AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR BOARD BOOK
MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

FINAL W/EXTRA REPORTS as of JULY 10, 2017
TABLE OF CONTENTS
Board of Directors’ 2017 Mid-Year Board Book

TENTATIVE AGENDA ................................................................. 3-5

OFFICER REPORTS ................................................................................................................................. 6
Jennifer Geiger, President ..........................................................................................................................7-16
Amy Furman, Past President ..................................................................................................................17-18
Amber Weldon-Stephens, President Elect ............................................................................................19-29
Jean Nemeth, Vice President ..................................................................................................................30-36
Kristen O’Grady, Vice President Elect ...................................................................................................37-39
Alicia Clair, Treasurer (See Financial Section) ..........................................................................................40-42
Bryan Hunter, Historian/Parliamentarian .................................................................................................43
William Davis, Archivist ..........................................................................................................................44

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS .................................................................................................................. 45
A. Council on Education and Clinical Training .........................................................................................46-51
B. Council on Professional Practices .........................................................................................................52-59
C. Council on Association Services ...........................................................................................................60-71
D. Special Reports ......................................................................................................................................72-110
AMTA.Pro, AMTA E-Courses, ASD, CBMT, Education & Training Advisory Board, Ethics, JMT, MTP,
Judicial Review Board, MLE Subcommittee Progress, Music & Memory, Pediatric, Regional President
Representative, SAAB
E. Regional Reports – GL, MA, MW, NE, SE, SW, W ..........................................................................111-134

NATIONAL OFFICE REPORTS ........................................................................................................... 135
Andrea Farbman, Executive Director .........................................................................................................136-179
Barbara Else, Senior Policy Advisor .........................................................................................................180-190
Angie Elkins, Director of Membership Services ..........................................................................................191-213
Cindy Smith, Membership Associate and Conference Planner
Kimberly Bell, Information Specialist .......................................................................................................214-218
Jane Creagan, Director of Professional Programs ......................................................................................219-231
Al Bumanis, Director of Communications and Conferences ..................................................................232-238
Cindy Smith, Conference Planner and Membership Associate
Judy Simpson, Director of Government Relations ....................................................................................239-251
Rebecca Preddie, Federal Programs Analyst & Scholarship and Grants Coordinator ..................252-256

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & REPORTS ............................................................................................. 257
Treasurer’s Report .....................................................................................................................................259
Balance Sheet and Year to Date March 31, 2017 ....................................................................................278
FY 2018 Budget Worksheets ..................................................................................................................281
FY 2018 Budget Notes .............................................................................................................................284

DIRECTORY OF OFFICIALS ................................................................................................................... 308
Board of Directors, Regional Presidents, Committee Chairpersons, Journal Editors, Assembly of
Delegates, Education and Training Advisory Board, Ethics Board, Judicial Review Board, and
AMTA Committee Representatives
Wednesday, May 31, 2017

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm Welcome & Meeting Overview Jennifer Geiger
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm Approval of Agenda Jennifer Geiger
              Approval of Minutes Jennifer Geiger, Andi Farbman
              Association Highlights Jennifer Geiger, Andi Farbman
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Conferences/Communications Al Bumanis, Cindy Smith
              Vice President Jean Nemeth
              Vice President Elect Kristen O’Grady
5:30 pm – 6:00 pm Sustainability Planning Andi Farbman
              Mission Review & Strategic Plan Review Jennifer Geiger
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm DINNER
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Vision Discussion Jennifer Geiger

Small Group Work

Thursday, June 1, 2017

9:00 am – 9:45 am Update on AMTA FY 2017 Budget Alicia Clair & Andi Farbman
              Budget planning for FY 2018
9:45 am – 10:45 am Financial Action Plan Update Alicia Clair & Andi Farbman
              Small Group Work
10:45 am – 11:00 am BREAK
11:00 am – 11:45 am Government Relations Judy Simpson & Rebecca Preddie
              Scholarships & Grants Rebecca Preddie
11:45 am – 12:30 pm Council on Association Services Annette Whitehead-Pleaux
              Membership & IT Angie Elkins
              Board Membership Initiative Kristen O’Grady & Amy Furman
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm LUNCH
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Executive Director Evaluation (Executive Session for full Board) Amber Weldon-Stephens
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm Council on Education and Clinical Training Ed Kahler
              Professional Programs Jane Creagan
              AIAC: National Roster Internship multi-year plan
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm BREAK
Friday, June 2, 2017

9:00 am – 10:30 am Executive Director Search Firm Presentation
Andi Farbman
Karen Schuler, Managing Director, Raffa, P.C.

10:30 am – 10:45 am BREAK

10:45 am – 11:30 am Search Firm Presentation Discussion
Emergency Succession Plan Review
Departure-Defined Succession Planning
Jennifer Geiger
Andi Farbman
Jennifer Geiger

11:30 am – 11:45 am Review & Action: FY 2018 Budget
Alicia Clair

11:45 am – 12:00 pm Regional President Representative
Deb Benkovitz Williams

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm LUNCH

1:00 pm – 1:45 pm Oxford University Press Publisher’s Report
Journal Reports, Editors-in-Chief Search
Michael Blong
Barbara Else

1:45 pm – 2:00 pm Board Restructuring Task Force
Amber Weldon-Stephens & Ed Kahler

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm Officer Reports
Historian
(Lifetime Achievement Awards)
Bryan Hunter

President Elect
(Proposed Bylaw Revisions
Ethics Board; ETAB; JRB; SAAB)
Amber Weldon-Stephens

Speaker of the Assembly
Angie Snell

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm BREAK

3:15 pm – 5:00 pm Evening Preparations

5:00 pm – 5:40 pm DINNER at Maritime

5:50 pm DEPART FOR WASHINGTON D.C.
(Concert Attire)

8:00 pm – 10:30 pm National Symphony Orchestra Concert at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts

11:30 pm Return to the Maritime
Saturday, June 3, 2017
9:00 am  DEPART FOR KENNEDY CENTER, WASHINGTON D.C.  
(Business Casual—comfy clothes & shoes for a 12+ hour day)

“Sound Health: Music and the Mind” Kennedy Center
11:00 am – 12:30 pm  Lecture 1: Dr. Nina Kraus “Music and Childhood Development”
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm  Lunch at Kennedy Center Cafeteria
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  Lecture 2: Dr. Sheri Robb “Breakthroughs in Music Therapy: Recovery, Resilience, and Quality of Life”; (music therapists, Tom Sweitzer, Dr. Wendy Magee, Dr. Deforia Lane, Dr. Blythe LaGasse, and C.J. Shiloh; music therapy advocate, Ben Folds; and other special guests)
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm  NIH Director, Francis Collins “The Future of Music and the Mind”
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  Lecture 3: Dr. Ani Patel “Creative Aging”
6:30 pm – 7:15 pm  Dinner at Kennedy Center Cafeteria
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm  Final lecture: Dr. Charles Limb “Jazz, Creativity, and the Brain”
10:00 pm  Return to the Maritime

Sunday, June 4, 2017
6:30 am – 9:00 am  BREAKFAST
11:00 am – 12:00 pm  NIH/Kennedy Center Event in Review  Jennifer Geiger, Andi Farbman
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  LUNCH
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm  Race, Music Therapy & AMTA: Next Steps  Jennifer Geiger, Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, Amber Weldon-Stephens
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm  Social Justice Information for Members  Jennifer Geiger
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm  BREAK
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm  Officer Reports continued  Amy Furman (Nominating Committee, E-Ballot, NCCATA)
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm  CBMT Update  Lori Lundeen Smith
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  Wrap up: Consultant Presentation  Andi Farbman
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm  DINNER

Monday, June 5, 2017
9:00 am – 10:15 am  Old Business  Jennifer Geiger
1.  ASD Strategic Priority
2.  Music & Memory Work Group
3.  Lifetime Achievement Awards  Bryan Hunter
4.  Pediatric Task Force  Amber Weldon-Stephens
10:15 am – 10:30 am  BREAK
11:00 am  New Business
11:30 am  Adjournment
OFFICER REPORTS
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Jennifer Geiger, MA, MT-BC

Action Items:
1. **MOTION**: approve updated AMTA Organizational Chart to be posted on www.musictherapy.org
2. Consider action items from the updated Race & MT Report.
3. Approve a work group for a review of the Professional and Advanced Competencies in tandem.

AMTA Bylaws Article IV, Section 6:
“The President presides at the meetings of the Association. The President calls and presides at meetings of the Board of Directors and appoints, with approval of the Board of Directors, all appointive officers, the Council Coordinators, the chairpersons of the standing committees, and all special committees and advisors. The President holds ex officio membership on all councils and committees and performs other duties implied by the title...”

Activity Since Annual Conference:
1. Received the resignation of Christine Neugebauer as co-chair of the Pediatric Task Force. David Knott, who was the other co-chair, agreed to serve as Chair.
2. Received the resignation of Deb Burns as co-chair of the Research Committee. Cynthia Colwell, who was the other co-chair, agreed to serve as chair of the Research Committee.
3. Provided the Presidential Perspectives column for our monthly Music Therapy Matters
   a. November – National Conference Highlights and Gratitude
   b. December – Membership is Meaningful
   c. January – Important Information for the New Year
   d. February – Shout-out to Regional Conferences
   e. March – Effective Advocacy
   f. April – Regional Conference Review and Presidential Address
4. Participated in calls with the Executive Personnel Committee regarding the annual evaluation of the Executive Director
5. Conducted 3 Board conference calls and completed 4 electronic ballots, which resulted in:
   a. Academic Program Approval Committee Review Results
      i. Re-approvals: BM Western Illinois University, IL; BM & MA Montclair State University, NJ;
      ii. Approvals: MMT Slippery Rock University, PA; BM Carroll University, WI.
      Appreciation to co-chairs Kamile Geist and Christine Leist and the dedicated committee members for their careful work.
   b. Board appointments:
      i. Mary Adamek and Michele Forinash as co-chairs of the Journal Editors Selection Committee, comprised of Melita Belgrave, Andrea Dalton, Jennifer Jones, and Barb Else as staff liaison.
      ii. Robin Rio was reappointed to ETAB for a second 4-year term and Annette Whitehead-Pleaux was newly appointed to a 4-year term.
      iii. Ed Kahler, co-chair of the Board Restructuring Task Force, along with Amber Weldon-Stephens.
      iv. Todd Schwartz and Jennifer Whipple as co-chairs of the ASD Strategic Priority Work Group.
      v. Members to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Music Therapy*, whose term will coincide with that of the Editor, ending December 31, 2018: Cochavit Elefant, Michele Forinash, Christian Gold, Stine Jacobson, Gunter Kreutz, Jin-Hyung Lee, Ori McDermott, Katrina Skewes McFerran, Lauren Stewart, Xueli Tan, Giorgos Tsiris, Michael Viega, and Rebecca Zarate.
   c. Approval of conference rates and hotel fees.
   d. Approval of the recipient of the 2017 Clinician-Based Research Grant
6. Facilitated weekly leadership calls with President Elect Weldon-Stephens and Executive Director Farbman, which occasionally included others as needs arose.
7. Attended the following regional conferences (highlights of the year!) where I provided an address to attendees:*
   a. Combined conference in Denver, CO between the Midwestern and Western Regions from March 12-18
   b. SER-AMTA conference in Chapel Hill, NC from March 29-30
   c. NER-AMTA conference in Newport, RI from March 31-April 1

Gratitude to each of the regions who so generously hosted my visits! Time spent with students and professionals across the country is priceless and I am appreciative of the efforts that go into making this time a reality.

*Appreciation to Kristen O’Grady, Angie Snell and Ed Kahler for giving the address at the MAR-AMTA, GLR-AMTA and SWAMTA conferences, respectively. Click the link to view the PPT slides and script: [https://www.musictherapy.org/regional_conference_presidential_address/](https://www.musictherapy.org/regional_conference_presidential_address/)

8. Responded to numerous e-mails and phone calls on with numerous committees/work groups on many topics, including:
   a. Melita Belgrave and Seung-A Kim, co-chairs of the Diversity Committee and Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, Council Coordinator
   b. Marisol Norris, MAR Membership Committee Representative, Janelle Junkin and Chantelle Todman Moore, facilitator of the Intercultural Diversity Inventory
   d. Regina Dennis and Erin Spring, co-chairs of the Music & Memory Work Group
   e. Nicole Hahna, Council Coordinator; Amy Furman, Past President; Bryan Hunter, Historian/Parliamentarian; Angie Snell, Speaker of the Assembly; Michael Silverman, Assistant Speaker
   f. Betsey King, Ethics Board co-chair
   g. Mary Ellen Wylie, MLE Subcommittee Chair
9. Reviewed minutes of conference calls and the Annual Meeting of the AMTA Board of Directors.
11. Participated in two calls as the AMTA Representative to the National Coalition of the Creative Arts Therapies (NCCATA). I have asked Past President [Amy Furman](mailto:amy.furman@musictherapy.org) to represent AMTA on a regular basis due to her expertise and the additional time demands that this presents to me. Amy will attend the annual meeting of the NCCATA Board in Chicago at the end of April and will have more to report on at the Mid-Year meeting.

At the writing of this report, I am finalizing the agenda for the Mid-Year meeting of the AMTA Board of Directors, which will occur on both ends of the NIH/Kennedy Center events, June 2-3.

**AMTA Archives**

While in Colorado, I took a detour to Colorado State University in Fort Collins, courtesy of [Andrew Knight](mailto:andrew.knight@musictherapy.org). As Archivist [Bill Davis](mailto:bill.davis@musictherapy.org) was enjoying a vacation, two of his knowledgeable grad students, [Shaina Davis](mailto:shaina.davis@musictherapy.org) and [Sarah Hallgrimson](mailto:sarah.hallgrimson@musictherapy.org), gave me a tour of the AMTA Archives. Located in a “stack” in a large, climate-controlled building among many archive collections, some items include published books, manuscripts, regional documents, video cassettes, memorabilia and marching batons belonging to William Sears. Funds raised over the past few years are being used to digitize paper documents and videos to make items searchable in CSU’s database. In addition to viewing an example of an online clickable directory, I received a listing of items slated for a clickable directory for AMTA Archives. This will be a valuable resource, not only for profession historians, but also for anyone interested in learning more about music therapy organizations. Kudos to Bill Davis and his archive team for preserving our history for generations to come.

While visiting regional conferences, I have noted the number of retired music therapists who are still involved in the association. In my upcoming role as Past President, I would be interested in leading an initiative to collect oral histories from retired music therapists. In conversation with the CSU Archivist on this observation, she provided me with information on collecting oral histories. I am excited about this possibility.
Race, Music Therapy & AMTA
During the Mid-Year meeting, we will review an updated version of the Race & MT Report generated by Annette Whitehead-Pleaux in December (see Appendix A). A handful of conference calls with Annette and Amber Weldon-Stephens since the beginning of the year resulted in this updated information. We look forward to engaging the board in a discussion of meaningfully incorporating diversity, multiculturalism and inclusion in the profession of music therapy.

Sustainability Planning
Continuing our discussion on sustainability planning, a portion of our time will include the review of the current Strategic Plan, last reviewed in 2014. (see Appendix B)

Additionally, review and approval is needed on an updated Organizational Chart prior to posting it for reference on www.musictherapy.org (see Appendix C).

Competencies Review
Education and training competencies continue to be discussed and it is time to facilitate a review of both the Professional and Advanced competencies side-by-side. The Professional Competencies were last reviewed, and approved by the Assembly, in 2013; the Advanced Competencies underwent the review process in 2014/15 and revisions were approved by the Assembly in 2015. The competencies are to be reviewed every 5 years. Based on conversations with stakeholders since the last review process, a side-by-side review of the documents would promote consistency. Pending discussion and approval by the Board, I will be assembling a team to commence the review process, resulting in a presentation to the Assembly in Fall 2018.

World Congress of Music Therapy
This summer, I am excited to represent AMTA as an organizational member of the World Federation of Music Therapy at the World Congress in Tsukuba, Japan. As a music therapist in private practice (not as AMTA President), I also plan to join Dena Register, her family and some students, as well as Petra Kern and a few of her students in Thailand, approximately 10 days before going to Tsukuba. It promises to be an exciting summer!

State Recognition Operational Plan
In March, I enjoyed participating in Hill Day with the Colorado Music Therapy Association and students. Half of our group were guests in the House and half in the Senate. I was honored to be introduced by Senator Michael Merrifield to the Senate. Music Therapy received a hearty round of applause! The advocacy efforts by the National Team (Judy Simpson, Mary Fay, Dena Register and Kimberly Sena Moore) and state task forces continue to bring about change, regardless of speed. Our profession continues to grow because of these efforts.

CBMT
We continue to enjoy great collaboration with CBMT and we will welcome Chair Lori Lundeen Smith to our Mid-Year meeting at the end of May. It is noteworthy that CBMT has seen positive results by participating as an exhibitor at each of the regional conferences. AMTA could benefit from increased visibility at regional conferences, should it be financially feasible to exhibit at more than 2 of the regional conferences each year.

Online and Social Media
I am delighted by some of the changes that have been made to www.musictherapy.org as well as the increased social media presence due to the addition of Kimberly Bell as Social Media Coordinator. The addition of the Associate Editors for Communication of both journals has also added to the increased visibility of music therapy online. Kudos to Kimberly Sena Moore and Noah Potvin for their efforts.

In conclusion, I have felt supported by each of our National Office staff and am grateful for their careful attention and dedication: Dianne Wawrzusin, Angie Elkins, Rebeca Preddie, Jane Creagan, Judy Simpson, Al Bumanis, Cindy Smith, Tawna Grasty, Jennifer Peters, and consultant Barb Else. A note of thanks to some of my “A” team, including Andi Farbman, Amy Furman and Amber Weldon-Stephens for their time, support, encouragement and editing prowess! Serving our profession is made easier by their kindesses. But without the love and support of my family, my service would be impossible. It remains an honor to serve as the President of AMTA.
Music therapy, as a profession, and its professional organizations, i.e., the National Association for Music Therapy, the American Association for Music Therapy, and, most recently, the American Music Therapy Association, have all been composed of largely white, female populations. AMTA and its Board of Directors is seeking to diversify our profession and our organization by reaching out to diverse populations through conversations and continuing education to increase our awareness, cultural competence, and, ultimately, diversify the composition of our profession/organization.

Following up on concerns related to the 2016 conference venue, Council Coordinator Whitehead-Pleaux interviewed 24 music therapists of color and allies and provided a detailed report to the Board of Directors in December. Since then, follow-up conference calls with authors of this report and others have resulted in the following initial next steps.

Below are next steps for the AMTA Board of Directors to consider (goals and tasks assigned to the relatively new Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee are inserted at the end of this report and address a number of topics of concern). There may be additional ways that items can be addressed within other committees. We feel that the lack of diversity within our profession and within our organization is an issue that merit the leadership and action of our organization’s governing body, its Board of Directors.

