for Scope of Practice.
    - 5. Web site has most forms to download.
    - 6. More office staff are available to take calls.
    - 7. If you are interested in becoming more involved in CBMT, fill out a willingness to serve form.
    - 8. Third party payer list is in process for each state. If you are receiving reimbursement, please contact Suzanne Oliver.
    - 9. Continuing Education Credit work- approved providers can provide and show specialty training (NMT, GIM etc) Celeste was thanked for her service.
  - D. Lisa Jackart announced a conference on January 24<sup>th</sup> "Playing from your heart" in LA area.
  - E. Sound Birthing is offering courses again. Lillieth Grand has information.
- IX. Motion to adjourn at 9:30a.m. **m/s/p**.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Western Region Chapter, American Music Therapy Association, Inc.  
November 20, 2003  
AMTA 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, Minneapolis, MN

- I. Welcome & Call to Order at 5:35 p.m. by Jennifer Geiger, President. In Attendance: Tracy Leonard-Warner, Past President; Lillieth Grand, President Elect; Lisa Klostermann, First Vice-President-Elect; Karen Sanchez, Treasurer; Tony Ollerton, Student President; Piper Laird-Riehle, Second Vice-President/Sounding Board editor; Patrick Kelliher, Government Relations Representative; Denise Dugal-Wulfman, Continuing Education Representative.
- II. Approval of Agenda **m/s/p** (Exhibit A)
- III. Approval of Minutes as written in Sounding Board from Mid-Year Meeting in Phoenix, AZ **m/s/p**
- IV. Officer's Reports
  - A. President-Jennifer Geiger
    - i. Motion to Approve appointed officers (Piper Laird-Riehle, Second VP and Wendy Woolsey, Parliamentarian) **m/s/p**
    - ii. Motion to Approve Committee Representatives **m/s/p** (Exhibit B)
    - iii. Reported that she sent a welcome letter to professors introducing her and talking about internship scholarship.
    - iv. Assembly Delegate seats for this conference were filled from the alternate list for the '04-'05 Assembly.
    - v. Filed the Arizona Commission papers for the region in October.
    - vi. Deadlines for Professional Development Grant, professional awards and internship scholarship will be February 15, 2004.
    - vii. Jennifer has accepted the position of AMTA treasurer; it will be official in January. She is excited about representing our region. National office is working on reducing spending and looking for new ways to increase revenue. Possible dues increase was discussed. The rates proposed are \$195.00 for Professional members and \$75.00 for student members in 2005. Dues have not increased in 4 years. Discussed other regions different fundraising methods. Jennifer commended our region on conference planning.
    - viii. Congratulated Tracy on becoming a new member of board of directors for CBMT
    - ix. Reminded group that our official, incorporated name is "**Western Region Chapter, American Music Therapy Association, Inc.**"
    - x. Note that the future AMTA conferences will be in Austin, TX in 2004; Orlando, FL in 2005 and possibly Kansas City, MO in 2006. Jennifer asked the group if she should suggest a west coast location to Al Bumanis in 2007 so that we might better prepare for a possible conference in Hawaii; she was charged to write a formal letter to AMTA from this Executive Board for this purpose.
    - xi. At the Regional Presidents meeting, it was decided that a task force was needed to create fundraising guidelines for the region. Tracy Leonard-Warner was asked to be a member of this task force.
  - B. Past President, Tracy Leonard-Warner
 

Discussed sitting in on the AMTA bylaws committee. Encouraged everyone to go to AMTA business meetings.
  - C. President-Elect; Lillieth Grand
    - i. Discussed welcome letter to new MT-BC's. (Exhibit C) Included with letter will be a copy of flier on benefits of membership and WRAMTA coupon for \$20 off of conference registration. An updated list of new certificants will be compiled once a year in December. Piper will get letterhead out by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.
    - ii. Lillieth is encouraging people to get involved with the region. She has been doing a lot of education on the benefits of membership namely the legal work and advocacy done by national office.
    - iii. Sat in on reimbursement committee and will be looking for an appropriate replacement prior to becoming WRAMTA President.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES - CONTINUED

- D. First Vice-President; Robin Rio (given by Lisa Klostermann) (Exhibit D)
- i. GIM institute will be offered immediately prior to the Regional Conference.
  - ii. David Luce has expressed interest in hosting regional conference at Chapman University in 2005
  - iii. Still trying to determine when Jana Stanfield will be performing, but she will be there to give a concert and a CMTE.
- E. First Vice-President-Elect; Lisa Klostermann
- Lisa held an area meeting of music therapists to discuss possible conference sites in Sacramento for 2005 (or 2006).
- F. Second Vice-President; Piper Laird-Riehle
- i. Displayed new website.
  - ii. Discussed website links policy. It was moved to accept the Web site links policy as stated in Piper's report. Executive Board will vote on additional links to be added. Links for Government Relations purposes will be posted quickly as needed; **m/s/p**.
  - iii. It was **m/s/p** to accept calendar of events policy as stated by Piper.
  - iv. It was also **m/s/p** to accept the Sounding Board ad policy as stated by Piper.
  - v. Piper donated a color printer to the region to use for Sounding Board copies. She will track expenditures of ink and paper.
- G. Secretary; Nicole Patton (minutes take by Lisa Klostermann in Nicole's absence)
- Nothing to report at this time.
- H. Treasurer; Karen Sanchez
- Budget that was approved at mid-year was distributed (Exhibit E). The final budget voted on will be emailed out to the entire board in the future. The budget is accurate and balanced. Remo was invoiced a month ago.
- I. Parliamentarian; Wendy Woolsey (given by Tracy Leonard-Warner in Wendy's absence)
- Suggested Bylaws revisions were distributed; discussion was tabled until mid-year meeting (Exhibit F). Tracy urged us to contact Wendy with any questions.
- J. Government Relations; Patrick Kelliher
- Discussed changes that are occurring in California in child welfare. The family focused approach is what is currently changing.
- K. WRAMTAS President; Tony Ollerton
- i. WRAMTAS is continuing to work on communication between the schools and students
  - ii. Working with Wendy Woosley on WRAMTAS bylaws changes.
  - iii. Discussed the fact that Hawaii is not feasible for many students in our region.
- L. Continuing Education; Denise Dugal-Wulfman
- i. Discussed new CBMT fee for CMTE co-sponsorship of \$75 per course, effective Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - ii. **Motion** to make a \$100 flat fee for anyone who would like WRAMTA to co-sponsor a CMTE. Discussion, **s/p**. Question of per course fee to apply at regional conference CMTE & whether or not we would need to raise our CMTE registration fees to cover this additional cost. Denise will research & check in with us after our regional business meeting.
  - iii. We are now called a CBMT "approved" provider (rather than "pre-approved")
  - iv. CMTE co-sponsorship forms need to be added to our website for ease in access to begin the process.
- V. Old Business
- Motion** to table the topics under old business (Mission Statement & Fundraising) due to time constraints; **s/p**.
- VI. New Business – none at this time
- VII. Good and Welfare
- A. Discussed the fires in Southern CA and concern for our members there. Jennifer will check to see if any of our members were affected.
- VIII. Adjournment at 7:15p.m.; **m/s/p**.

**WESTERN REGION,  
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION, INC**

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**We're on the web at  
[wramta.org](http://wramta.org)**

*The website will be changing soon. Please  
look again soon to see new areas and the  
new logo for the region.*

*See you in Scottsdale, Arizona in April for  
the WRAMTA conference!!*