

Northern California Chapter, American Musicological Society
Business Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 28, 2018
Joint Chapter Meeting
Stanford University

Present: Christopher Reynolds (Presiding), Giacomo Fiore (Vice-President), Alice Miller Cotter (Secretary-Treasurer), Tysen Dauer (AMS Student Representative) and about twenty chapter members.

The meeting was called to order at 1:18 p.m.

Christopher Reynolds announced two items of business.

The first was elections by email. We will need names of student representatives to elect in the coming weeks for the next two-year period. The current term goes through the summer; the new term begins in the fall.

The second item of business was discussion about one meeting or two meetings. Christopher Reynolds suggested the spring meeting be shortened to one day with a morning session, short paper session in the early afternoon, and the Dahl in the afternoon. The February meeting will be in the North and the next joint meeting in the South, so it wouldn't be for two years that any changes would take place.

Beth Levy voiced her preference for two meetings per year. One meeting would make for a long time between seeing colleagues. Two meetings allows for more programming flexibility, including concerts and roundtable works in progress. One meeting, too, would change the feeling of the Dahl competition. It would also make it harder on students presenting at a foreign chapter.

Charlie Kronengold also suggested that two meetings would be preferable. We could shorten the second day to a one-day affair to limit expense while leaving open the possibility of accepting many good abstracts. It's nice to have everybody in the same room.

Jonathan Minnick suggested the possibility of merging AMS NorCal and the Northern California Ethnomusicological Society meetings, with two paper sessions at one time and keeping the duration to one day.

Christopher Reynolds commented that the merging of the Ethno and AMS chapters would be logistically challenging. He stated he was very happy with the book session in February. With one meeting, a book session would be difficult.

Giacomo Fiore commented that as a courtesy we should coordinate with the Southern Chapter about one day versus two and the possibility of changing Dahl papers from 30 minutes to 20 minutes so expectations were clear.

Christopher Reynolds announced that Jessie Ann Owens has agreed to run for president but is in Cambridge and couldn't be at the meeting.

Heather Hadlock commented that she enjoyed book session. She empowers the program committee to be creative, to work with what we have and what's going on.

Christopher Reynolds stated that the issue for the chapter is the same for annual meetings. How do you get a more people, especially senior scholars presenting?

Carol Hess suggested we could open up the meetings to alternative format sessions: lightning sessions, seminars with papers circulated in advance. She commented that the discussion over one or two meetings doesn't need to happen because anyone can decide if they go or not.

Christopher Reynolds suggested the possibility of a joint presentation on a successful grad seminar.

Giacomo Fiore commented that this should be a decision made by the program committee of officers who must always keep in mind fairness and diversity.

Giacomo Fiore suggested next year's meeting location at the San Francisco Conservatory.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alice Miller Cotter.