Promoting Cultural Competence

1. **Continuing Education**
   a. **Conferences** – concurrent sessions/tracks and panels are being planned for St. Louis; this includes a combination of accepted and invited proposals. Update by Jean Nemeth and Kristen O’Grady at Mid-Year. We believe that this type of conference planning should be institutionalized.
   b. **E-courses/podcasts** – recordings are often done by the Knoll team during conference, based on topics presented in conference program. A coordinator is needed for this effort, but all can suggest presenters to the Knolls for podcast recordings. Additionally, consider inviting one to two teams per year to initiate an E-course on the following topics (not limited to):
      i. White Privilege – Nicole Hahna to assemble a team
      ii. Latin American Cultures – Annette Whithead-Pleaux has assembled a team including Marlen Rodríguez Wolfe, Cynthia Koskela, and Patricia Zarate
      iii. LGBTQAI+ – Team Rainbow – E-course forthcoming
      iv. Asian American Cultures
      v. MT Activism
      vi. Black Cultures
      vii. MTs with disabilities
      viii. Native American/First People Cultures
      ix. Faith/Religion
      x. Biracial/Biethnic
      xi. Asian American Cultures
      xii. Persian Cultures
      xiii. Arab Cultures
      xiv. And more
   c. A question for CBMT – as there is an Ethics requirement for recertification, what about a Diversity/Multiculturalism component for recertification as well?
   d. For **Leadership** – A well-educated Board on these topics would be a good example to members and non-members alike. Providing time and finances to educate leaders in our association will help move our organization forward. Discussion and information could be provided in orientation materials, but also occur each time we meet face to face in order to continue challenging discussions and avoid appearing reactionary to issues that might come up. Continued conversations may help prevent challenging issues or at the very least, help the Board better manage challenges that arise.
1. Consideration of employing the use of the **Intercultural Diversity Inventory**
   [https://idiinventory.com/products/12-reasons-for-using-the-idi/](https://idiinventory.com/products/12-reasons-for-using-the-idi/)

2. **Social Justice – Human Rights**
   b. Explore a rationale for this function that relates to AMTA’s mission
   c. Purpose: to search websites of related professions and make recommendations for language use and generate a report including such to the Board.
   d. Possible association websites for consideration:
      iv. American Medical Association
      v. American Psychiatric Association [https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/cultural-competency](https://www.psychiatry.org/psychiatrists/cultural-competency)
      vi. American Academy of Pediatrics
      vii. American Counseling Association
      viii. Creative Arts Therapies Associations
      ix. Allied health organizations
      x. And more

3. **Future needs**
   a. Review association documents in relation to best practices in related fields, in consideration of clarifying and/or expanding diversity & multiculturalism requirements:
      i. Standards of Education & Training
      ii. Standards of Clinical Practice
      iii. Professional and Advanced Competencies
      iv. Code of Ethics
   b. Possibility of expanding scholarship opportunities to diverse populations (looking at what other organizations do as a model)
   c. Resources/responses to/for mass traumas
   d. Resource/Reading/Film lists (possibly collected by the committee)
   e. Glossary of Terms (to include cultural currency, institutional racism, systemic oppression, for example) (possibly collected by the committee)
   f. Encourage and support educators to recruit and select people diverse students
   g. Consider creating a three-year plan of priorities for the Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee’s large list of Goals and Tasks to focus the work needed.

4. **Items already addressed:**
   a. Apology re: lack of awareness on the effect of the conference venue was included in the November 2016 issue of MTM.
   b. Nondiscrimination & Equal Opportunity Policy was approved by the Board and Assembly in 2015 and located here: [http://www.musictherapy.org/about/nondiscrimination_and_equal_opportunity_policy/](http://www.musictherapy.org/about/nondiscrimination_and_equal_opportunity_policy/) and highlighted in the weeks after the election here: [http://www.musictherapy.org/amta_reaffirms_dedication_to_its_mission_and_non-discrimination/](http://www.musictherapy.org/amta_reaffirms_dedication_to_its_mission_and_non-discrimination/)
   c. Jennifer created a video reading of the policy which is posted on the home page: [http://www.musictherapy.org/](http://www.musictherapy.org/)
d. Jennifer had many calls on this topic, including with Intercultural Diversity Inventory facilitator, Chatelle Todman Moore, Marisol Norris and Janelle Junkin; with Nicole Hahna; and with Annette and Amber to complete this report.

**Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee Goals and Tasks** from 2016 Council Coordinator Handbook (highlighted items relate to items on initial report by Annette Whitehead-Pleaux 12-16)

Goal 1: To encourage increased diversity within the population of music therapy professionals and students in the US.

Task 1a: Periodically gather information on the diversity of music therapy professionals and students in the US.

Task 1b: Identify the various diversity groups within AMTA and CBMT. Identify their mission and progress so far (e.g., Team Rainbow, Black student and professional meeting at conference, international students, listserv for MTs who are visually impaired, etc.)

Goal 2: To increase diversity and multiculturalism training and resources for AMTA members.

Task 2a: Gather and catalogue information (develop baseline) on how much training and resources are currently offered (track presentations relating to multiculturalism and diversity in music therapy at both regional and national conferences, assess training given in undergraduate and graduate programs, internship, etc.) and then explore the possibility and feasibility of adding a required course on multiculturalism and diversity in undergraduate training.

Task 2b: Study other organizations that already have successful resource databases in order to determine and to recommend the best method for pooling, disseminating, monitoring, and updating content.

Task 2c: Create a survey to ask music therapy professionals and students what type of diversity resources would be beneficial to them as potential CMTEs, concurrent sessions, and other training/education methodologies.

Task 2d: Potentially create diversity related training modules for university programs and clinical training directors at national roster internship sites.

Task 2e: Work with conference committees to (1) ensure a given percentage of CMTE and concurrent sessions contain information related to cultural and/or diversity training; (2) make recommendations for pre-conference or CMTE courses; (3) regularly offer a panel regarding multiculturalism and diversity in MT; and/or (4) create a series of roundtable discussions at regional and national conferences regarding specific diversity topics.

Task 2f: Provide additional information for other committees as they address multiculturalism and diversity issues.

Task 2g: Create a “Diversity Awareness Resources” section/forum and an online resource database (including a roster of the different diversity categories among music therapy professionals registered within AMTA and certified by CBMT, podcasts and other appropriate social media channels).

Task 2h: Post reports of committee action on the Members Only section of the AMTA website.

Goal 3: To provide a support system, including tools and resources, for music therapy professionals and students from diverse groups.

Task 3a: Gather information on current discrimination support and other support available to music therapists/students from diverse groups.

Task 3b: Create a roster of and then resource page or link on the AMTA website explaining the different diversity categories among music therapy professionals registered within AMTA and certified by CBMT.

Task 3c: Develop and update resources for music therapists and students in minority groups.
Task 3d: Create marketing information for the above resources so music therapy professionals and students will be aware of them.

Goal 4: To monitor and recommend revisions to AMTA documents to achieve conformity to accepted language concerning diversity and multiculturalism.

Task 4a: Explore arts-based and non arts-based organizations’ diversity initiatives, then create recommendations for AMTA.

Task 4b: Compose up-to-date guidelines for diversity inclusive language in professional documents; define accepted language concerning diversity and multiculturalism and/or identify the standards on which conforming criteria will be based.

Task 4c: Develop a strategy to facilitate long-term monitoring of all official AMTA documents, including thorough review, submission of recommended revisions to appropriate AMTA personnel, and a schedule for recurring reviews.
APPENDIX B - GEIGER

Discussion of highlighted items as they relate to an outdated reference to “Futures Council.”
The AMTA Strategic Plan is highlighted and used in the “Council Coordinator’s Committee Handbook.” Once reviewed/updated, it can be posted on www.musictherapy.org under “About AMTA” for easy reference.

AMTA Strategic Plan as stated in the 2004 Sourcebook, p. 11

MISSION STATEMENT
The mission of the American Music Therapy Association is to advance public knowledge of music therapy benefits and to increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world.

PURPOSE
The AMTA Strategic Plan is a dynamic document detailing the goals and objectives of the Association. Developed by the AMTA Board of Directors, with input from the AMTA National Office Staff, the Strategic Plan will serve to direct the programs and activities of the Association over the next 3-5 years. As this Plan is operationalized and implemented, the Board of Directors will continue to evaluate, refine, revise and expand the goals and objectives in order to fulfill and fully realize the mission of AMTA.

GOALS
I. Efficacy
II. Advocacy
III. Professional Development
IV. Resource Development

I. EFFICACY
AMTA’s continuing challenge is to promote and provide scientific data and information that demonstrate the effectiveness and outcomes of quality music therapy services.

Goal Statement: To support, strengthen, and advance the credibility of music therapy services.

1.1 Prioritize a research agenda
1.2 Prioritize an information agenda
1.3 Position the organization as a Resource Center
1.4 Establish and maintain strategic partnerships related to efficacy.

1.5 Interpret and synthesize the ongoing reports of the Futures Council when developing strategic, marketing, and operational initiatives.

II. ADVOCACY
Promoting music therapy means advancing music therapy as a viable healthcare profession and as an efficacious clinical intervention. In addition, AMTA must continue to advocate for the provision of music therapy services in medical, educational, community-based, and other settings.

Goal Statement: To advance public knowledge music therapy benefits.

2.1 Develop a communications program that will articulate music therapy benefits to targeted audiences, related organizations, and potential funders.
2.2 Develop music therapists and others as advocates at international, national, state, and local levels.
2.3 Develop strategies that will result in the support and enactment of legislation, regulations, policies, and programs that will increase access to and funding for music therapy services and programs.
2.4 Establish and maintain strategic partnerships related to advocacy.

2.5 Interpret and synthesize the ongoing reports of the Futures Council when developing strategic marketing, and operational initiatives.
III. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
AMTA’s ongoing commitment is to ensure quality music therapy services by maximizing the development of professionals. Fulfilling the goal of ensuring access to quality MT services necessitates a growing number of professionals to deliver MT services.

**Goal Statement:** To provide information, education and technical assistance on effective therapeutic models and emerging therapeutic practices; best business and association practices; and labor supply and demand economics to address the needs of the profession.

3.1 Encourage educational and clinical training programs to reflect current and future market demands.
3.2 Establish and maintain standards for the music therapy profession.
3.3 Provide information through conferences, publications and other materials as to how members can use both traditional and innovative tools and technology to improve clinical practice.
3.4 Provide opportunities for members to enhance professional competencies to obtain employment and thrive in a changing service delivery system.
3.5 Develop and encourage leadership training and mentoring opportunities at every level of the association.
3.6 Conduct a nationwide music therapy labor supply and demand study.
3.7 Establish and maintain strategic partnerships related to professional development.

3.8 Interpret and synthesize the ongoing reports of the Futures Council when developing strategic, marketing, and operational initiatives.

IV. RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
Fiscal and human resources are foundations on which the aforementioned programmatic areas must be built.

**Goal Statement:** To ensure achievement of the organization’s mission and objectives through effective development and allocation of financial and human resources.

4.1 Develop a comprehensive, long-range financial plan to ensure that adequate funding is available for the fulfillment of the strategic plan.
4.2 Ensure adequate human resources (staff and volunteers) are available for ongoing development of strategic plan programs and services.
4.3 Establish and maintain strategic partnerships related to resources development.

4.4 Interpret and synthesize the ongoing reports of the Futures Council when developing strategic, marketing, and operational initiatives.
APPENDIX C - GEIGER

AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
- Legislative and policy-making body
- Receives and acts upon legislation from membership, Council Coordinators, Board of Directors & Assembly Delegates
- Elects 4 members to Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- Holds fiduciary responsibility for Association
- Determines long-range goals and objectives
- Transacts general business
- Prepares annual budget
- Responsible for control/expenditure of funds
- Appoints assistants to officers

REGIONS
- Regions authorized by Assembly
- Elects Assembly Delegates
- Selects members for Standing Committees
- Conducts regional business

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SAAB
ETHICS BOARD
JUDICIAL REVIEW BOARD

NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF

COUNCIL ON EDUCATION AND CLINICAL TRAINING COUNCIL COORDINATOR
- Serves ex officio on Board of Directors
- Facilitates communication to/from Nat’l Office, Board of Directors, President and Committees/Board
- Meets with Committees to update goals & tasks, address issues, coordinate with other AMTA bodies
- Reports on Council to Board of Directors & Assembly

COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COUNCIL COORDINATOR
- Serves ex officio on Board of Directors
- Facilitates communication to/from Nat’l Office, Board of Directors, President and Committees/Board
- Meets with Committees to update goals & tasks, address issues, coordinate with other AMTA bodies
- Reports on Council to Board of Directors & Assembly

COUNCIL ON ASSOCIATION SERVICES COUNCIL COORDINATOR
- Serves ex officio on Board of Directors
- Facilitates communication to/from Nat’l Office, Board of Directors, President and Committees/Board
- Meets with Committees to update goals & tasks, address issues, coordinate with other AMTA bodies
- Reports on Council to Board of Directors & Assembly

STANDING COMMITTEES
- Education & Training Advisory Board
- Academic Program Approval Committee
- Association Internship Approval Committee
- Continuing Education Committee
- Government Relations Committee
- Reimbursement Committee
- Research Committee
- Standards of Clinical Practice Committee
- Technology Committee
- Affiliate Relations Committee, Workforce Development & Retention Committee
- International Relations Committee
- Membership Committee
- Professional Advocacy Committee
- Clinical Practice Networking Committee
- Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee

Dotted lines show liaison/indirect relationships; solid lines show direct reporting relationships/ MAY 2016
The duties of the Immediate Past President are identified in Article IV, Section 8 of the AMTA Bylaws. “The Immediate Past President assists the President as requested and provides continuity in the administration of the Association…”

An overview of key tasks completed since November 2016 includes:

I have provided historical information as well as feedback, ideas, and assistance on a variety of topics and tasks at the request of President Geiger and President Elect Amber Weldon-Stephens.

I participated in all email ballots and conference calls of the AMTA Executive Committee, Executive Personnel Committee, Financial Advisory Committee and the AMTA Board of Directors. I continue to serve on the MLE subcommittee and the Pro Bono Work Group.

**NCCATA:** I participated in the National Coalition for Creative Art Therapies Associations calls to provide continuity and, at the request of President Geiger, I attended the face-to-face April NCCATA meeting (see attached report).

**Nominating Committee:** The slate of experienced, highly qualified candidates for the 2017 election are: President Elect--Deb Benkovitz Williams and Jean Nemeth and Vice President Elect--Ed Kahler and Wendy Woolsey. The candidates were introduced at the first General Business meeting of the 2016 annual conference and their pictures were included in the President’s Address at all of the regional conferences. All have signed the “Procedures for Candidates for National Office” agreement as included in the 2016 Board Book. Upcoming opportunities for member engagement include 1) a short video introduction by each candidate 2) written on-line questions and answers 3) traditional written statements, which will be posted on the AMTA website prior to the November 2017 conference and subsequent election period, 4) Meet the Candidates session at the conference. The membership voted for a bylaw change to include the option of electronic voting. I have reviewed a variety of online election sites and recommended several to be considered. The national office staff are studying options and will report the status at the mid-year meeting.

**Membership Work Group:** Vice President Elect Kristen O’Grady and I co-chair this committee as part of the Financial Action Plan. See her report for information about this active work group.

**Executive Personnel Committee:** I assisted Amber Weldon-Stephens, President Elect, in completing the Board’s 2016 personnel evaluation for Andrea Farbman, AMTA Executive Director.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Immediate Past President
American Music Therapy Association
President Geiger and I participated in all of the NCCATA calls for continuity. At her request, I attended the face-to-face meeting as the AMTA representative.

AMTA continues to work closely with the 5 other creative arts therapies organizations to monitor and respond to concerns related to artists in healthcare and other issues impacting the creative arts therapies. Ronna Kaplan has assumed the chair position early due to the unexpected death of Joan Phillips, PhD, LMFT, LPC, ATR-BC. The work started by Joan has continued and NCCATA now has revised Operating Procedures and Strategic Priorities.

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY GOALS:**
1. Clarify NCCATA’S Mission, Officer Job Descriptions and Tasks
2. Expand Advocacy to Identify and Monitor Opportunities for the Period 2016-2017 through 2020-2021
3. Expand The NCCATA’S Operational and Financial Resources

**MISSION:** To further the creative arts therapies through facilitation of collaborative advocacy, research and education.

**Meeting Highlights:**

The National Organization for Arts in Health (NOAH) has commissioned a whitepaper in preparation for its first inaugural conference to be held in conjunction with the Healthcare Facilities Symposium and Expo, September 18-20, in Austin, Texas. A collaborative panel presentation by a local art therapist, drama therapist, and music therapist is planned. NCCATA members were most appreciative of Dr. Farbman’s assistance in requesting and preparing a revision of the whitepaper document’s initial outline. Time was spent on a call with Patricia Lambert, the lead author for the paper. The working title at this time is *Arts in Health and the Creative Arts Therapies in America.*

There are 35 AATA-approved schools, and 7 ADTA schools (by comparison, AMTA has 80). All of the representatives talked about diversity, the need to have therapists who more closely represent their clientele and increase access to services for those in need. There was discussion by several about the cost of degrees and how representative the student body is or is not when education programs are primarily in large and, thus, expensive cities. The face-to-face meeting allows for dialogue and discussion around experiences that highlight the similarities and differences within our organizations.

**Conferences:** The associations are encouraged to send a Board member or representative to conferences:

- American Art Therapy Association November 8-12, 2017 - Albuquerque, NM
- American Dance Therapy Association November 2-5, 2017 San Antonio, TX
- American Music Therapy Association November 16-19, 2017 St. Louis, MO
- American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama May 4-7, 2017 Clearwater, FL
- National Association for Poetry Therapy April 6-9, 2017 Denver, CO
- North American Drama Therapy Association October 26 - 29, 2017 Danvers, MA

Amy Furman, MM, MT-BC, Immediate Past President, American Music Therapy Association
According to Article IV Section 7 of the Bylaws the duties of the President Elect are:
“to assist the President as requested, to study the duties of the President in anticipation of assuming the responsibilities of the Presidency, and to assume all duties of the President in case of resignation, disability or absence of the President. In addition, the President Elect studies the Bylaws and related literature for the purpose of proposing revisions to these documents where such revisions are necessary to keep the documents current and responsive to the aims, objectives and purposes of the Association. The President Elect also serve as communication liaison from the Board of Directors to the Education and Training Advisory Board, the Ethics Board, the Judicial Review Board and the Student Affairs Advisory Board.”

Ongoing duties:

- Continue to assist the President as requested by providing information and feedback.
- Participate in scheduled conference calls with the President, Executive Director, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Financial Advisory Committee and Council Coordinators.
- Review the Bylaws and related documents for continuity.
- Proposed bylaws change per annual conference discussions concerning student membership rights and Judicial Review Board clarification are below:

  1. Article III Membership
     - Section 4. Student membership is open to declared music therapy majors enrolled in AMTA-approved schools or other interested students. Such membership provides the privilege of participation in the activities of the Association, on both national and regional levels, and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, and other selected national and regional publications of the Association. Student membership does not include the right to vote or to hold office at the national level. Such rights at the regional level are specified by the regional bylaws.

     - Proposed Change: Student membership is open to declared music therapy majors enrolled in AMTA-approved schools or other interested students. Such membership provides the privilege of participation in the activities of the Association, on both national and regional levels, and the right to receive the Journal of Music Therapy, Music Therapy Perspectives, and other selected national and regional publications of the Association. Student membership does not include the right to vote, to serve as the regional representative on a national committee or Board, or to hold office at the national level. Student rights at the regional level are specified by the regional bylaws.

     - Rationale: Professionals who had gone back to graduate school and chose to become student members were requesting to continue their service on committees as their regional representatives. The decision to serve at the national level comes with the privilege of professional membership. This was unclear as previously stated in the bylaws and therefore regional presidents were requesting clarity on this matter.

  2. Article IX, Section 2. Judicial Review Board:
     - a. The Association’s policy is to assure the speedy and fair resolution of conflicts, to provide for review processes that guarantee the fair and reasonable application of Association policies to persons involved with the Association, and to encourage mediation of potential conflicts at the earliest possible moment. The President and Judicial Review Board are responsible to ensure that the appeal procedures, processes, and mediation provisions are appropriately supported, respected, and enforced.

     - b. The Judicial Review Board is empowered to study and render decisions on all appeals. No decision of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee shall be the subject of an appeal under this section.
Proposed change:

a. The Judicial Review Board is empowered to study and render decisions on appeals. No decision of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee shall be the subject of an appeal under this section. The President and Judicial Review Board are responsible to ensure that the appeal procedures, processes, and mediation provisions are appropriately supported, and enforced.

b. The Association’s policy is to ensure the speedy and fair resolution of conflicts, to provide for review processes that guarantee the fair and reasonable application of Association policies to persons involved with the Association, and to encourage mediation of potential conflicts at the earliest possible moment.

