Minutes of the last meeting were approved. Treasurer’s report was read and approved.

Reports from Houston

Scott Warfield reported on the Council of Representatives meeting held in Houston.

1) Andrew Dell-Antonio assumes the position of secretary for the AMS council, replacing Lois Rosow, who has completed her term.

2) President Peter Burkholder reported on a number of items. Most relevant to general members will be the eventual publishing of the AMS handbook on the web (date undetermined).

3) Pamela Potter reported on the activities of the Committee for Member Services and Professional Development. They are working to accommodate the needs of various constituencies that were not traditionally represented in the AMS. Most important are the unaffiliated members (scholars w/ PhDs, but not employed in the traditional academic setting). The committee is looking at such issues as assisting with library privileges, health care, funding of research and travel. They have established (or will shortly) a web site, which will include such services as mentoring, job services, and also an anonymous posting page, which allow members to send messages to the committee. They are also establishing a pilot travel program which will assist individuals without institutional support to attend the national meetings of the AMS, so that those individuals may read papers, chair sessions, sit on AMS committees.

4) Mitchell Morris (UCLA) brought up the issue of commercial pressure on scholars who wish to use recorded sound or other copyrighted materials in their research and publications. Five specific types of usages were mentioned: mechanical reproductions (recordings), transcriptions, sheet music, lyrics, and visual materials. In many cases scholars have been denied permission to use such materials or reproduce them, or they have been asked to pay extraordinary fees for limited usage. After discussion by the council, it was agreed that Morris would chair a committee of interested persons who will explore these issues, including contact with music industry individuals, and report back to the council.

Denise Von Glahn reported on the AMS officers’ meeting held in Houston. The discussion emphasized the need to improve communication between the AMS and the public. We need to ensure that our public image accurately reflects our diversity of interests and membership, methodologies, and to inform others how we can be a resource for issues brought before the public (e.g., expert commentators on NPR segments, etc.). We need to strengthen our ties with other musical organizations and we need to re-imagine the AMS goal—what do we strive to do. One idea is a new design for newsletter to keep our own membership well informed.

In the Southern Chapter, we can address these issues by more actively publicizing our own conferences and events concerning our members. We should consider how aggressively we want to seek press coverage. We should strive to gain support from state humanities councils, including publicity, and consider whether we can obtain intangibles from outside organizations.

New Business
The committee to select the best student paper unanimously decided not make an award this year. Scott Warfield urged students who participate in the meeting as presenters next year to submit their papers for consideration.

Election of officers

Greg Nelson, our student representative, was ill during the meeting in Houston and was not able to submit a report. Because of continuing health issues, he asked to be relieved of the office. Sean Parr, of Florida State University was elected to finish Greg Nelson’s term and Jeannette Jones, of Louisiana State University was elected for a two year term.

Denise Von Glahn noted that students should pursue national funds and local university funds in addition to the reimbursement that the Chapter provides for transportation.

Scott Warfield, presently he is finishing ‘__________’s term, was elected to his own term as AMS council representative.

Alison McFarland resigned after three years as abstracts editor. The abstracts editor collects and copies the abstracts for papers to be read at the meeting and prepares the booklet, and also serves on program committee, student paper award committee. Jan Herlinger nominated Andreas Giger, who won ASCAP Deems-Taylor award for “Music in the Mirror.” He was elected by acclamation to a two-year term.

As a point of information: our officers serve two-year terms in each of three offices. The Secretary-Treasurer serves in that capacity for two years, then as President-elect, then as President.

We express our thanks to Keith Knopp for our excellent website

President’s Farewell

Denise Von Glahn spoke of her tenure as an officer in the Southern Chapter; she has served for seven of the eight years she has been a member of this chapter. She reflected on her goals and the achievements of the chapter during her stewardship:

- Establishment of a student paper award
- To diversify chapter’s active membership

She noted that as a chapter, we are healthy and collegial. Our conference proposals indicate our positive trajectory—32 very good papers were proposed for the meeting. The eighteen papers read at our meeting represented nine universities. Our attendance testifies to the desire of our members to be here, and our presence in turn makes the AMS-SC healthier. We have a large pool of talent to draw on—senior and junior faculty; students; musicologists outside the academy. Though as scholars, we tend to enjoy solitude, we all need the community of scholars. The chapter is here to provide community for those who seek it. We do not need to be isolated, and we do not need to be confined to the community of our own institutions, but can be a part of this larger group of scholars.

2005

We received a tentative invitation from U of Alabama at Tuscaloosa for next year, date to be determined.