Rationale: Questions have arisen regarding the distinct role of the Judicial Review Board. Upon further review of the bylaws, the need to clarify the opening sentences by rearranging the order of the information became apparent. The content has not changed just the order of presentation.

Executive Personnel Committee
I chaired the Executive Personnel Committee (EPC), which completed the annual review process for the Executive Director as charged in the Bylaws, Article XVII, Section 4. “The Executive Director is reviewed annually by the Board of Directors. Contractual arrangements between the Executive Director and the Board of Directors provide for evaluation of work, resignation, dismissal, salary, length of term, and other essentials of the position."
The EPC is made up of members of the Executive Committee, as stated in the Bylaws (Article VI, Section 6) President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Secretary/Treasurer and Speaker of the Assembly, but minus the Executive Director. After receiving all evaluation forms from members of the Board of Director in November, I summarized the numerical data and written comments, and drafted an Evaluation Letter. The letter was reviewed and refined with input from the EPC members Jennifer Geiger, Amy Furman, Alicia Clair and Angie Snell. The evaluation revealed outstanding ratings for Dr. Farbman’s commitment and dedication to our association. The draft letter was sent to Dr. Farbman, and we spoke with her via conference call and completed the 2016 evaluation process. A full report will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Mid-Year meeting. Non-confidential items of information concerning the ED evaluation process are included in the appendix.

BOD Communication Liaison:
- ETAB: Elizabeth Schwartz as chair reports no action items at this time. Please review her report for further information.
- AMTA Ethics Board: Betsy King and Carol Shultis are the co-chairs and report no action items at this time. Please review their reports for further information.
- AMTA Judicial Review Board: Julie Andring is the chair and has spent time reviewing the JRB bylaws and procedures. There are no grievances reported to the Judicial Review Board at this time. The term of Andrew Knight will expire at the end of 2017.
- Student Affairs Advisory Board (SAAB): Jeffery Wolfe is the chair and has one action item for the BOD: Action Item: Recommendations for size of AMTAS 40th Anniversary celebration at Conference.

Special Assignments:
- I have been working closely with the Masters Level Entry committee as a facilitator to help Chair Mary Ellen Wylie streamline the work load and assist in any request. I have participated when available on Pro Bono calls which have been frequent and intense over the past six months. The members of the Pro Bono sub group are to be commended for their endless endeavors with Adam Clark and the decision model analysis process.
- I have co-chaired the Board Restructuring Task Force along with Ed Kahler. Members, Mike Silverman, Debbie Bates, Debbie Benkovitz Williams, Jean Nemeth and Angie Snell are to be commended for their focused and efficient work. The report is included in the Appendix.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Weldon-Stephens, President Elect
MOTION: Resolve, that the AMTA Board of Directors appoint a task force to study and make a recommendation to this board regarding the feasibility of restructuring board membership, to include one voting representative from each region from the Assembly of Delegates.

AMTA RESTRUCTURING TASK FORCE (RTF) RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION: No restructuring of AMTA Board of Directors (BoD) at the present time.

RATIONALE: While recognizing the ongoing need for clear communication and collaborative effort between the national and regional leadership/membership, it is the opinion of the RTF that altering the composition of the AMTA BoD is not advisable at the present time. The RTF’s unanimous decision is based on the following factors:

1. Increasing the BoD size would:
   - Increase the expenses related to board operations resulting in additional strain on limited AMTA financial resources
   - Alter the organizational checks & balances currently in place (i.e., BoD is equally divided between 4 voting officers [elected directly by membership] & 4 voting Assembly representatives [elected by those representing regions])
   - Potentially result in a more cumbersome governing structure:
     - possibility of less engaged/participatory board members
     - potential for decreased productivity
     - increased scheduling challenges
   - Further burden the limited volunteer pool, especially if the additional board members are drawn from regional leadership as suggested

2. The end goal/result is uncertain:
   - Question as to whether increased size would in fact result in increased communication/collaboration
   - There may be unintended consequences of this change
     - The Change may be negatively perceived by membership
   - There are no complaints about current structure by Assembly or membership

3. Logistical Considerations
   - Impending staff changes (e.g., Executive Director) warrant stability of BoD structure as AMTA moves through this process
   - Need for consistent, undistracted attention to upcoming large scale priorities/opportunities facing AMTA in near future (e.g., Veterans Administration/MTR 2025)

ALTERNATIVES: However, the RTF does recognize the need for increased communication/collaboration between the organizational levels of AMTA and offers the following suggestions that could result in improvements without requiring full BoD restructuring:

Disconnect with Regions:
1. Have regional presidents arrive at conference on Wednesday at AMTA expense & participate in a half or full day of national board meetings plus dinner, with the agenda focused on issues pertinent to regions. This should prove less costly than adding several new members to our Board year-round.
2. Have Regional Representative personnel change more frequently and be drawn from recent regional past presidents who are presumably closer to the issues facing the regions.
3. AMTA BoD could add a position directly responsible for representing diversity: race/creed/orientation/etc. (RTF Comment: This agenda should govern all BoD activities & may not warrant additional personnel)
4. **Original Proposal (not currently supported by RTF):** Increase to Seven region-based voting Assembly members on the BoD to strengthen national-regional partnership (Comment: Would result in a shift of checks & balances as noted)

**Communication with Membership:**

1. Have an annual “Meet Your Assembly” session at ALL regional conferences affording members a formalized structure for direct access to their representatives, thus providing opportunity increased communication.

2. Look for other models/structures to effect better connection between the national & regional boards in carrying our AMTA’s mission.

3. Due to AMTA’s small size, we must emphasize collaboration to most effectively utilize our limited resources (members/ideas/finances.)

4. Resolve perceived issues via communication enhancements and protocols rather than a complete restructuring of the board.

**Current Structure/Large Tasks-Changes Ahead:**

**Board of Directors:**
1. Before altering BoD composition, examine ways in which current positions might expand their role:
   - Regional Presidents’ Representative could further expand communication
   - Include regional presidents in 1 day of national conference BoD meetings (as noted)
   - More clearly define duties/roles of the assembly reps. on the board is a way to realistically implement positive change

2. In light of imminent changes/looming big picture tasks, maintaining current, stable structure while clearly identifying tasks-personnel relationships (who is responsible for what) may be best immediate course of action

**Assembly:**
1. Restrict the number of Assembly Representative to BoD from a single region to enhance equality in representation—allow no more than 2 members from any region to run for these positions OR ask each region to select 1 member of their delegation to run for the 4 Board positions

2. Prior to board position elections, the voting Assembly could/should be reminded to vote for people who will best represent the membership. Remind potential candidates that service is a privilege/honor and they should think hard about it when asked, rather than giving a blanket NO.

Thank you to Jean Nemeth and Debbie Bates for their efforts in organizing and reporting the information gathered by the task force.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Weldon-Stephens, EdS, LPMT, MT-BC and Ed Kahler, PhD, MT-BC
APPENDIX B – WELDON-STEPHENS

TIMELINE AND PROCEDURES
ANNUAL EVALUATION OF THE AMTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Timeline:
Mid-Year Meeting – President appoints the Executive Personnel Committee (herein referred to as Committee) and appoints the Chair. In the first year of the Board’s term, the President Elect chairs the committee and is mentored by the Past President. In the second year the President appoints the President Elect or another designee as Chair.

3 weeks before annual meeting/conference – Executive Director submits a self-evaluation for the Assembly/Board Book via the Annual Report of the Executive Director.

Board of Directors receives via email a sample copy of the evaluation materials (job description, evaluation form) prior to the annual conference.

Annual meeting/conference or November 20 (whichever comes first) – Evaluation materials are distributed to the Board of Directors.

Conclusion of Annual Conference/November 24 (whichever comes first) – Evaluation materials are returned to the Chair of the Committee.

December 10 – Chair completes a preliminary report that includes summary numerical data and comments from respondents and distributes summary materials to the Committee.

December 15 – Chair creates an Evaluation Letter for the Executive Director based on summary data and feedback received from the Committee and sends copy to Committee and Executive Director.

January 15 – Chair convenes a call of the Executive Personnel Committee to discuss the evaluation results and the letter prior to the call with the Executive Director.

January 20 – Executive Director meets with the committee via conference call to discuss results of the evaluation, plan future goals, and make a recommendation regarding compensation. (Note: on even years, the call will occur with the prior terms officers and will include the people in the new positions.)

Evaluation Policy and Process:
As outlined in the Bylaws (Article XVII, Sections 1-4), the Executive Director's performance and compensation shall be reviewed annually by representatives of the AMTA Board of Directors. In order to perform the review, the President convenes the Executive Personnel Committee consisting of the President, President Elect, Past President, Treasurer, and Speaker of the Assembly or Presidential designee, to conduct an evaluation of the performance of the employee. By the end of the year under review, the Committee shall submit the results of the evaluation to the Executive Director. The Committee shall discuss the results with the Executive Director at a time agreed upon by all parties.

The Committee will review previous performance evaluations, distribute evaluation forms and essential materials to those involved in the process, collect and compile results, and make suggestions for improvement. The evaluation process consists of three essential elements: (1) self-evaluation of the AMTA Executive Director as reported in the Annual Report of the Executive Director, (2) survey of elected and appointed members of the AMTA Board of Directors, and (3) narrative summary. The Committee will distribute to the Board of Directors the following: (a) a cover letter explaining the process, (b) the job description of the AMTA Executive Director, (c) the evaluation form, (d) a current copy of the Executive Director's Summary of Activities and Performance Evaluation Comments or the Executive Summary prepared for the Board of Directors Annual Meeting, and (e) an envelope.
November 2016

Procedures:

1. The AMTA President convenes the Executive Personnel Committee to carry out the evaluation procedures.

2. The Committee asks the Executive Director to provide written self-evaluation materials (the Annual Report of the Executive Director prepared for the Annual Meeting Board of Directors Book, and/or other materials as directed by the Board). The Executive Director will forward the materials to the Chair or Chair’s designee of the Committee for the purpose of providing them with the evaluation materials.

3. The Committee prepares a cover letter for the evaluation process explaining evaluation procedures to the Board of Directors. Information regarding the confidentiality of responses, the value of comments, and specific reference to the nominal quality of the ranking scale shall be included. The form will contain an optional signature line so respondents who wish to be identified may do so. Since the evaluation form was not designed for statistical analysis, the numbers and ranking scale are meant only for the gathering of descriptive information.

4. The Committee fills in the appropriate information on the evaluation form for the period of review: a return deadline, name of the person to whom the completed survey is to be sent, and contact information.

5. Evaluation materials and forms will be distributed to members of the Board of Directors. The Chair of the Committee will be responsible for gathering evaluation forms and materials.

6. A preliminary report will be prepared, which will include summary numerical data and all comments from respondents, and the summary will be distributed to Committee members for review and feedback. The President or a Presidential designee, in conjunction with the Committee, shall prepare the Evaluation Letter.

7. After the Executive Director receives the Evaluation Letter, the Committee will meet with the Executive Director to discuss the results of the evaluation and plan appropriate goals for the next year.

8. In addition, the actual evaluation forms will be made available to the Executive Director. These forms will be given to the Executive Director following a teleconference meeting with the Committee and the Executive Director to discuss the results of the evaluation.

Revised February 1999
Revised December 2003
Revised November 2011
Revised September 2012
Revised November 2015
APPENDIX C – WELDON-STEPHENS

AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION

Executive Director Job Description

I. Position Title: Executive Director

II. Reports to: Board of Directors

III. Basic Function: The Executive Director shall be the principal employee of the Board of Directors as specified in the employment contract. The Executive Director shall transact much of the business of the Association in the name of the President and of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director hires and supervises all association staff and consultants.

Duties and Responsibilities

A. ADMINISTRATION & SUPERVISION—ensuring that national office and staff resources are available to fully implement the AMTA mission.

1. Manages day-to-day operation of Association and National Office.

2. Hires, supervises, coordinates, and evaluates National Office staff, consultants and volunteers; fills staff vacancies as needed.

3. Oversees routine procedural processing of materials related to functions of the organization and adheres to policies and procedures as determined by the Board of Directors and Assembly of Delegates.

4. Is authorized to negotiate and enter into legally binding agreements on behalf of the Association, seeking input and reporting such agreements to the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors.

5. Supervises arrangements for meetings of the Board of Directors, conferences of the Association, and other miscellaneous meetings.

6. Serves as ex officio member of the Board of Directors, the Assembly of Delegates, and all Standing Committees and Councils without the right to vote.

7. Serves as business manager for all official publications of the Association. Serves as editor of selected publications.

8. Assures that accurate minutes and records of the actions of the Board of Directors and Assembly of Delegates are recorded and disseminated to the appropriate parties and are readily accessible.
9. Facilitates communication and seeks adherence to Association policies at the national, regional, and state levels.

10. Reports regularly to the President, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, or committees of the Board of Directors, as appropriate, on the performance of the Association.

11. Advises officers of the Association on regulations regarding taxes, legal liability, non-profit status, and legality and propriety of Association policy and procedural documents.

12. Assists elected and appointed officers in the discharge of their responsibilities.

13. Alerts the Board of Directors as other needs arise and suggests appropriate actions for consideration by the Board.

14. Oversees Association’s website and National Office computer information systems, including hardware and software.

B. FISCAL MANAGEMENT & OVERSIGHT—providing financial guidance, leadership and oversight and assisting the Board of Directors with its fiduciary responsibilities.

1. Works with Treasurer, Budget Team and Financial Advisory Committee to develop annual budgets; seeks approval from the Board of Directors.

2. Closely monitors and analyzes annual budget as compared with actual expenses throughout the year. Proposes budgetary revisions as needed.

3. Ensures adherence to authorized expenditures and auditing regulations. Oversees check writing, bank accounts, and investments.

4. Completes and files all necessary Association tax and business reports, especially as related to AMTA’s tax exempt status.

5. Promotes and investigates potential sources of revenue inside and outside the Association.

6. Provides assistance to Board-led development efforts.

C. MEMBER & ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIPS—effectively working with the many individuals and groups inside and outside the Association to ensure that the work of the association is implemented.
1. Maintains continuing contacts with elected and appointed officers of the Association, the Board of Directors, and within and between standing committees and the Assembly of Delegates.

2. Provides direct assistance to each region related to the general administration of regional business and IRS documents under the AMTA tax umbrella.

3. Confers with individual members when appropriate.

4. Maintains relationships with officers and executives of other related associations and organizations concerned with issues relevant to AMTA.

5. Maintains relationships with employees and individuals or firms that furnish services to the Association and monitors the terms and effectiveness of the services provided.

D. PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL QUALITIES—demonstrating a commitment to the mission and priorities of AMTA.

1. Represents Association as a spokesperson at designated meetings and conferences, and with key officials, inside and outside of the Association, in concert and cooperation with the Board of Directors.

2. Demonstrates commitment to the Association’s programs.

3. Assists Association leaders with leadership development.

4. Identifies and brings to the attention of the Board, issues related to the Association’s mission that need to be addressed.

5. Demonstrates leadership skills and qualities such as excellent verbal and written skills, good judgment, and loyalty.

6. Pursues professional development and other opportunities to enhance performance.

7. Regularly produces high quality work.

8. Remains enthusiastic about and committed to the Association’s mission.

9. Functions well in a crisis situation.

Revised 6/27/2015
### Administration & Supervision

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<td>Record keeping of meetings of the Board of Directors, Assembly, or other groups or committees</td>
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### Fiscal Management & Oversight

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<td>Oversees budget development</td>
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<td>Monitors &amp; analyzes annual budget</td>
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<td>Insures audit is conducted and analyzed</td>
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<td>Analyzes and synthesizes budgetary information</td>
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<td>Discusses and explains tax or business reports</td>
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<td>Negotiates favorable contracts</td>
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<td>Manages association cash flow</td>
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<td>Consults with Association attorneys</td>
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<td>Consults with accountants</td>
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<td>Oversees conference planning and budget</td>
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<td>Board, Member &amp; Association Relationships</td>
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<td>Works closely with officers and Board members</td>
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<td>Is aware of &amp; sensitive to member needs and concerns</td>
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<td>Provides assistance to leaders &amp; groups, such as Council Coord., Task Forces, &amp; Ethics Board</td>
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<td>Is aware of &amp; sensitive to regional needs &amp; concerns</td>
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<td>Targets relevant new individuals and/or organizations related to AMTA’s mission</td>
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<td>Builds &amp; maintains relationships with related associations and organizations</td>
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<td>Trouble-shoots issues of concern within and outside the music therapy profession</td>
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<td>Professional Leadership &amp; Personal Qualities</td>
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<td>Demonstrates commitment to the mission of AMTA</td>
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<td>Demonstrates commitment to the improvement of AMTA</td>
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<td>Maintains knowledge of current developments within &amp; outside the music therapy profession</td>
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<td>Maintains knowledge of current developments in non-profit and Association management</td>
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<td>Works as spokesperson on behalf of AMTA</td>
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<td>Demonstrates crisis management skills</td>
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<td>Demonstrates professional verbal and written communication skills</td>
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<td>Demonstrates interpersonal skills, such as open mindedness, sensitivity, judgment, &amp; integrity</td>
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<td>Accepts constructive criticism</td>
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<td>Presents a professional appearance</td>
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<td>Takes initiative in completing assignments</td>
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<td>Demonstrates quality work</td>
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Legend

5 = Outstanding  4 = Above Average  3 = Average  2 = Needs Strengthening  1 = Poor  N/A = rater stated not applicable
Per Article IV, Section 9 of the AMTA Bylaws, “The Vice President serves as the program chairperson for annual conferences during his or her term in office. This officer presides in the absence of the President, President Elect, and Immediate Past President, and succeeds to the Presidency in the case of disability or resignation of the President, President Elect, and Past President. A vacancy in the office of Vice President is filled by the Vice President Elect.”

In my capacity as a voting member of the AMTA Board of Directors, I have participated in all conference calls and email ballots since the annual meeting in November. In addition, I served on the Restructuring Task Force under the direction of President Elect Weldon-Stephens & Co-chair Kahler, assisting with the data analysis and final report writing regarding this group’s recommendations to the full board. It was also a pleasure to support in hosting President Geiger’s recent attendance at the NER annual conference in Newport, RI. Nonetheless, the majority of my efforts have centered on conference planning, notably preparations for the 2017 AMTA National Conference in St. Louis this coming November. The remainder of this report will focus on these efforts.

AMTA Conference 2016 Wrap-Up

While specific details can be found in Al Bumanis & Cindy Smith’s report, I would like to convey that, despite a few challenges (both anticipated & unexpected), the 2016 Sandusky conference was a great success:

- 100+ more paid attendees than 2015
- An 87+% satisfied/highly satisfied conference rating
- CMTE enrollment of 938 (459 attended the free CMTEs offered to members)
- Very successful Pre-conference Trainings & Leadership Academy
- An energetic, highly effective Local Committee under the able direction of Co-Chairs Carol Olszewski and Tara Griest Pell
- Strong hotel registration rate with many families attending
- Well received “Conference Chair Presents” sessions on collaboration/embracing our differences, including our first foray into “Courageous Conversations” on diversity/privilege in our profession
- Revenue that exceeded expectations (See Treasurer Clair’s report for specifics)

AMTA Conference 2017 Update

Full attention has now turned to developing and implementing Conference 2017. It goes without saying that this undertaking would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of the full conference team. My most ardent appreciation goes to our AMTA conference planners, Al Bumanis & Cindy Smith. Without their adept guidance (and humor under duress!), an endeavor of this complexity would simply not be possible. Kudos as well to VP Elect, Kristen O’Grady, who has graciously and effectively assisted in so many ways! A very able Local Committee under
the leadership of Elizabeth O’Dell, MA, MT-BC & Brian Harris MM, MT-BC is now in place and working diligently on the various site-based tasks.

This year’s conference will be held at the newly renovated Union Station Hotel in St Louis, MO. Thursday, November 16-Sunday, November 19, 2017. Pre-conference meetings, trainings, and CMTE offerings are scheduled from Monday-Thursday prior to the opening. We completed our initial site visit on March 10-12. Jane Creagan joined Al, Cindy, & I to tour this beautiful and unique property housed in the former St. Louis Train Station. While there, we worked with hotel staff to clarify logistics and become familiar with the facility. In addition, we met with Joe Villarreal, our decorator from Fern, Inc. to discuss conference needs and exhibit hall layout. Our first meeting with the Local Committee provided the opportunity to address initial questions, clarify duties, entertain their ideas, and tour the site as well. Our second site visit is already scheduled for September 9-11. We will again meet with hotel staff and the local committee to update our planning and make final preparations for conference 2017. Here is a synopsis of our efforts to date:

Conference Theme, Program & Timeline:

The theme of this year’s conference is *A Mindful Approach to Music Therapy*. It is our intent to approach the planning of this conference in a more ‘mindful’ way, incorporating a bit more relaxed schedule and opportunities for attendees to ‘experience’ the conference by finding time, space, and place to take in all it has to offer in a more ‘stress free’ manner. With the assistance and advice of Dr. Suzanne Hanser & Dr. Barbara Dunn, music therapists who specialize in this approach, we are seeking to provide reflective experiences, meditative breaks, and rejuvenative spaces to allow participants to come away from conference with a renewed sense of purpose/self and dedication to their work as music therapists. The conference will include yoga, massage, and tai chi opportunities as well as focus on the theme during a Bitcon Plenary address by Anne Parker with experiential assist from the Daughters of Harriet. Numerous CMTEs, sessions, and special events will infuse the conference theme throughout the weekend.

A comprehensive conference program is currently being selected from over 50 CMTE and nearly 350 concurrent session submissions. The CMTEs, Institutes, Specialized Trainings, and meeting schedule are nearly finalized, while the Program Review Committee will soon begin vetting concurrent session proposals through a blind review process. Special thanks in advance to program reviewers Laurie Keough, MSEd (CMTEs), Dr. Julie Andring, Dr. Carolyn Dachinger, and VP Elect Kristen O’Grady for their dedication, thoughtfulness, and proficiency in assisting with the program selection process. The preliminary conference poster is due to be released on June 6. A HUGE shout out goes to Angie Elkins for her expertise and aptitude in getting this initial conference introduction out to AMTA members!!! The entire program is expected to be finalized by June 29 and the full schedule uploaded by July 19. The specific information provided here is current to date, though some changes may ensue as we move closer to conference time:

**Meetings:** November 13-19  
**GIM Level I Training:** November 13-16  
**Institutes & Specialized Trainings:** November 13-16 & 19  
**AMTA Leadership Academy:** November 15  
**CMTE Courses:** November 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
Concurrent Sessions: November 17-19

Registration opens: June 8, 2017
Early Bird Registration Deadline: August 4, 2017 (Members: $370; Students: $235)
Regular Registration Deadline: October 13, 2017 (Members: $470; Students: $235)
Late Registration: After October 13, 2017 (Members: $570; Students: $270)
Single Day Registration: $570

Conference Educational Opportunities: SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A total of 10 pre/during-conference trainings/institutes are currently planned for inclusion as follows:

Monday, Nov. 13 - Thursday Nov. 16, 2017
Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music Level I – Chair: Cathy McKinney, PhD.
(CMTEs TBD)

Monday, Nov. 13-Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017
Music Together Training—Carol Ann Blank (CMTEs TBD)

Tuesday, Nov. 14-Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017
Special Training: Each One Counts Pediatric Pain Symposium Event
(See VP Elect O’Grady’s report for specifics)

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2016
Mindfulness through Music and Imagery
Presenter: Min-Jeong Bae, Ph.D., MT-BC, FAMI (8 CMTEs)

NICU Training—Chair: Dr. Jayne Standley (6 CMTEs)

Optimal Rhythms: Unlocking Nonverbal Autism through Neurologic Music Therapy and Movement—Chair: Casey Depriest, MT-BC (6 CMTEs)

Drums Alive Training – Exercise with drums. (8 CMTEs)

AMTA Leadership Academy 3.0 - Chair: Meredith Pizzi MPA, MT-BC
(5 CMTEs--AMTA Member Discount: $80)

Thursday, Nov. 106 2017
First Sounds: Rhythm, Breath and Lullaby International Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
Training - Chair: Joanne Loewy DA, LCAT, MT-BC; Sponsored by REMO
(10 CMTEs; Limited to 30 Participants)

Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017 (In Conference Training)
Neuroscience Technology in Music Therapy
Presenter: Elizabeth L. Stegemöller, PhD, MT-BC (6 CMTEs; Limited to 20 Participants)

CMTEs: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, November 9-12, 2016

The conference team has just completed selection of this year’s CMTE offerings. This process proved difficult due to the excellent quality of the 50+ proposal submissions. Our goal is to present the most well-rounded, cutting-edge program possible, with 32 diverse CMTEs currently planned. The 2017 Member Discount prices will remain the same as 2016: Members - $60 for 3 credits; $100 for 5 credits. In an effort to maximize participation opportunities, CMTE offerings will be spread over five days—Wednesday through Sunday with a number (TBD) offered as a FREE
benefit to conference registrants who are AMTA members! This following list represents the most accurate information to date:

**Wednesday, November 15, 2017 (times vary; 3 CMTEs)**

**CMTE A. Therapeutic use of the harp - Basic playing technique and improvisational skills**  
Presenters: Nancy O’Brien, MCAT, RMT; Colleen Haviland & Jocelyn Wolfe, harpists

**CMTE B. Creative Approaches to Dementia Care**  
**FREE**  
Presenters: Karen Jasko, MS., LPC, MT-BC; Jessica Mull, MT-BC; Carol L. Shultis, Ph.D., LPC, MT-BC; Rae Sirot, LCSW, P-MTBC (GA & NV)

**CMTE C. Social Communication in ASD: Neuroscience and Clinical Strategies**  
**FREE**  
Presenter: Amanda Bryant, MM (July 2017), MT-BC

**CMTE D. Developing and engaging in reflective practice to advance and deepen clinical skills**  
Presenters: Annie Heiderscheit, Ph.D., MT-BC, LMFT; Lindsay Rossmiller, MT-BC; Erin Fox, MA, MT-BC; Stephanie Morris, MT-BC; Melanie Brison, MT-BC

**CMTE E. Ethical Considerations: Respect for Ethnicity in Selecting Music/Techniques in Therapy Sessions**  
Presenter: Lee Anna Rasar, MT-BC, WMTR

**Thursday, November 10, 2016 - 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM (5 CMTEs)**

Presenter: Michael Viega, Ph.D., LCAT, MT-BC; Dr. Elliot Gann: Psy.D.

**CMTE G. Leader, Teacher, Shepherd, Guide: Considerations for Facilitating Groups**  
Presenter: Caryl Beth Thomas, MA, ACMT. LMHC

**CMTE H. A Clinician’s Guide for Interpreting and Applying Research in Evidence-Based Practice**  
Presenters: Noah Potvin, Ph.D., MT-BC; Patricia J Winter, PhD, MT-BC

**CMTE I. Advancing Hospice Music Therapy Documentation: Regulations, Guidelines, & You**  
Presenter: Susan Droessler, MT-BC, Hospice and Palliative Care Music Therapist

**CMTE J. Immigration, Acculturation and Music Therapy**  
Presenter: Olga Samsonova-Jellison, MA, MT-BC, NMT

**CMTE K. Developing and Expanding Supervision Skills**  
Presenters: Meredith Pizzi, MPA, MT-BC; Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, MA, MT-BC; Katie Bagley, MT-BC; Laetitia Brundage, MT-BC

**CMTE L. Technology Tips, Techniques and Tools for your Music Therapy Practice**  
Presenters: Julie Guy, M.M., MT-BC; Angela Neve, M.M., MT-BC; Lori Frazer; Debbie Culbertson Skinner

**CMTE M. The Role of Medical Music Therapy in Addressing Current Health Crises & Trends**  
Presenters: Jayne Standley, PhD., MT-BC; Darcy DeLoach, PhD, MT-BC; Ciele Gutierrez, MM, MT-BC; Ellyn Hamm, MM, MT-BC; Dawn Iwamasa, MA, MT-BC; Brittany Mohney, MM, MT-BC; Amy Robertson, PhD, MT-BC; Olivia Yinger, PhD, MT-BC

Presenters: Andrew Knight, PhD, MT-BC; Tori Conicello-Emery, MA, MT-BC

**CMTE O. Potential Remo Sponsored Mindfulness Session with Sherri Geller**

**Thursday, November 16, 2017 – 1:30-4:30 PM (3 CMTEs)**

**CMTE P. Advanced Training in Music Therapy & Dementia**  
Presenters: Melissa Mercadal-Brotons, PhD, MT-BC; Suzanne B. Hanser, EdD, MT-BC

**CMTE Q. Beyond the Clinic: Position Yourself as a Consultant**
Presenters: Rachelle Norman, MA, MT-BC; Kat Fulton, MM. MT-BC

CMTE R. Beyond Accompaniment: Instrumental Techniques for Playing, Teaching, & Utilizing the Ukulele in the Clinical Setting
   Presenter: Stephanie Epstein, MM, MT-BC

Thursday, November 16, 2017 - 1:30 – 6:30 PM (5 CMTEs)
CMTE S. Mindful Movement for Music Therapists: Using Yoga in Sessions and Self-Care
   Presenter: Jennifer Hicks, MT-BC, E-RYT
CMTE T. Supervising the Music Therapy Intern
   Susan Glaspell, MT-BC; Chrissy Watson, MM, MT-BC; Kimberly Hawkins, MT-BC; Kay Luedtke-Smith, MT-BC; Jacqueyl Claxton, MT-BC; Manal Toppozada, MT-BC
CMTE U. Keeping in Time with Groove
   Presenters: Nir Sadovnik, MA, MT-BC, LCAT; Ariel Weissberger, MA, MT-BC, LCAT
CMTE V. Chronic Pain: Advanced Clinical Techniques
   Presenters: Joy Allen, PhD, MT-BC, Neurological Music Therapist; Heather Wagner, PhD, MT-BC, Fellow, Association Music & Imagery
CMTE W. Understanding Clients’ Improvisations: Interpreting Meanings to Enhance Understanding and Clinical Decision Making
   Presenter: James Hiller, PhD, MT-BC; Michael L. Zanders, PhD, MT-BC
CMTE X. Utilizing Music as a Primary Source of Intervention: Experiential in Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy
   Presenters: Alan Turry, DA, MT-BC, LCAT, Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist; Jacqueline Birnbaum, MSEd, MA, LCAT
CMTE Y. Sounds, Singing and Self-Discovery: Vocal Psychotherapy
   Presenters: Dr. Diane Austin, DA, ACMT, LCAT; Laurie Crosse, MA, LCAT, MT-BC; Jenny Hoi Yan Fu, MA, LCAT, MT-BC, PhD Candidate; Allison Reynolds, LCSW, LCAT, MT-BC

Friday, November 17, 2017 – 2:00 - 5:00 PM (3 CMTEs)
CMTE Z. Continuing the Conversations: Doing Race in Music Therapy
   Presenters: Marisol Norris, MA, LPC, MT-BC; Susan Hadley, PhD., MT-BC; Michael Viega, PhD, MT-BC; CharCarol Fisher, MA, MT-BC; Jessica S. Fletcher, MM, MT-BC; Demeko Freeman, MT-BC; Ming Yuan Low, MM, MT-BC
CMTE AA. Mindfulness-Based Approaches to Music Psychotherapy
   Presenters: Barbara Dunn, PhD, LICSW, MT-BC; Christine Routhier, MA, MT-BC, LMHC
CMTE BB. Music Yoga Therapy- The Science of Sound and the Soul
   Presenters: Leesa Sklover, Ph.D., LPC, MA-CMT, IKYTA, IAYT- 300, E-RYT 200

Saturday, November 18, 2017 – 1:30 - 4:30 PM (3 CMTEs)
CMTE CC. Exploring our Biases
   Presenters: Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, MA, MT-BC & Leah Oswanski, MA, LPC, MT-BC
CMTE DD. How to Take Data while your Hands are Full with Instruments!
   Presenter: Kate St. John, MM, MT-BC, Neurologic Music Therapist Fellow, Behavior Analyst

Sunday, November 19, 2017 – (times vary; 3 CMTEs)
CMTE EE. Exploring the Deeper Meaning of Transference/Countertransference Reactions in
Your Clinical Work
Presenter: Allison Reynolds, MA, LCSW, LCAT, MT-BC, Austin Vocal Psychotherapist

CMTE FF. Collaborate and Innovate: Repositioning Our MT Service Delivery Models
Presenter: Hope Young, MT-BC

Special Events/New This Year:

- **Gala Opening**: Thursday Evening featuring Brian Owens & The Deacons of Soul
  [http://brianowenssoul.com/welcome-1](http://brianowenssoul.com/welcome-1)
- **Exhibits Spectacular/Silent Auction**—Thursday after Opening
- **Every One Counts Pediatric Pain Symposium**, Tuesday-Wednesday, Nov. 14-15
  (See VP Elect O’Grady’s Report for details)
- **Conference Chair Presents--A Focus on Mindfulness**: Bitcon Plenary featuring Anne Parker & the Daughters of Harriet
  Events; Sessions; Spaces; Activities; Meditation room; Experiential Opportunities;
  Yoga; Massage; Tai Chi; Twitter #, Interactive Mindfulness App…More to Come!
- **NEW FOR 2017! "MTex from the Music Therapy Experts"** -- "MTex" sessions are
  Tedx™-type presentations, formatted as 3 short lectures (3 different presenters, 15
  minutes each), followed by audience-involved discussion held in a single session time
  block. Reserved for advanced-level, collaborative offerings that meet the needs of
  experienced practitioners and/or provide cutting-edge information. To be videotaped.
- **Leadership Academy 3.0**: Chair: Meredith Pizzi, MPA, MT-BC
- **Ukulele Kids Club Event**-Hard Rock Café, Friday evening
- **Friday Day-Long Event**: Guitar Bombardment: Remembering Chuck Berry
  Chair – Pete Meyer
- **Thursday: 2nd Annual National Student Passages: Conference within a Conference**
- **Second Annual Faculty Forum**—Friday
- **Networking Luncheon**—Friday

Conference Music Opportunities:

- Opening Entertainment by Brian Owens
- Drum Circles
- Ukulele Circle
- Jam Rooms
- MT Unplugged
- Cabaret
- Guitar Bombardment-Jams
- Chant Circle
- Conference Choir
- Closing Session Entertainment (TBD)
- Musical Interludes (e.g., Daughters of Harriet; Spontaneous Spring-Up Chants/Jams)

We will continue to work with the Local Committee & the local music therapy community to
identify potential performers to entertain attendees throughout the conference weekend. There can
never be too much music!!

Conference Venue Overview at a Glance:
The Conference Team firmly believes that our attendees are in for a treat at this year’s venue. The Union Station Hotel is a Hyatt Curio Property, one of 27 unique Hyatt hotels worldwide that are designed to highlight the beauty and distinctive features of the site. The corporation has already spent over $37 million renovating and restoring this Historic Landmark building to much of its original splendor...with further renovations to come over the next several years. Their intent is to make the Union Station Hotel a destination as well as a lodging/convention venue (e.g., future Aquarium replacing the former adjacent mall). A few of the location’s highlights:

- Convenient Downtown location, 1 mile from the famous St. Louis Arch
- Metro station directly behind hotel; 2 stops from the airport (approx. $4 fare)
- Spectacular rotunda ceiling main hall (which we can use) with an evening light show projected on the ceiling every hour on the hour (5-11 p.m.)
- Train theme throughout the hotel (Check out the operating model trains in coffee shop)
- Large, contained conference space located between the old/new sections of the hotel
- Several restaurants adjacent to the property (e.g., Hard Rock Café)
- Outdoor: Large coy pond encircled by a lovely boardwalk; evening light shows here too!
- Tranquil indoor & outdoor sitting spaces
- A feeling of stepping back in time to the era of training in America

Room Rates:
- Single: $165
- Double: $190
- Triple: $215
- Quad: $235

In closing, my work as AMTA Vice President and national conference chair continues to be a most rewarding experience. I cannot say enough about our national office staff; they are a true joy to work with! My deepest appreciation, admiration, and thanks go to Al, Cindy, Andi, Angie, Jane and all the staff as they work tirelessly on behalf of the music therapy profession. Thanks also to my dedicated VP Elect, Kristen O’Grady, who is definitely an integral and prized member of the conference team. We intend to bring yet another unparalleled national AMTA conference event to fruition this November and will continue to work toward that goal!

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean M. Nemeth, PhD, MT-BC
AMTA Vice President & Conference Chair
As Vice President-Elect, it is my privilege to continue assisting the Vice President as requested, as well as engage in rigorous study of the duties of the Vice President in anticipation of assuming that role.

As we prepare for the 2017 national conference in St. Louis, MO, it has been my pleasure to actively participate in weekly conference calls with the incredible conference planning team. Last year we were approached by Each One Counts, a non-profit organization which seeks to lessen the pain and suffering of terminally ill children through increased access to complimentary therapies. Previously this organization has sponsored pediatric massage trainings around the country. In 2015 they also sponsored a music therapy and pediatric pain symposium at the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function. We are very excited to partner with Each One Counts to offer a full day institute training at this year’s conference, “Music Therapy in the Management of Pediatric Pain”. Deborah Williams and I have partnered together to organize this event. This full day institute will be offered for only a modest registration fee with lunch included. The keynote speaker for this event will be Dr. Leora Kuttner, PhD. Dr. Kuttner is a renowned clinical psychologist specializing in pediatric pain and hypnosis. Dr. Kuttner will be present via Skype as her tight schedule precludes her from traveling to St. Louis. However, we are extremely honored to host Dr. Kuttner and feel that participants will benefit from her expertise even from afar. Additional speakers include Dr. Claire Ghetti, Deborah Williams, Kory Antonacci, Beth Harman, Barb Else and Anne Parker. Both Deborah and I are very excited to see this institute come to life. I would like to extend my gratitude to Deborah Williams for her tireless efforts to organize this institute. We are grateful to Each One Counts for the opportunity to develop this training.

In addition to my work as a part of the conference team, I have been appointed as a co-chair of the Professional Membership Growth Work Group. Please see appendix A for a comprehensive report of this work that this work group has accomplished since November. I would like to extend gratitude to Amber Weldon-Stephens for her work as co-chair, as well as Amy Furman for her guidance as we continue to move forward.

I continue to be humbled to work alongside Vice President Jean Nemeth, and AMTA conference planners Al Bumanis and Cindy Smith. I continue to learn more about the conference process and remain ready to contribute as I am needed. I will be participating in the blind review of concurrent sessions again this year and look forward to contributing to a diverse and rich educational program. I am looking forward to seeing this year’s theme of mindfulness realized, including many new and exciting ideas.

I look forward to participating in this year’s site visit in September, as well as the development of another vibrant annual conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen O’Grady, MA, LCAT, MT-BC
APPENDIX A – O’GRADY

Professional Member Growth Workgroup
Co-Chairs: Amy Furman and Kristen O’Grady
Members: Angie Elkins (staff liaison), Tracy Richardson, Deborah Williams

Professional Member Growth Workgroup Charge
In addition to the ongoing extensive work of the AMTA Membership Committee and AMTA staff, the Professional Member Growth Workgroup (PMGWG) received the following charge from the AMTA Board of Directors:

Resolve, that the Board recommend to the 2016 incoming Board the development of a major initiative to increase the percentage of MT-BCs who are Professional members from the current 33% to 50% by 2019 with possible incremental objectives of 3% (2016), 4% (2017), 5% (2018), and 5% (2019). This initiative needs to be an all Board effort and also include Regional Presidents and a possible small focus group of diverse members.

Through the combined work of all parties, we were able to meet the target increase of 3% in 2016! This is a wonderful accomplishment and we are hopeful to continue to this trend towards our 4% goal in 2017.

The Professional Member Growth Workgroup has met via conference call several times this year. During the 2016 AMTA national conference, Kristen O’Grady was appointed as a co-chair of the workgroup. We extend our gratitude to Amber Weldon-Stephens for her work as co-chair on the work group.

The following topics have been areas of focus:

Special Target Groups:
1. Music Therapy Business Owners
   Music Therapy Business Owners (MTBOs) accounted for 26% of the survey respondents in the 2016 workforce analysis. The work group is interested in learning more about the specific membership needs of this group of music therapists. Kat Fulton, former member of the AMTA Membership Committee and current administrator of the MTBO Facebook group has agreed to serve as a point person and liaison for this target group. We hope to gain some insight as to how to increase membership rates amongst MTBOs.

2. Music Therapists working in the VA system
   Kristen Bouwman has agreed to serve as a liaison for this target group. She has recommended two strategies for meeting the needs of VA music therapists. 1) MTs in the VA are exposed to a significant amount of vicarious trauma through their work with traumatized veterans. What can we do to offer continuing education or support opportunities markets specifically to MTs in the VA system? Perhaps the offer of a free CMTE at conference given by VA MTs for VA MTs (provided that the MTs are current members). 2) MTs in the VA often see music therapy jobs given to others who are not qualified music therapists. Advocacy is an extremely important need for MTs in the VA. How can we better educate therapists about the role that AMTA plays in advocating for qualified MTs?

3. Full time and adjunct faculty— Tracy Richardson has served as liaison for this target group. Direct relationship building and communication has been the strategy employed. There is a need to increase visibility of the Welcome to the Profession packet, as many students are still not receiving this information. Additional areas of communication will continue to be explored.

4. Patron membership—This membership category was identified for exploration in the October 2016 report. Tracy Richardson will partner with Andi Farbman to develop a campaign targeting previous patron members with the target completion date of December 2017.

5. Connecting with AMTAS—Amy Furman has been in communication with Jeff Wolfe about developing an opportunity for former AMTAS board members and scholarship winners to reconnect during national conference. The goal is to continue to tie these formerly active student members to the professional
organization in order to sustain their membership and interest. We hope to hold a reception/session at national conference and send personalized invitations.

6. University Affiliated Internship supervisors—284 university affiliate supervisors were identified during the MLE survey. Their contact information cannot be used as per the terms of the survey. A goal could be connecting the UA supervisors with the Welcome to the Profession packets. However, it would be too labor intensive to contact each individual university to gain the list of UA supervisors. That list would also change constantly. Establishing individual relationships with faculty to disseminate this information to new professionals may be more of a priority at this time.

Additional work/areas of interest:

1. Regional conferences
   Deborah Williams sent personal notes to regional presidents to thank them for their membership and continued support in furthering our membership initiative. We feel that opportunities to express gratitude to current members, especially those in leadership capacity, are highly valuable.

2. “Ask a Board Member” booth
   The work group recommends hosting an “Ask a Board Member” event during national conference. This can be housed at the AMTA booth and we can put out a schedule of which board members will be present at what time, as well as their areas of knowledge within the organization.

3. Membership-oriented focus for board activities
   Personal moments of connection with board members or AMTA staff seem to hold importance for music therapists when making their membership decisions. As a membership organization, we each hold great responsibility to seize these moments of in-person membership interaction as moments of potential member retention. As a board, how can member engagement be at the forefront of each of our decisions? How can we build in opportunities for interaction with members outside of our circle of music therapy friends? Personal interactions, both positive and negative, continue to be a significant factor in membership retention.

We remain open to exploring new and innovative areas for professional membership growth in order to meet the targets set forth by the November 2015 motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen O’Grady, MA, LCAT, MT-BC
November 2015 Conference

At this time, the Assembly of Delegate meetings at the 2017 AMTA Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, are
tentatively scheduled as follows:

Thursday, November 12: 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Friday, November 13: 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 14: 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Assembly Elect will meet Sunday, November 15. In previous years, the meeting time has been 6:45 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
The conference schedule is currently in process and the feasibility of a later meeting time of 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. is
being considered.

Assembly Delegates are encouraged to make every effort to attend all of the meetings in order to assure the full
representation promised to the membership. Those who are unable to attend are instructed to notify their Regional
President as early as possible so an Alternate Assembly Delegate can be notified to fill the vacancy. It will be important
for the Alternate Delegate to have access to the Board Book and background information regarding agenda items.

It is the responsibility of all Assembly Delegates to read the Board Book and be prepared for the Assembly Meetings.
The Speaker will send out an agenda prior to the conference with as much notice as possible to keep delegates apprised
of the upcoming issues slated for discussion and votes. Issues often come from committee and board work taking
place during meetings at the conference. Thus, some items will not appear on the initial agenda.

Regional Delegates
The number of Assembly Delegate seats per region for the 2018-2019 term has been determined based upon the
December 31, 2016 regional membership totals of the voting membership categories, include Professionals, Honorary
Life, Life, and Retired. Nonvoting members are not considered in this calculation and these include Associate,
Student, Inactive, Patron, and Affiliate members. Article VII. Section 2 states the size of the Assembly is established
by the Board of Directors within a range of 60 to 70 delegates. Thus, the number of delegates can vary from one term
to the next. Thank you to Angie Elkins and Dianne Wawrzuin for providing the 4th Quarter voting membership
numbers. As a comparison, the chart below lists the 4th Quarter voting membership numbers from 2014 and 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Professional</th>
<th>Honorary Life</th>
<th>Life</th>
<th>Retired</th>
<th>12/31/14</th>
<th>12/31/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWR</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>159 (-1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SER</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>303 (-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NER</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>149 (-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MWR</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>197</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>562 (+5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>310 (+9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLR</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>576 (+49)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total All Regions</td>
<td>2152</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>2204</td>
<td>2257 (+53)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following formula is used each election cycle to calculate Regional Delegate seats:
# of the Region’s Voting Members ÷ # of Total AMTA Voting Members = % of the Region’s Membership

% of the Region’s Membership x 60 = # of the Region’s Assembly Delegate Seats

The delegate number per region is rounded up regardless of the resulting fraction. Results of the calculations are below:

**The 2018-2019 Assembly of Delegates**
- Great Lakes Region (16)
- Mid-Atlantic Region (15)
- Midwestern Region (6)
- New England Region (5)
- Southeastern Region (8)
- Southwestern Region (5)
- Western Region (9)

**Total Delegates for 2018-2019 = 64**

This information was distributed to each regional president as they prepared their slate of candidates for this year’s elections.

**Assembly Bylaws Task Force**

At the AMTA Conference in Sandusky, Ohio, last November, the Assembly of Delegates passed a motion to form a task force to review Article VII. Assembly of Delegates of the AMTA Bylaws.

The motion reads as follows:

**MOTION:** Resolve, that the Speaker of the Assembly appoint a task force composed of at least one Delegate from each region to review Article VII of the AMTA Bylaws and make recommendations regarding the relationship between the Board of Directors and Assembly of Delegates as well as the roles and responsibilities of the Assembly of Delegates.

Author, Donna Polen. The motion carried.

The Regional Presidents recommended Assembly members to serve on the Assembly Bylaws Task Force. Task Force members include the following:

- **Task Force Chair:** Angie Snell, Speaker of the Assembly (snellmusictherapy@gmail.com)
- **MAR:** Donna Polen (MARAssemblyChair@gmail.com), Gary Verhagen (gtverhagen@verizon.net)
- **GLR:** Cindy Ropp (croppp@ilstu.edu), Debbie Bates (dbsbates@neo.rr.com)
- **Western:** Piper Laird (piperriehele@aol.com)
- **Midwestern:** Andrew Knight (ajknightmtbc@gmail.com)
- **New England:** Caryl Beth Thomas (Carylbeth.Thomas@state.ma.u)
- **Southeastern:** Cathy McKinney (mckinneych@appstate.edu)
- **Southwestern:** Ed Kahler (ekahler@mail.wtamu.edu)
- **Linda Bosse,** Assembly Parliamentarian, serves as a nonvoting consultant to the Task Force

In order to more fully benefit by the collective brain power of the Assembly, delegates are encouraged to review the Bylaws language (http://www.musictherapy.org/members/bylaws/) and contact any of the Task Force members with your thoughts, questions, and suggestions. The Task Force is meeting through video conferencing and will forward an update to the Assembly this summer.

Thank you to those serving on this Task Force and to all of you for your service to the membership. On behalf of the Task Force members, we look forward to hearing from you!

**Final Items**
The Speaker, Assistant Speaker Silverman, Assembly Delegate at Large Richardson, and Assembly Delegate Bates continue to engage in Board of Directors’ committee work, meetings and votes. Additionally, Assembly Alternates to the Board Lori Gooding, Julie Neal, Ed Kahler, Mark Ahola, and Piper Laird have remained available and ready to step in when needed to assure full representation is always present at the board level. Linda Bosse, Assembly Parliamentarian, is very accessible and giving of her time, as well. Thank you to this incredible team of people.

Communication on all levels continues to be a priority in order to build upon the accomplishments of previous bodies of Assembly Delegates. Open communication is encouraged and facilitated on an ongoing basis between the Assembly Representatives to the Board of Directors, the Assembly of Delegates, and AMTA members. On behalf of myself, Assistant Speaker Silverman and the Assembly of Delegates, thank you to the many who call, write and approach us regarding questions, problems, and ideas that keep us moving forward.

Thank you to all Assembly Delegates for your willingness to serve the profession in this capacity.

It is an honor to serve with such knowledgeable music therapists who share the same passion for music therapy!

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela M. Snell, M.S.Ed, MT-BC
Speaker of the Assembly
snellmusictherapy@gmail.com
734.693.2763
In my role as Historian and Parliamentarian I assist the President, Executive Director, Board of Directors, Assembly of Delegates and the Association as requested, particularly on matters where a historical perspective is useful or parliamentary clarification needed. I stand ready to assist any board member with historical perspective or parliamentary assistance. At the President’s request, I serve on the Board’s Financial Advisory Committee, Audit Committee, and MLE Sub-Committee.

As a member of the MLE Sub-Committee I also serve on the Pro-Bono Analytics work group. This work group of five members has worked over the past year with the consultant from the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS) Pro-Bono Analytics program. The work has been intensive, at times arduous, but in the end very productive with a report that will be reviewed first by the MLE Sub-committee and then forwarded to the Board of Directors. In addition, it will be my pleasure to host the MLE Sub-committee retreat in June on the campus of Nazareth College. Our recently completed York Wellness and Rehabilitation Institute has wonderful space to support the work of the committee. In addition, several administrative offices have pledged financial support to cover the dinner costs of the committee that week. We look forward to hosting a great meeting.

Finally, I want to note as Historian the extraordinary event “Sound Health: Music and the Mind” resulting from the partnership of the Kennedy Center and NIH. Not since the Senate Hearing in 1991, will there have been the caliber and celebrity of spokespersons from the arts and the sciences focused on music as a healing force. The combination of Renée Fleming, Dr. Frances Collins, Ben Folds and others, along with our preeminent music therapy colleagues promises to be unique and most exciting. I am delighted that we can experience it together as a board!!
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31-JUNE 5, 2017  
ARCHIVIST’S REPORT  
William Davis, PhD, RMT

AMTA Archive Update:

Since my last report in November of 2016, work continues toward producing a substantial historical resource for our members and the public at large. Funding specific to the archive project has allowed us to continue processing a backlog of donations. We are also nearly done with scanning thousands of pages of printed material important to our history; we still have enough funds for some additional items that will be scanned during this summer. All the materials are difficult to locate so the availability will be a welcome, readily available addition to the music therapy historical literature soon.

Funding is still supporting the work of two graduate students helping process the backlog of donated material. They have been working several hours a week since beginning last September and I hope they will be able to continue over the summer. Generous contributions from individuals and regions have accelerated the pace at which we can catalogue the backlog speeding up the process to complete the collections from NAMT, AAMT and AMTA.

The highlight for me was a visit to the Archive by President Jennifer Geiger during the joint Western/Midwestern region meeting in March. This permitted us to show the scope of the collection along with the opportunity to speak with the archivist I have been working with for the past ten years. I hope Jennifer will be able to elaborate on her visit for the Board and Dr. Farbman.

As always, I am very grateful for the support of the AMTA Board of Directors, Dr. Farbman and staff of AMTA and look forward to continuing to develop of our historical resources.

Respectfully Submitted,  
William Davis, AMTA Archivist  
May 8, 2017
SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS
The Council on Education and Clinical Training is comprised of three Standing Committees. The Academic Program Approval Committee (APAC) is currently co-chaired by Kamile Geist, MA, MT-BC and Christine Leist, PhD, MT-BC. Marilyn Sandness, MM, continues to serve on APAC as Chair Emerita. The Association Internship Approval Committee (AIAC) is co-chaired by Lauren DiMaio, PhD, MT-BC and Eve Montague, MSM, MT-BC. The Continuing Education Committee is co-chaired by Laurie Keough, MSED, LCAT, MT-BC and Tracy Leonard-Warner, MHI, MT-BC. I would like to thank all committee chairs for the wonderful work and timely reports.

**Action Items:** At the writing of this report there are two Action Items coming forward from the Academic Program Approval Committee. Those actions items are:

1. APAC has requested a new member for the NE region and a name has gone forward to the BOD.
2. APAC is requesting the appointment of two more at-large members to serve on the committee.

**The Academic Program Approval Committee**
Mid-Year Board Meeting Report

**Date:** April 19, 2017

**Reporting Period:** November 14, 2016 to April 26, 2017

**Members:**
- Barbara Bastable (SW)
- Kamile Geist (Co-Chair)
- Betsey King (At-large)
- Carmen E. Osburn (SE)
- Michael Zanders (At-Large)
- Rebecca Zarate (At-Large)
- Melita J. Belgrave (At-large)
- Melanie Harms (MW)
- Christine A. Korb (W)
- Suzy Sorell (MA)
- Rebecca Engen (At-large)
- Lalene D. Kay (GL)
- Christine Leist (Co-Chair)
- Open Seat (NE) This position will be filled this summer.

**Action Items:**
1. APAC has requested a new member for the NE region and a name has gone forward to the BOD.
2. APAC is requesting the appointment of two more at-large members to serve on the committee.

**Goals:**
1. To support the establishment and maintenance of standards of excellence for education and clinical training in the field through collaboration with appropriate association bodies (e.g., other national committees and the Education and Training Advisory Board).
2. To utilize these standards as evaluative criteria for recommending approval for academic institutions upon initial application and review, and every ten years thereafter in conjunction with the NASM accreditation/affirmation review.

**Tasks:**
1. Review application materials for new baccalaureate/equivalency programs and graduate programs in a timely manner and make recommendations regarding approval to the AMTA Board of Directors.

**New Program Approvals - Since the November 2016 Conference in Sandusky, Ohio**

- Carroll University
  Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy; pending NASM accreditation
Slippery Rock University
Master of Music Therapy; pending NASM accreditation

The APAC is currently reviewing one new undergraduate program application.

2. Determine year of review for AMTA approved academic programs reapplying for AMTA approval based on scheduled reviews by NASM for accreditation/affirmation, and for any exceptions determine the year of review by AMTA.

The APAC, along with Jane Creagan, has created a comprehensive Excel spreadsheet containing the name, state, degree programs, next NASM review year, and next AMTA review year of every AMTA-approved program to assist with managing the APAC review schedule.

3. Review application materials for AMTA approved baccalaureate/equivalency programs and graduate programs reapplying for AMTA approval according to the Standards for Education and Clinical Training, and make recommendations regarding approval to the AMTA Board of Directors.

Program Re-approvals - Since the November 2016 Conference in Sandusky, Ohio

Montclair State University
Bachelor of Arts in Music Therapy and Master of Arts in Music with Concentration in Music Therapy; pending NASM reaccreditation

Western Illinois University
Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy; pending NASM reaccreditation

The APAC is currently working on one ongoing re-approval review. We are expecting eight re-approval applications this summer.

4. In the case of any deferrals of AMTA approval for academic programs or any adverse decisions regarding approval, follow the AMTA procedures for the review of such deferrals and/or adverse decisions.

Nothing to report at this time.

5. Provide consultation services as needed to academic programs in regard to AMTA approval.

The APAC is contacted often regarding questions about approval and re-approval applications. These questions are typically handled by the Co-Chairs.

6. Coordinate committee activities with other committees and the Education and Training Advisory Board as needed.

Nothing to report at this time.

7. Coordinate committee activities for AMTA approval review with NASM accreditation/affirmation as needed, and monitor NASM accreditation/affirmation status of all AMTA approved music therapy programs.

Nothing to report at this time; see NASM notes on program re-approvals and new program approvals.

8. Review policies and procedures for academic program approval and make recommendations to appropriate Association bodies for any new policies or procedures, including standards and professional competencies for music therapy education and clinical training.

The APAC plans to continue review of the applications for new graduate programs and distance programs.

Other:
Communication has continued to be active between APAC and academic program directors, administrators of music units, and other university administrators regarding compliance with AMTA standards and support for academic faculty and programs and with AMTA members on a variety of issues. The APAC gratefully acknowledges the support of Marilyn Sandness, Chair Emerita, and Jane Creagan and Andi Farbman in carrying out the business of the Committee. The APAC Co-Chairs also wish to acknowledge the Committee members who contribute numerous hours throughout the year along with their expertise and wise counsel in our efforts to maintain and strengthen AMTA standards for education and training in music therapy academic programs.

Special thanks to Lisa Summer who stepped down as NER representative this year. Her service over the past 13 years to APAC is commendable and the committee wishes to acknowledge her dedication to upholding the Standards for Education and Clinical Training for the AMTA.

Association Internship Approval Committee  
Mid-Year Board Meeting Report

April 19, 2017  
**Reporting Period:** November 14, 2016 to April 26, 2017  
**Co-Chairs** - Lauren DiMaio, PhD, MT-BC and Eve Montague, MSM, MT-BC

**Members:**  
Manal Toppozada, MA, MT-BC/L - Western  
Jacqueline Claxton, MEd., MT-BC – Southwestern  
Kimberly Hawkins, MS, MT-BC - Midwestern  
Kay Luedtke-Smith, MT-BC - Great Lakes  
Chrissy Watson, MT-BC -Southeastern  
Susan Glaspell, MT-BC - Mid-Atlantic  
Vacant – New England

**Goals:**
1. To establish, maintain and improve standards for the training of music therapists participating in AMTA programs on the National Internship Roster.

2. To encourage and assist persons in their clinical preparation for music therapy practice.

**Tasks:**
1. To review the National Roster Internship Guidelines and internship documents and make recommendations for revisions.

2. To review and make recommendations regarding the quality of internship programs.

3. To review and approve applications for new internship programs.

4. To formulate, update, and implement continuing music therapy education for internship directors/supervisors.

5. To provide support and assistance to students pursuing or involved in internship.

6. To revise the current internship supervision model in the National Roster Internship Guidelines to address increasing issues regarding facility supervisors and administrators, internship directors, and supervision training in National Roster Internship programs. (Charge from the Board of Directors at the 2015 mid-year meeting)

7. To develop a multi-year plan for discussion at the annual meeting to address the potential shortage of National Roster internship sites (Charge from the Board of Directors, Mid-year meeting, 2016).

**TASKS:** All tasks are ongoing.
1. To review the National Roster Internship Guidelines and internship documents and make recommendations for revisions.

The members of the AIAC continue to review the National Roster Internship Guidelines to determine the need for revisions. There are no recommendations at this time.

2. To review and make recommendations regarding the quality of internship programs.

Currently the Internship Director listserv is off line. Representatives are quite new to the committee and no one at this time was comfortable assuming responsibility for the oversight. We will continue to keep this on our meeting agendas.

The AIAC co-chairs sends updates to all National Roster Internship Directors at the email addresses registered with AMTA.

3. To review and approve applications for new internship programs.

Since October 10, 2016, the committee has approved 6 applications, completed and resolved one non-compliance report, and approved one exception request. Since October, 2016, 12 applications are currently in review. Four of those 12 are with the originator for revision.

We have 4 applications still in revision from 2015. Of those 4, 2 have had substantial leadership/management changes within their facilities and have their applications intentionally on hold.

Other business during this period includes approval of supervising music therapists and new Internship Directors at National Roster internship sites.

4. To formulate, update, and implement continuing music therapy education for internship directors/supervisors.

The free Supervising the Music Therapy Intern CMTE was presented for members at the November 2016 conference. 41 members completed the CMTE.

Regionally, the joint Western and Midwestern region representatives presented the free CMTE to 30 participants; Southeastern presented to 16 participants; Great Lakes presented to 33; and Mid-Atlantic presented to 8.

5. To provide support and assistance to students pursuing or involved in internship.

The AIAC chairperson and regional representatives respond to all inquiries, concerns, and questions offered by students when contacted.

6. To revise the current internship supervision model in the National Roster Internship Guidelines to address increasing issues regarding facility supervisors and administrators, internship directors, and supervision training in National Roster Internship programs.

Discussion was begun at the November 2016 conference with the committee. We are currently looking at the need for all supervising MTs to have formal supervision training, the same requirement for IDs.

We have begun discussion about models of internship that may be more efficient. We are looking at how the issues of state licensure and state authorization impact the current model of internship. We also recognize that this task will look and feel differently should the MLE go forward.

7. To develop a multi-year plan for discussion at the annual meeting to address the potential shortage of National Roster internship sites.

We have recently begun to look at this task and are beginning to gather data. Through the annual reporting process, we are requesting information regarding total number of applicants and total number of internship placements
unfilled. National roster IDs have indicated that they are not always receiving enough applicants to fill open slots. This is contrary to information provided by Academic directors who feel there are not always enough internships to satisfy demand. There is some question as to whether University Affiliated internships are the preferred placement for students, by their academic programs, and that in fact, there are not enough UA programs available. Gathering data is the first step in determining number of available placements. We are also looking at ways to gather information about UA internships.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren DiMaio, PhD, MT-BC and Eve Montague, MSM, MT-BC
Co-Chairs, Association Internship Approval Committee

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Mid-Year Report 2017

Submitted: April 16, 2017
Reporting Period: November 14, 2016 to April 26, 2017

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:
Laurie Keough, MSEd, LCAT, MT-BC
Tracy Leonard-Warner, MHI, MT-BC

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Region</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes</td>
<td>Kristen Lueck, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gll.ceuinged@gmail.com">gll.ceuinged@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>Julie Andring, PhD, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jamusictherapy@optonline.net">jamusictherapy@optonline.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeastern</td>
<td>Natalie Generally, MMEd, LPMT, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:natalie@smallstepsmuslce.com">natalie@smallstepsmuslce.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern</td>
<td>Jennifer Townsend, MMT, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:continuinged@swamta.com">continuinged@swamta.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwestern</td>
<td>Rebekah Stewart, MA, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rkstewart86@gmail.com">rkstewart86@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Emily Polichette, MM, SCMT, MT-BC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:continuinged@wrampa.org">continuinged@wrampa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic</td>
<td>Clare Arezina, MME, MT-BC, CCLLS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maramtacmte@gmail.com">maramtacmte@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMTAS Representative</td>
<td>Amy Calderon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amy_m_calderon@yahoo.com">amy_m_calderon@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE GOALS:
1. To ensure that the continuing education courses offered by AMTA adhere to the guidelines established by the Certification Board for Music Therapists.
2. To promote the value of board certification and strive to provide continuing education opportunities that meet the educational needs of the members of AMTA.

TASK UPDATES:
1. To proctor and oversee continuing education offerings at the annual AMTA national conference.

   40 CMTEs were offered during the Annual Conference in November 2016, including 14 Intensive Pre-Conference Sessions and 9 free CMTEs.

2. To contribute a list of potential topics for standardized self-study modules and to solicit suggestions for potential topics from regional members.
   Ongoing

3. To send recommendations for “best of the region” CMTE presenters to the co-chairs by late-January.
   In process for 2017. Regional Reps submitted suggestions for CMTEs based on CMTEs that were successful at regional conferences.
COMMITTEE CHAIRS’ TASKS:
1. To keep ongoing records of conference continuing education courses, including sign-in sheets, completed measures of learning, evaluations, and each presenter’s course objectives and resumes. Prepare and submit summary reports to CBMT and AMTA.

   Co-Chair Keough will be archiving this information electronically.

2. To send compiled data on evaluations for conference CMTE courses to the presenter, the Vice-President, the AMTA office and CBMT.

   In process of being completed electronically by Co-Chair Keough for the November 2016 conference.

3. To serve as a liaison to CBMT & to complete the approved provider status renewal application form to maintain AMTA’s status as an approved provider.

   Ongoing: the current provider status is in place through August 31, 2017.

4. To serve on the AMTA Conference Committee and assist the AMTA Vice President with selection of CMTE courses.

   Co-Chair Keough participating in rating CMTE session proposals for content as part of the conference proposal review committee for the 2017 Conference. A second reviewer, a member of the CEC Committee, has been added this year to help review submissions for completeness.

5. To develop a list of potential topics for the creation of standardized self-study modules for use as pre-approved continuing education.

   National Office Staff handling all E-courses.

6. To update the AMTA-CEC web site as needed.

   Ongoing

7. To consult with individuals wishing to offer CMTE sessions through AMTA.

   Current Co-Chairs have not been contacted by individuals.

8. To serve as CEC representative on the AMTA Education & Training Advisory Board.

   Co-Chair Leonard-Warner has participated in ongoing work as a part of ETAB.

The CEC co-chairs would like to thank the Board and Executive Director for their support in having AMTA submit an application to become a NYS-LCAT approved provider, which will enable AMTA to provide its members with NYS-approved continuing education.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Keough, MSEd, LCAT, MT-BC and Tracy Leonard-Warner, MHI, MT-BC
AMTA Continuing Education Committee Co-Chairs
The Council on Professional Practices is comprised of five standing committees: Government Relations, Reimbursement, Standards of Clinical Practice, Research, and Technology. Committee chairs and co-chairs have submitted the following reports with updates on actions taken on charged tasks. Please review their complete reports, which provide an update on committee actions since the 2016 Annual Report.

**Action Items:** None at this time

**Government Relations Committee**

**Date:** May 2017

**Committee Members:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Chair/Member</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes</td>
<td>Nancy Swanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>Emily Wangen</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>Jennifer Sokira</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Suzy Heppel</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMTAS</td>
<td>KaLee French</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Chair –</td>
<td>Judy Simpson (National Office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chair –</td>
<td>Rebe Preddie (National Office)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAR GR-elect</td>
<td>CJ Shiloh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Rachel Coon-Arnott &amp; Jamie George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western</td>
<td>Karla O'Hagen Hawley</td>
</tr>
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**Report:**

**GOAL:** To increase access to quality music therapy services through monitoring and responding to state and federal legislation that impacts music therapy practice and/or impacts healthcare and education service delivery to current and future music therapy clients.

**TASKS:**

1. **Serve as a direct resource to the regions for both federal and state government relations and advocacy issues.**

   *Committee members continue to communicate with Co-Chairs when responding to government relations opportunities and concerns. Committee members are included in email communications to state task forces within their region. MAR recently elected a new GR-Elect and we welcome CJ Shiloh into this role. We welcome new representatives in the MAR-Amy Rodgers Smith, GLR-Nancy Swanson, and SWR-Suzy Heppel. Many thanks to Angie Snell (GLR) and Maria Hricko Fay (MAR) for their many years of committee service!*

2. **Contribute to state recognition operational plan presentations at the regional and state level.**

   *Committee members have participated in or supported advocacy training sessions and events, Hill Days, or legislative committee presentations/testimony in the following states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington. States that have had active music therapy specific legislation (i.e., Program Funding, Study Bill, Registry, License) in 2017 include: Florida, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas.*

3. **Provide government relations updates during state meetings and regional conferences.**

   *Regional conferences included GRC reports from committee members and updates from State Task Force members. In addition, MAR hosted an advocacy CMTE and breakfast; MWR and WR Joint Conference hosted a Hill Day in Denver; Members in NC participated in an Arts Advocacy Hill Day the week of the SER conference.*
Committee members continue to contribute GR updates to regional newsletters and websites. Co-Chairs assist with editing committee members’ regional reports as requested.

4. Update the AMTA website with relevant Government Relations updates.

Updates on AMTA Government Relations activities are vetted by Co-Chairs and included under Latest News on the AMTA website homepage. With the new White House Administration, there has been an increase of federal activity related to health and education issues. Information about this federal activity is shared through the website, Facebook and Twitter in an effort to educate members about issues related to music therapy practice.

5. Serve on state task forces or assist with identifying candidates for state recognition advocacy work.

All of the Government Relations Committee members participate in state task force advocacy.

Reimbursement Committee

Date: May 2017

Committee Members:

Co-Chair – Judy Simpson (National Office)  Co-Chair – Rebecca Preddie (National Office)
Great Lakes – Nancy Dexter-Schabow               Mid-Atlantic – Briana Priester
New England – Thomas Hayden                    Southeast – Jennifer Walker Puckett
Western – Angie Kopshy                         Midwest – Sarah Thompson
Southwest – Kate Harrison                      AMTAS – Elizabeth Sharp

Report:

GOAL: To increase access to music therapy services by increasing the percentage of music therapy services receiving reimbursement.

TASKS:

1. Respond to questions from members within respective regions regarding payment options for music therapy services in various healthcare and education settings and report reimbursement challenges and successes to committee co-chairs.

   Committee members provide assistance to members in navigating reimbursement options for a variety of clinical settings and with various third-party payers. Committee members continue to monitor, respond, and re-direct questions posted through social media to available AMTA resources. In response to state-specific reimbursement questions, national office staff is developing resources that align diagnostic codes, procedure codes, music therapy interventions, and related evidence.

2. Increase music therapists’ basic knowledge of the process of reimbursement and financing for music therapy services.

   Efforts to educate members about reimbursement is completed through state and regional presentations and meetings. Committee continues to collect helpful materials for posting on AMTA website. National Office staff exploring ways to organize website reimbursement information for clinician, student, and general public access.

3. Facilitate dissemination of information related to federal healthcare legislation and regulation.

   Committee co-chairs distribute updates about federal actions impacting healthcare funding. Committee members help to distribute information to regions. Members are encouraged to review the information and determine level of personal and professional advocacy.

53
4. Implement action plan to complete long-term goals of the reimbursement strategic priority.

   *Committee participated in two conference calls since annual conference to facilitate project completion.*

   *Document repository being used to collect reimbursement resources to share with members.*

   *Scheduling 4 potential “Reimbursement Webinars” that will be recorded and available to members to learn important details regarding the reimbursement process.*

   *Finalizing a reimbursement focused survey for all MT-BCs to update data on music therapy payment sources and procedures. Distribution planned for summer 2017.*

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**Standards of Clinical Practice Report**

**Date:** April 17, 2017

**Members**

Ellary Draper, Ph.D., MT-BC (Chair, Southeastern)  
Adrienne Flight, MMT, MT-BC (New England)  
Bob Miller, MS, MT-BC (Mid-Atlantic)  
Michael Zanders, Ph.D., MT-BC (Southwestern)  
Helen Dolas, MS, MT-BC (Western)  
Jennifer Fiore, PhD, MT-BC (Great Lakes)  
Dana Bolton, MEd, MMT, MT-BC (Southeastern)  
Lora Barthelman, MS, MT-BC(Midwestern)  
Vacant (Student Representative)

**Report:**

**Action Item:** To revise the language of the Standards to align with existing AMTA and CBMT documents.

**GOALS:** To develop, assess, and update the *AMTA Standards of Clinical Practice*.

**TASKS:** All tasks are ongoing:

1. To review and revise the *AMTA Standards of Clinical Practice* document and recommend revisions to reflect applicability to current practice.

   *The committee has begun to examine and revise the Standards to align with existing AMTA and CBMT documents. We plan to continue to work via conference call and email throughout the year in preparation for the November conference.*

2. To ensure that the *AMTA Standards of Clinical Practice* reflect the highest quality of treatment and services in music therapy.

   *The committee is continuing to review and monitor any revisions made in our organizations’ documents to ensure the AMTA Standards of Clinical Practice are up-to-date.*

3. To inform AMTA members of the work of this committee via regional and national publications, conferences, and the Members Only section of the AMTA website.

   *Communication with members is on-going. No concerns from AMTA members were brought to regional representatives during the spring regional conferences.*
Research Committee Report

Date: April 28, 2017

Members:
Cindy Colwell (Midwestern) – Committee Chair
Andrea Cevesco-Trotter (Southeastern)
Eric Waldon (Western)
Joke Bradt (Mid-Atlantic)

Annie Heiderscheit (Great Lakes)
Nancy Hadsell (Southwestern)
Xueli Tan (New England)
Savannah Jaska (Midwestern) – Student Rep

Action Items: None at this time.

GOALS:
1. To encourage and promote research of all types of research methodology in music therapy.
2. To take complete responsibility for the research sessions at national conference.
3. To develop and implement a variety of ongoing educational opportunities and supportive mechanisms to assist novice and experienced researchers/clinicians to develop research projects and programs.

REPORT:
1. Investigate specific ways to educate the profession regarding current music therapy research.
   
   Ongoing

2. Identify those areas of practice lacking supportive research documentation.
   
   Ongoing

3. Serve as an adjunct committee to the conference program committee in organizing research presentations at the annual nation conference.
   
   Ongoing

4. To develop and implement a variety of ongoing educational opportunities and supportive mechanisms to assist novice and experienced researchers/clinicians to develop research projects and programs.
   
   Ongoing

4. Select clinician-research committee member for AMTA BOD review and appointment.
   
   Ongoing. The committee is still deliberating on the selection of a new clinician-researcher and will alert the AMTA BOD as soon as they have made their final recommendation.

Committee Discussion and Committee Action Items:

1. Poster Session
   - Decision was made to move to an electronic submission through a fillable form for more consistent comparison across submissions.
   - During this transition year, both the traditional abstract form in a word document or pdf with guided headings as well as a survey format submission process implemented through www.surveymonkey.com
   - Due Date: June 20, 2017
   - Add addition of relevance to the seven goals of MTR 2025: consumer impact, clinician involvement, diverse methodologies, theory, research capacity building, economic analyses, and expanding partnerships.
• Research posters will be organized and physically grouped by these seven goal areas. Barb Else took responsibility for producing these seven banners to be displayed at the Research Poster Session.
• Evaluation form will be more directly aligned with the headings requested on both the abstract and used as the survey questions in SurveyMonkey. This format should assist the research poster session review committee.
• Undergraduate and Graduate Research Awards will continue with chosen abstracts published in Music Therapy Perspectives.
• Support the “Researcher Scavenger Hunt” as developed by Barb Else and the student representative. CMTE credits will be offered for participation and completion.

2. Clinician Research Grant
• Call for proposals disseminated September 20, 2016 with submission date December 15, 2016
• Reviewers: Jokey Bradt, Nancy Hadsell, and Xueli Tan
  o Due to an email issue between national office and one reviewer, she did not receive the submission link and a substitution reviewer was needed (Committee Chair filled the third review slot).
• Eric Waldon asked to recuse himself due to knowing one of the individuals submitting a proposal.
• Seven proposals were submitted. Reviewer scores were compiled and award recipient proposal name was submitted to Rebecca Preddie at National Office.
• 2017 Clinician Research Grant was awarded to: Lindsey Zehren: Exploring the effects of harmonica playing on respiratory control and swallow quality of life in persons with PD
  o Currently discussing IRB options with researcher

3. AMTA Handbook: Research Discussion
• Reviewed and revised language to be disseminated for approval
• Introductory materials, goals and tasks were revised and updated

Tentative rewording (approval process with committee still needs to be finalized, this draft was initiated at national conference with further revision since that time)

AMTA Handbook
Excerpt: Research Committee

Research Committee
Advancing the mission, goals, and strategic priorities of AMTA including alignment with AMTA’s research initiation, MTR2025.

To that end, the goals and tasks of the Research Committee are as follows:

GOALS:
1. To encourage and promote a portfolio of research in music therapy representing diverse knowledge frameworks and methodologies.
2. To provide diverse educational opportunities about research at annual regional and national conferences.
3. To support at national conferences goals of Improving Access and Quality: Music Therapy Research 2025 (MTR2025).

TASKS:
1. Investigate ways to educate the profession regarding current music therapy research.
2. Identify those areas of practice lacking supportive research documentation.
3. Advise conference program committee regarding research presentations .
4. Organize research presentations at the annual national conference.
5. Develop and implement a variety of ongoing educational opportunities and supportive mechanisms to assist novice and experienced researchers/clinicians to develop research projects and programs.
6. Organize poster and oral research sessions.
7. Review the Clinician-Based Research applications and provide recommendations for funding to the Board of Directors.

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Chair will:
1. Review committee work and talking points with the Council Coordinator.

Each committee member will:
1. Attend and participate in all committee meetings at annual national conferences (in the event of committee member’s absence, region will send a substitute to the meeting);
2. Adhere to deadlines in completing committee assignments;
4. Promote research and AMTA research priorities within respective regions;
5. Ensure timely transfer of committee materials to new regional representative;
6. Disseminate talking points to their regions and seek regional feedback. Student representatives will follow the same procedure prior to dissemination and solicitation of feedback from student members.

QUALIFICATIONS:
1. Professional AMTA membership required.
2. Experience with, and knowledge of, research methodologies required.
3. Graduate degree desirable (with the exception of the student representative and possibly clinician representative).
4. Publication(s) desirable (with the exception of the student representative).
5. Previous committee experience desirable (with the exception of the student representative).

4. Committee Representation
   - Deb Burns announced her decision to step down as Research Committee Co-Chair and as the representative for the Great Lakes region.
     o Post conference follow-up with the Executive Board of the GLR indicated that Annie Heiderscheit would become the GLR Regional Representative
   - Nancy Hadsell indicated her intention to step down as the representative for the Southwestern region following her retirement from Texas Women’s University.
     o Follow-up with the Executive Board of the SWR will be initiated as appropriate.
   - Discussion of inclusion of clinician researcher to serve on this committee, names will continue to be suggested and will be submitted for final discussion and approval

5. Research Committee Presents: in progress

Global Topic: Research Writing

Possible inclusion of such topics such as: (these have NOT been determined, the first one is tentatively planned)

How to complete an effective peer review? (Sheri Robb, Ken Aigen, Clare O’Callaghan)
How to develop your research agenda? TBD
How to write a grant application? TBD
What is the impact of knowledge frameworks on research development and writing? TBD
Technology Committee Report

Date: April 28, 2017

Members:
Midwestern: Kristin N. Veteto (Chair)
Midwestern: Lindsey Wilhelm
Southeastern: Kim Bell
Mid-Atlantic: Noa Elimelech
Southwestern: Alison Etter

New England: Cassandra Mulcahy
Western: Spencer Hardy
Great Lakes: Julie Palmieri
Student Rep: Grace Chiasson

Report:

GOALS:
1. To educate the AMTA membership on the current clinical technology resources, practices, and applications in use by its members;
2. To serve as a technology resource for AMTA members;
3. To promote technology-related events and training at AMTA national and regional conferences;
4. To support the membership of the AMTA in their uses of current and emerging clinical and related technologies.

TASKS:
1. Develop lists of specialists to contact in each of the regions regarding the current uses of technology in clinical music therapy practice.

   No news to report.

2. Explore connections with technology vendors and suppliers with the aim of increasing member awareness and identifying potential technology vendors for regional and annual national conferences.

   No news to report.

3. Develop or solicit a proposal for a concurrent session on clinical or related technology for the AMTA Annual National conference and submit it to the Conference Program Committee.

   The committee has proposed 3 concurrent sessions for the upcoming 2017 national conference. The first is in collaboration with the Ethics Committee and the second and third provide the attendees with applicable and effectively technology to use in their clinical settings.

4. Identify high priority topics for a potential Technology CMTE or Institute at the AMTA Annual National Conference.

   This is an ongoing task.

5. Develop and collect informational videos on clinical or related technology to disseminate through both public and private member-only forums.

   The committee has created a bi-weekly upload schedule for the Tech Stop. This schedule is more sustainable than the previous weekly uploads for the committee. We have streamlined our process and continue to make updates as matters for concern arise. The committee also maintains an
online sheet of topics that are constantly updated as new questions arise from the membership. We have also identified a member of the committee to create a social media schedule that aligns with our upload schedule. All videos are added to the Tech Stop area on the AMTA website.

6. Review the Social Media Advisory Statement, developed by AMTA Staff consultant Barb Else, as charged by the AMTA BOD.

The technology committee, in collaboration with the ethics committee, has reviewed the social media statement developed by Barb Else and is planning to present on the new policy at a round table presentation at the national conference.
The Council on Association Services is comprised of seven standing committees: Affiliate Relations, Clinical Practice Networking Committee, Diversity and Multicultural Committee, International Relations, Membership, Professional Advocacy, and Workforce Development and Retention. Since the 2016 Annual Board of Directors Meeting, there have been no changes in the leadership and membership of most of the committees associated with the Council on Association Services. However, the Clinical Practice Networking Committee has several vacancies. I will work with the Committee Chair Ghetti and the regional presidents to fill the open positions before the national conference. Much of my time has been spent supporting the committee chairs as they work on the tasks associated with their charges. In the months leading up to the national conference, I will be arranging meetings between several committee chairs whose committees have interconnected charges. These are the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee and the Research Committee, the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee and the Workforce Development and Retention Committee, and the Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee and the Membership Committee. In addition, I will connect with the chair of the Clinical Practice Networking Committee to ensure the communication between her and the chair of the Standards of Clinical Practice Committee are on-going.

Action Items – The Clinical Practice Networking Committee respectfully requests that AMTA considers devoting a 1hr 15min concurrent session timeslot exclusively to networking activities. Please see the reports from each committee below.

**Affiliate Relations Committee**  
Meganne Masko, Chair  
2017 Mid-Year Report

**Committee Members**

Meganne Masko (Great Lakes)- Chair  
No current member (Western)  
Scott Horowitz (Mid-Atlantic)  
Faith Halverson-Ramos (Midwestern)  
Amanda Sehr (Southwestern)  
Andrea VerBurg (Southeastern)  
Joy Allen (New England)  
Ann Haman (Great Lakes)  
Tara O’Brien (Student Representative)

**Committee Activity**

- The committee met and reviewed our tasks at national conference in November 2016.  
- The committee regularly communicates via email, and is planning a conference call for June 2017.  
- The committee continues to work on revising and updating the AMTA fact sheets.

**Goals:**

1. To interpret the music therapy profession to other professionals, disciplines and organizations in the United States.  
2. To interpret attitudes and opinions of these groups toward the music therapy profession and its services.  
3. To identify, encourage, maintain and make recommendations regarding relationships between AMTA and other professional organizations.

**Tasks:**

1) Identify MT-BCs who also hold certification/licensure in one of these other professions:
   a) Speech-Language Pathology  
   b) Occupational Therapy
A spreadsheet of MT-BC’s who hold certifications/licensure in other professions is continually being updated. We also added MT-BCs who are board certified chaplains. We are attempting to find the best way to distribute a brief survey to the membership so we have as accurate a picture as possible of who hold dual certifications.

2) Communicate with these identified MT-BCs and request examples of best practices where music therapy and one of these other professions successfully collaborate to assist clients reach their treatment goals.

The committee is using the above spreadsheet to address this task, and will continue to do so once we have the survey data.

3) Create bullet point, one-page fact sheets by client population or discipline that highlight these examples for use in music therapy advocacy.

Our largest task for 2017 is the updating and revamping of the AMTA Fact Sheets. The committee identified multiple clinical areas in need of such a fact sheet, as well as potential contributors to said fact sheets, during the November 2016 conference. Invitations and guiding questions were sent to potential contributors in March 2017, with a response deadline of June 1. Meganne Masko collaborated with Judy Simpson to discuss how these fact sheets may be used by professionals and allies advocating for music therapy. The committee will work on these fact sheets throughout the remainder of 2017.

4) Facilitate regional conference FAQ and panel discussion sessions that include music therapists and individuals who have completed training recognized by the National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians (i.e., Music Practitioners, Harp Therapists) When possible, provide examples of effective collaboration between music therapists and music practitioners working together in the same facility.

Nothing to report at this time.
Respectfully submitted, Meganne Masko, Chair

Clinical Practice Networking Committee
Claire Ghetti, Chair
2017 Mid-Year Report

Members:

Claire Ghetti Chair
Lee Anna Rasar (Great Lakes Region)
Vacant (Mid-Atlantic Region)
Erin Carter (Mid-Western Region)
Kelsy Gati (New England Region)
Elizabeth Haley (Southeastern Region)
Mat Altom (Southwest Region)
Kathrine Lee (Western Region)
Vacant (AMTAS Representative)

Report:
**Goal:** To provide coordination for networking and mentoring opportunities for practitioners working in a range of settings and with different populations, and to foster communication between committees and with professionals in related fields.

**Tasks and Progress:**

1. To develop networking opportunities to support music therapists working with a broad range of populations;
Regional representatives are encouraged to host CPN networking luncheons at their regional conferences. In spring of 2017, the GLR held a successful networking luncheon, the MWR and WR held a Topics Lunch at their joint regional conference, and the MAR held a networking event with an expanding range of networking groups.

2. To host a round table with cash luncheon at the annual national conferences and organize networking opportunities at the regional conferences to further expand the development of clinical populations’ sub-groups;

The CPN Committee hosted a well-attended Networking Luncheon at the 2016 AMTA National Conference in Kansas City. The event included 14 networking tables facilitated by CPN committee members along with members of the Standards of Clinical Practice Committee. Attendees were empowered to continue using social media and other networking tools to provide on-going population-specific networking following the conferences.

3. To identify various structures that enable mentoring for music therapists working with a broad range of populations;

No new activity to report.

4. To inform AMTA members of the work of the committee via regional and national publications as well as on the Members Only section of the AMTA website.

Regional representatives promoted the national and regional CPN luncheons using social media including regional Facebook pages, population-specific music therapy social media groups, and Twitter. Regional representatives reported back to their respective regions at national and regional business meetings.

Other: We are currently experiencing a high level of turn-over as some engaged regional representatives have needed to step away from their positions on the committee, while others have discontinued engaging with the committee. The chair has contacted regional presidents, who are working to appoint new representatives (MAR, SER, and WR). The chair has not been able to achieve contact with the SWR regional president.

We respectfully request that the Board of Directors consider a suggestion from our committee: The Clinical Practice Networking Committee respectfully suggests that AMTA considers devoting a 1hr 15min concurrent session timeslot exclusively to networking activities. In such a model, all concurrent session rooms would be allocated to various networking topics including a range of clinical populations, work settings, special interest groups, country-specific groups, culture-specific groups, etc. Attendees could then choose to join one or more networking groups during that specific timeslot.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Ghetti, Chair

Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee
Melita Belgrave & Seung-A Kim, Co-Chairs
2017 Mid-Year Report

Progress from November-May
During this period, the committee has been focusing on the following tasks:

1. Increasing our Presence at National and Regional AMTA Conferences

During this period, the members of the DMC have worked on increasing the visibility of this committee and disseminating our progress at national and regional AMTA conferences. In November, the committee presented at the national conference. During regional conferences committee members were encouraged to
host round-tables, develop presentations, and share talking points at the business meetings. For example, at the joint MWRAMTA/WRAMTA conference in Colorado three committee members hosted a table at the topics lunch. At the MAR and NE regional conferences, committee members held meetings to continue to communicate with their regional members and provide a space for member feedback, and shared updates. Also, at the SWR conference, the committee member held a concurrent session to inform attendees of the committees’ goals and receive feedback from AMTA members. Further, many of the DMC members shared updates with their regional members at business meetings during their regional conferences. Additionally, the committee submitted two proposals for national conference in St. Louis. Both proposals are titled, *The Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee Presents*: one proposal is related to disseminating the current work related to goals and tasks, and the other proposal pertains to appropriate language for diverse populations. Both of these proposals are related to the current goals and tasks that the committee is working on.

2. Regularly Scheduled Conference Call Meetings

The co-chairs decided to hold quarterly scheduled conference calls to discuss current work and goals and tasks. During the meetings, members of the committee categorized the goals and tasks as short-term projects (1-2 months to complete), medium-term projects (3-6 months to complete) long-term projects (6 months -1 year to complete), and post 1-year projects. We have set due dates and steps to complete the short-term tasks. During the scheduled conference calls, we have checked in on progress of the tasks and discussed next steps on reporting progress to the Board of Directors.

3. Working on Official Goals and Tasks

The DMC has four goals with a set of tasks related to each goal, which can be seen below. We identified Goal 1: Task 1b and Goal 4: Task 4a as our primary tasks and have gathered relevant information by exploring diversity initiatives within AMTA and other health-related and arts-related disciplines. Additionally, the DMC has begun working on Goal 2: Tasks 2a-2e, and Task 2g and will make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

**Goal 1: To encourage increased diversity within the population of music therapy professionals and students in the US.**

Task 1a: Periodically gather information on the diversity of music therapy professionals and students in the US.

Task 1b: Identify the various diversity groups within AMTA and CBMT. Identify their mission and progress so far (e.g., Team Rainbow, Black student and professional meeting at conference, international students, listserv for MTs who are visually impaired, etc.)

**Goal 2: To increase diversity and multiculturalism training and resources for AMTA members.**

Task 2a: Gather and catalogue information (develop baseline) on how much training and resources are currently offered (track presentations relating to multiculturalism and diversity in MT at both regional and national conferences, assess training given in undergrad and grad programs, internship, etc.) and then explore the possibility and feasibility of adding a required course on multiculturalism and diversity in undergraduate training.

Task 2b: Study other organizations that already have successful resource databases in order to determine and to recommend the best method for pooling, disseminating, monitoring, and updating content.

Task 2c: Create a survey to ask MT professionals and students what type of diversity resources would be beneficial to them as potential CMTEs, concurrent sessions, and other training/education methodologies.

Task 2d: Potentially create diversity related training modules for university programs and clinical training directors at national roster internship sites.

Task 2e: Work with conference committees to (1) ensure a given percentage of CMTE and concurrent sessions contain information related to cultural and/or diversity training; (2) make recommendations for pre-conference or CMTE courses; (3) regularly offer a panel regarding multiculturalism and diversity in MT; and/or (4) create a series of roundtable discussions at regional and national conferences regarding specific diversity topics.

Task 2f: Provide additional information for other committees as they address multiculturalism and diversity issues.
Task 2g: Create a “Diversity Awareness Resources” section/forum and an online resource database (including a roster of the different diversity categories among music therapy professionals registered within AMTA and certified by CBMT, podcasts and other appropriate social media channels).

Task 2h: Post reports of committee action on the Members Only section of the AMTA website.

**Goal 3: To provide a support system, including tools and resources, for music therapy professionals and students from minority groups.**

Task 3a: Gather information on current discrimination support and other support available to music therapists/students from minority groups.

Task 3b: Create a roster of and then resource page or link on the AMTA website explaining the different diversity categories among music therapy professionals registered within AMTA and certified by CBMT.

Task 3c: Develop and update resources for music therapists and students in minority groups.

Task 3d: Create marketing information for the above resources so music therapy professionals and students will be aware of them.

**Goal 4: To monitor and recommend revisions to AMTA documents to achieve conformity to accepted language concerning diversity and multiculturalism.**

Task 4a: Explore arts-based and non arts-based organizations’ diversity initiatives, then create recommendations for AMTA.

Task 4b: Compose up-to-date guidelines for diversity inclusive language in professional documents; define accepted language concerning diversity and multiculturalism and/or identify the standards on which conforming criteria will be based.

Task 4c: Develop a strategy to facilitate long-term monitoring of all official AMTA documents, including thorough review, submission of recommended revisions to appropriate AMTA personnel, and a schedule for recurring reviews.

Respectfully submitted,
Melita Belgrave & Seung-A Kim, Co-Chairs

**International Relations Committee**

**Flossie Ieradi, Chair**

**2017 Mid-Year Report**

**Committee Members**

Flossie Ieradi - Chair
Robert Kagin (Great Lakes)
Flossie Ieradi (Mid-Atlantic)
Soo-Jin Kwoun (Midwestern)
Meg Capen (New England)
Melody Schwantes (Southeastern)
Yu-Ling Chen (Southwestern)
Kazumi Yamaura (Western)
Jonathan Li Tang

**Report**

Below is a summary of highlights during this reporting period:

1. Our committee had an interim meeting in February to revisit our discussion in November and identify talking points for business meetings at regional conferences.

2. SER has continued to plan their scholarship offering of $500 to help pay for international music therapy activity, with the requirement that the project be presented at Global Perspectives or other conference opportunity. The scholarship is open to SER members and the deadline is May 1, 2017. Please see attached.

3. Global Perspectives request for proposals is posted on the conference website. Deadline is July 1.

4. President Geiger is in communication with International Relations Committee members who will attend World Congress in July, so that all can represent AMTA. This was our suggestion from our committee and we are thankful for the support from Andi Farbman and Jennifer Geiger.

5. Committee members are working on reaching out to music therapy associations in other countries in order to develop communication.
**Goal 1:** To facilitate awareness of international opportunities and events by AMTA members, and the inclusion of international perspectives of music therapy in AMTA.

**Task 1:** To inform AMTA members about and encourage attendance and presentations at WFMT events and conferences of related organizations in other countries via regional and/or AMTA publications and the general access area of the AMTA web site: Music Therapy Around the World and on the Web.  
http://www.musictherapy.org/about/listserv/  
*Ongoing.* Committee members include announcements about international conferences in regional newsletters, with a link to World Federation for Music Therapy web site. Committee chair sends announcements to committee members for regional newsletters and business meetings.

**Task 2:** To share international experiences in AMTA publications & presentations, and organize the Global Perspectives Session at AMTA Conference.  
*In process.* Request for submissions is now on the conference web site. Several committee representatives will attend the World Congress in July and will share information about Global Perspectives. They will also assist President Geiger in representing AMTA.

**Task 3:** To provide additional information for other committees as they deal with international issues.

*No update at this time.*

**Goal 2:** To assist the President of AMTA with matters concerning the World Federation of Music Therapy (WFMT), such as facilitating communication and the distribution of information.

**Task 4:** To facilitate exchange of opportunities among professionals.

*Continued:* Committee members contribute to regional newsletters and request information from regional members concerning international music therapy activity. Music therapists also use the music therapy listserv and social media to announce opportunities.

**Goal 3:** To assist international students.

**Task 6:** To be a resource for international students (e.g. provide educational information, strategies, peer mentoring opportunities, personal support).

*Continued:* We work through our student representative to help international students become aware of our committee. We have a standing agenda item to be aware of need for support concerning CBMT exam. Will discuss with new student representative.

*Ongoing:* Committee members encourage student participation in the international student music therapy listserv and music therapy student Facebook pages. Students appear to make much more use of the Facebook page.

**Task 7:** To support international students who are returning to their countries of origin (e.g. music therapy advocacy, transitional support).  
*No update at this time.*

**Goal 4:** To facilitate awareness of music therapy among disciplines, organizations and professionals in other countries.

Committee representatives are working on communication with music therapy associations in other countries. Some members will communicate with organizations in their home countries (South Korea, Taiwan, Japan). Other members have contacts in Norway, Sweden, Germany.

*Annual:* The committee makes significant efforts to welcome international guests at the AMTA conference. We will continue with stickers for ID badges at the conference, indicating languages spoken. The Chair annually receives a list of international registrants and will send an email invitation to the Global Perspectives Session.

**Goal 5:** To work with national conference planners to insure inclusion of events that represent a diverse ethnic music focus.
Supplemental Report
SER-AMTA INTERNATIONAL PROJECT SUPPORT GRANT
Purpose: The SER-AMTA International Project Support Grant was created to provide funding for professional music therapists who are engaged in international clinical work, research, service, or scholarly music therapy activities. Examples of projects considered include but are not limited to: teaching/training international students, providing music therapy workshops in other countries, or conducting a research project. Projects do not have to be conducted abroad to be considered, but must be focused on international populations. Funding of up to $500 will be awarded annually, with the amount and number of projects funded dependent upon the quality and quantity of submissions.

Items Covered: The following items will be considered for funding. Documentation must be provided for all items.
- International program travel expenses.
- Music therapy materials/supplies.
- Research materials.
- Conference registration fees; fees will only considered if the applicant is presenting at an international conference or if an applicant is presenting at a domestic conference on an international project.
- Program specific items; items must be outlined in the application and a clear justification must be provided.

In order to be eligible for funding, the following conditions must be met:
- The grantee must be a professional member of the American Music Therapy Association who lives or works in the Southeastern Region.
- The grantee must maintain appropriate music therapy credentials.
- The grantee must be engaged in clinical work, research, service, or scholarly international activities. All activities must involve international participants but do not necessarily have to be conducted abroad.
- Programs must be consistent with the mission of the American Music Therapy Association.

Post-Project Requirements: Individuals who are awarded a grant must agree to provide a presentation on their project. Presentations may be conducted at regional or national conferences. Recipients will also be required to publish a project summary in the Quodlibet, and are encouraged to publish information related to the project in other venues as appropriate.

Membership Committee Report
Angie Elkins and Patina Jackson, Co-chairs
2017 Mid-Year Report

Members:
- Angie Elkins (Co-Chairperson)
- Patina Jackson (Co-Chairperson)
- Elizabeth Ferguson (Committee Representative – New England Region)
- Sarah Pitts (Committee Representative - Southeastern Region)
- Marisol Norris (Committee Representative - Mid-Atlantic Region)
- Rachael Shifrin Lawrence-Lupton (Committee Representative - Great Lakes Region)
- Lorissa Ann McGuire (Committee Representative - Midwestern Region)
Goals:
1. To insure the growth and development of AMTA by determining ways to increase membership.
2. To promote the value of all categories of AMTA membership.
3. To evaluate the needs of AMTA members.

Tasks:
1. To conduct annual membership drives at the national and regional levels (minimum of two per year).
2. To encourage and coordinate membership drives with AMTAS.
3. To promote the value of membership in publications, inside and outside of the profession.
4. To update reports of committee action on the Members Only Section of the AMTA website.

Report:
We are excited to announce that AMTA completed the 2016 calendar year with the highest number of members since its inception in 1998 and we hope to continue that momentum in 2017. Membership calling drives have begun in almost every region: GLR, MWR, NER, SER, SWR, and WR. Formats included: passing out non-member lists to volunteers for calls to be made (WR, MWR, NER, SER); gathering student volunteers to complete calls (GLR); and offering creative incentives for calling drive volunteers (such as placing them in a drawing for a free item from the AMTA Store or 50 dollars off an AMTA E-course (SER) and $50 off 2018 AMTA membership for making 50 calls (SWR).

Regions have also planned and participated in membership drives surrounding the regional conferences, these efforts include:
- Participating in the #WeAreAMTA social media campaign
- Hosting a membership booth in the regional conference exhibit hall (SWR)
- Creating a Membership Support Committee: the NER used funding to provide 24 AMTA Membership Scholarships. Applicants paid a percentage of AMTA membership dues and the regional scholarship covered the additional percentage required to equal a full 2017 Professional dues payment (that percentage varied by individual based on need) with a “pay-it-forward” agreement to provide volunteer services to support regional needs and events. The NER plans to continue the scholarships for future years!

Ideas for the rest of the year include:
- Emails in November/December to non-members to remind them of the benefits of joining in hopes of boosting the following years membership (NER)
- Improving participation in calling drives through educating potential volunteers that time spent calling can count towards service credit for CMTEs (SWR)
- Finding ways to increase student membership (i.e. lowering the student member early bird regional conference registration rate to encourage students to become members; talking to student Executive Board about providing student member conference scholarships) (SER)
- An #everynotecounts social media campaign: Therapists would write why it’s important to be a member and invite other members. This could be in conjunction with the committee idea to have a board at national conference where members can get a note and write their favorite member benefit or important reason to be a member. The “notes” would make a musical piece (SER).
- Asking Regional Board Members and Committee Chair wear buttons saying “Ask me why I’m a member.” (SER).

The Board of Directors’ newly-created Professional Member Growth Workgroup continues to work to support the efforts of the Membership Committee. Membership Committee Co-chair, Angie Elkins, participates in the Workgroup’s conference calls. The Membership Committee is grateful for their support making AMTA membership a priority and working toward our common goal of growing the AMTA membership family. We stand ready to advise and assist in whatever way possible. A large and robust membership family not only benefits the organization and gives the music therapy profession a stronger and
more vibrant voice in the country, but also the many benefits offered through membership are designed to support, aide, and increase the expertise of music therapists so that they can continue to provide quality music therapists to those they serve. Thanks to all the representatives on this committee for their hard work, enthusiasm, and support as we work further AMTA’s mission: to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world.

Respectfully submitted,
Angie Elkins and Patina Jackson, Co-chairs

Professional Advocacy Committee

Emily Bevelaqua & Leslie Henry, Co-Chairs

2017 Mid-Year Report

Members:
Co-Chairs: Emily Bevelaqua, MMT, MT-BC & Leslie Henry, MM, MT-BC
New England Region - Jennifer DeBedout, MM, MT-BC
Great Lakes Region - Jessica DeVillers, MA, MT-BC
Mid Atlantic Region – Jenny Swanson, MMT, MT-BC
Mid West Region - Kelli McKee, MA, MT-BC
South West Region - Carolyn Dobson, MT-BC, AP-BC
Western Region - Kalani Das, MT-BC
South East Region - Sharon Graham, MM, MT-BC

Goals:
• To advocate for the professional representation of the field of music therapy.
• To assist membership in responding to misrepresentation of music therapy in the media and in public.

Tasks:
1. To educate membership regarding the evaluation of representations of music therapy in the public and various forms of media.
   • Updated version of committee information and resources on the AMTA website including, a decision tree format determining course of action specific to state, music modalities infographics and sample advocacy letters.
2. To disseminate committee information to membership via conferences, newsletters, publications and to AMTA members only and regional websites.
   • Presentations at GLR conferences by Jessica DeVillers.
   • Western rep, Kalani Das has written 2 blog posts advocating about music therapy.
   • Sample advocacy letters have been updated and forwarded for approval for the AMTA website
   • The committee provided a liaison to provide input and guidance to the AMTA music listening workgroup.
3. To assist and monitor member’s responses to advocacy issues, By monitoring and responding to misrepresentation of music therapy.
   • NER
     o No advocacy issues during this reported time.
   • MAR
     o There was 1 case of music business stating misrepresentation of services.
     o The issue is still in process of resolution.
   • GLR
     o There were 6 advocacy issues from the Great Lakes Region reported
       • 1 product misrepresentation
       • 1 job posting
       • 3 articles
• 1 website description
  o 3 of 6 are still have been resolved.
• MWR
  o There were no reported issues during this time period.
• WR
  o One issue reported since last reporting period of addiction agency misrepresenting services.
  o Issue is still in resolution.
• SER
  o There was one advocacy issue of National standing which is still being perused.
• SW
  o There were no reported issues during this time period.

Summary:
The committee trained nearly half of its members at the 2016 AMTA conference and members were confident of their role at conclusion of training. The committee chairs are working to mentor junior members to the committee as they develop understanding of responsibilities.

Cases were comprised of a variety of topics including product claims, integration and coordination of professional musicians in hospital through grant, volunteer solicitations, newspaper and professional newsletter miscommunications. Overall the committee is seeing improvement of information being reported, less reported cases, and members sharing improved confidence with advocacy.

4. To compile a resource file of responses.

The co-chairs continue to maintain a AMTA Professional Advocacy google drive account where advocacy issues can be reported and organized by region. These documents are shared with committee members who can review and update as needed.

5. To update reports of committee action on the Members Only section of the AMTA website.

The committee is providing review of all documents currently on the AMTA website for update and revision reflective of member needs.

Respectfully Submitted by Emily Bevelaqua & Leslie Henry, Co-Chairs

Workforce Development and Retention Committee
Gretchen Cardos Benner & Kyle Wilhelm, Co-chairs
2017 Mid-Year Report

Committee members:
Courtney Biddle (NER)
Missy Reed (MAR)
Feilin Hsiao (WR)
Kelly Carlson (MWR)
Charlie Seaman (SWR)
Carolyn Dachinger (SWR)
TBD (GLR)
Gretchen Chardos Benner (Co-chair)
Kyle Wilhelm (Co-chair)

Goal 1: To increase awareness of music therapy as a career choice
Task 1: Research various online and offline outreach opportunities that target high school students (i.e. majoringinmusic.com). Make contact regarding appropriate content about music therapy to sites with incorrect/incomplete information. Maintain on a yearly basis.

Gretchen has updated the most current database of outreach opportunities that target high school students. This will be updated annually.

Task 2: Contact music departments and/or career counselors in selected Junior Colleges in each region and provide information concerning music therapy as a career and university programs in their area offering a music therapy program.

Each member of the committee has been asked to research junior/community colleges within 50 miles of schools with music therapy programs in their particular region. Committee members have been asked to fill in the name of the institution, mailing address, and contact person with email address on a shared database. This task is ongoing.

Task 3: If available, obtain a list of Junior Colleges that offer an intro course in music therapy and begin a dialogue with them about music therapy as a career and universities in their area offering a music therapy degree.

A small, incomplete list of junior/community colleges has been created. This task will be given greater attention once the database in Task 2 has been completed.

Task 4: Work cooperatively with both national and regional conference planners to offer a workshop/track for High School students interested in music therapy to be offered at National and Regional Music Therapy Conferences. Invite local guidance counselors, high school music educators, parents, and high school students to participate in the workshop/track.

For the combined MWR/WR conference, Kyle reached out to 38 high school and college educators within a 50-mile radius of the conference location. In addition, social media was utilized to spread the word. An educational session was put together featuring two MT professors, two MT professionals, and two MT students who spoke about music therapy. Approximately 30 students, teachers, and parents attended the session.

Because of its success, this model may be recommended for future national and regional conferences. Since the upcoming AMTA conference is in the MWR, Kyle and Kelly have begun the process of identifying high schools within a 50-mile radius of downtown St. Louis in preparation for the November conference. Kyle has also agreed to contact Dr. Cynthia Briggs to see if music therapy students from Maryville would be interested in speaking to students at some of the high schools in the area about music therapy.

Courtney has been trying to connect with AMTA regarding a similar event at the 2017 AMTA Conference.

Task 5: Identify and document the current Music Therapy presence at state music education all-state conferences by connecting with regional presidents and affiliate relations committee members.

No other regional presidents than was reported in the Fall, 2016 report have responded about regional activity. Affiliate Relations Committee chairs did not respond to emails. The WDR Committee has decided to table Task 5 for the time being as we focus on other tasks.

Goal 2: To explore the potential of developing a retention plan
Task 1: Investigate current workforce retention plans and strategies for other related professions (rehabilitative therapies and creative arts therapies)
Completed 2016

Task 2: Research the last five year trends in the Music Therapy Profession and ascertain if there are any common identifiers and trends related to the retention of professionals in the AMTA organization and the professional workforce. Consider AMTA and CBMT documents.

Courtney contacted CBMT to see if there are any retention trends in the last 5 years. She received data from CBMT showing an 80% retention rate. Of those who completed CBMTs “expiration survey” for those who chose not to renew, about 65% reported leaving the profession. Courtney has an email out to CBMT regarding why they are leaving the field.

Task 3: Through surveys or other available data, conduct workforce research to identify the number of board certified music therapists who are currently employed full time or part time, seeking employment, working outside of clinical practice, or not currently working outside of the home. Identify whether or not music therapists are looking for more work in the field, or not.

Not addressing at this time.

Task 4: Develop recommendations for the AMTA Board of Directors to address workforce development issues regarding the need of a retention plan and present to the AMTA BOD.

Not addressing (directly) at this time, but all tasks in Goal 2 seem to culminate to this one.

Goal 3: To create channels for communication with the AMTA Membership regarding topics of workforce development and retention

Task 1: Create a forum for members to submit ideas regarding workforce development and retention through the committee page on the website

Megan has been in contact with Al Bumanis about creating a forum on the AMTA website. She is currently looking at options on how to make this happen. Progress toward this goal is still early in the process, but we are moving forward.

Task 2: To update reports of committee action on the Members Only Section of the AMTA website

Report: Committee members had a conference call on February 21 and decided to focus time and resources on two of the larger tasks. First, creating a database of junior/community colleges within a 50-mile radius of all music therapy programs (Goal 1: Task 2). This project has proved to be challenging, but the committee is making steady progress. Once schools have been identified, the committee will create a brochure and either snail mail or email music instructors and guidance counselors about music therapy as a career choice. Second, the committee is working on creating a standardized procedure for identifying and contacting high schools and junior/community colleges near regional and national music therapy conferences (Goal 1: Task 4). The committee could also be helpful working with AMTA and local conference planners at creating an effective educational program for prospective students.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Cardos Benner & Kyle Wilhelm, Co-chairs
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
AMTA-Pro Podcast Series and AMTA Info-Pods
Overview and Progress Report
Cathy Knoll, MA, MT-BC
April 2017

AMTA-Pro is a series of podcasts featuring music therapists talking about one topic of interest to their music therapy colleagues, students, interns and other AMTA members. The AMTA-Pro podcast series encompasses a broad range of topics and speakers, and features compelling conversations with therapists from across the country who work with a wide variety of populations and in different clinical settings. AMTA-Pro is an exclusive “member only” service, an incentive for music therapists to join AMTA. With the exception of some special episodes for public view, AMTA-Pro podcasts are archived and only available to AMTA members who access the service by clicking on AMTA-Pro link on the homepage of the AMTA website.

AMTA contracts the services of Cathy Knoll and Dwight Knoll to produce the AMTA-Pro podcast series with technical assistance from Angie Elkins. Cathy oversees the project, schedules recording sessions with podcast speakers, records interviews with podcast speakers, and develops the landing pages and text segments of all the podcasts. Cathy’s son, Dwight Knoll, conceived the concept of the AMTA-Pro podcasts and is the technical director, working in partnership with Cathy and each podcast speaker to record and produce the podcasts, and working with Angie Elkins to post the podcasts and maintain the series. Since the series began in 2009, just over 100 AMTA-Pro podcasts have been posted, and all remain available to AMTA members. A complete list of all the AMTA-Pro podcast topics and speakers since 2009 can be found here: http://www.musictherapy.org/members/amtapro_overview/

In September, 2017, we will begin extending invitations to potential AMTA-Pro podcast speakers, all of whom are presenting sessions at the 2017 AMTA conference. We will schedule recording sessions with about a dozen speakers or groups of speakers, and will record their podcasts at the upcoming 2017 AMTA conference in November. These podcasts will be prepared for release monthly beginning in January, 2018. We are also prepared to produce AMTA-Pro podcasts throughout the year if an occasion arises.

RECOMMENDATIONS: We highly recommend the AMTA-Pro podcast series be more widely publicized as a member benefit.

AMTA-Pro Podcasts for the 2017 AMTA Membership Year

AMTA-Pro podcast released January, 2017
MT Licensure in Oregon
with Jodi Winnwalker, LCSW, MT-BC; Lillieth Grand, MS, MT-BC; Angie Kopshy, MM, MT-BC; and Chris Korb, MM, MT-BC

As of January 1, 2016, music therapy is a licensed profession in Oregon. The bill reads, “A person may not practice music therapy, assume or use any title, words or abbreviations, including the title or designation ‘music therapist,’ that indicate the person is authorized to practice music therapy unless the person is licensed. Only those agencies with qualified personnel may claim to offer music therapy services.” In November, 2016, four members of the Oregon State Government Relations Task Force gathered around the AMTA-Pro microphone to talk about the steps taken to achieve this ambitious goal. Beginning in 2007 with AMTA’s Judy Simpson’s issue of a Call to Action, the efforts of dozens of music therapists in Oregon, working with the expert guidance of Judy Simpson and CBMT’s Dena Register, Kimberly Sena Moore, and Maria Fay, resulted in licensure in 2016. The podcast speakers talk about that process, and they overview the necessary follow-up of the licensing legislation while encouraging music therapists in other states to step up to the plate and work diligently toward licensure.

AMTA-Pro podcast released February, 2017
Florence Tyson: Music Therapy Visionary
with Kenneth Aigen, DA, MT-BC, LCAT, Christopher Bandini, LCSW, and Jeffrey Friedberg MT-BC,
LCAT

Florence Tyson was a trailblazing music therapist who began her work in the 1950s with the Musicians’ Emergency Fund in New York City. Recognizing the need for outpatient treatment for individuals with mental illness, Florence created the Music Rehabilitation Center to provide arts-based community services, thereby decreasing the need for inpatient treatment. In the early 1960s, the agency’s name was changed to the Creative Arts Rehabilitation Center and moved to 51st Street in the theater district on the edge of Times Square. Until the mid-1990s, CARC was a space dedicated solely to providing music, art, dance, drama, and poetry for people with mental illness. In this AMTA-Pro podcast, three of Florence’s colleagues - Ken Aigen, Christopher Bandini, and Jeffrey Friedberg - share compelling stories about their work at the CARC, and about the significant impact of CARC and Florence Tyson on the lives of scores of individuals with mental illness as well as on the staff and community.

AMTA-Pro podcast released March, 2017

Unanticipated Findings MT Pilot Study
with Sheri L. Robb, PhD, MT-BC and Amanda K. Henley, MM, MT-BC

Active Music Engagement (AME) is a music-based play intervention designed to address parent and young child cancer treatment-related distress. Positive results from earlier research based on therapist-led interventions led to the next step of translating Active Music Engagement for parent delivery to increase accessibility and sustainability. Music Play Kits were designed for parents to share with their children and enjoy making music together while the music therapist stepped back into a coaching role. Although the pilot study yielded positive results for the children and parents in many areas in this model, one unexpected finding emerged. Parents actually indicated a need for greater support from the music therapist and a preference for therapist-led interventions. Our AMTA-Pro podcast speakers, Sheri Robb and Amanda Henley, discuss the research and clinical practice implications of these findings, and they share details about the continuation of this study with research funded by a $1.4 million National Institutes of Nursing Research grant. This latest research project, involving 15 Board-Certified Music Therapists, 12 Certified Research Associates, and 4 Site-Primary Investigators/Project Managers across three sites, is studying the effect of play interventions, such as active music engagement and storybook programs, on health outcomes in young children ages 3 to 8 undergoing chemotherapy treatment and their parents.

AMTA-Pro podcast released April, 2017

DBT-Informed Music Therapy
Abby Dvorak, PhD, MT-BC; Lindsey R. Landeck, MT-BC; Marie Lesiak, MT-BC; Deborah Spiegel MT-BC

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) is an active treatment model building skills in four key areas: mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotion regulation, and interpersonal effectiveness. In this AMTA-Pro podcast, four music therapists Abby Dvorak, Lindsey Landeck, Marie Lesiak, and Deborah Speigel – discuss ways music therapy enhances and supports DBT skills training and improves patient outcomes in their clinical practice. Their conversation provides clinical interventions in each of the four skills areas, and they share resources and an overview of ongoing research focusing on DBT-informed music therapy.

AMTA-Pro Podcasts yet to be released in 2017

Expanding the MT-BC’s Role in Healthcare
Christine Neugebauer

Single-Session Educational Music Therapy in Acute Care Mental Health Settings
Michael J. Silverman

Exploring Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy
Alan Turry and Jacqueline Birnbaum

Teaching and Learning: Inter-Professional Education and Music Therapy
Meganne K. Masko, Andrew Night, Eric Johnson (MD)
AMTA InfoPods

The AMTA InfoPods are succinct, to-the-point audio segments covering topics that currently require a great deal of staff time on the phone every day as they answer the same questions over and over. Although AMTA will definitely continue personal contacts and conversations, these InfoPods will be available 24/7 at key locations on the AMTA website, giving interested parties access to basic information and answers to frequently asked questions, allowing the AMTA staff and volunteers more time to have in-depth conversations with callers who need additional information. Current AMTA InfoPods are Music Therapy Career Options by Jane Creagan, Music Therapy Education Requirements by Jane Creagan, Music Therapy on Your Child’s IEP by Judy Simpson, Music Therapists Involved in Disaster & Trauma by Barb Else, Responding to Misrepresentation of Music Therapy by Judy Simpson, AMTA Scholarships and Grants by Rebecca Preddie.
We will continue building this library of InfoPods based on recommendations from the AMTA staff and from other MTs.

RECOMMENDATION. We recommend developing an aggressive plan for making InfoPods more widely available and more accessible. For example, Judy Simpson’s InfoPod about responding to misrepresentation of music therapy is a valuable, but underutilized tool.
The AMTA E-courses are a series of self-study e-courses available on the AMTA website for music therapists and other professionals. The user-friendly format of the self-paced AMTA E-courses allows participants to listen and learn on their own schedule, sharpening their professional knowledge and skills in various aspects of music therapy practice and applying basic principles to their own practice. The e-course participants can earn CMTE credits from AMTA, a CBMT Approved Provider. The core of the AMTA E-courses is the audio presentation comprised of topical segments where the speaker discusses various aspects of the e-course subject matter. AMTA E-course workbooks include background material, a detailed discussion outline, references, links, supplementary materials, and other valuable resources for the participants. AMTA E-course participants follow a two-step process to earn CMTE credits: (1) listen to the audio discussion and review the workbook, and then (2) submit a CMTE Evaluation electronically.

AMTA contracts the services of Cathy Knoll and Dwight Knoll to produce the AMTA E-course series with technical assistance from Angie Elkins. Cathy oversees the project, working with the e-course instructors to develop their topic, write the outline and script for audio discussion, record their audio segments, write and edit the workbook, and gather supplementary resources. Cathy produces the e-course workbook, writes the CMTE instructions, objectives, and evaluation, works with Angie Elkins to develop the Landing Page for each AMTA E-course, works with Angie Elkins to gather information required to submit the AMTA E-courses to CBMT for approval, and coordinates other details of the project. Cathy’s son, Dwight, conceived the concept and developed the basic format for the AMTA E-courses. He is the technical director for the project, working in partnership with Cathy and the e-course instructors to record and produce the e-courses, working on technical details with Angie Elkins, and advising Cathy on the e-courses in general and about new developments in the field of on-line learning.

The eleven AMTA E-courses described below are currently available via the AMTA website. Detailed information about each of the AMTA E-courses can be found here: http://www.musictherapy.org/careers/continuing_music_therapy_education/

The overwhelmingly positive responses of the e-course participants on the CMTE Evaluation forms for all eleven e-courses indicate the exceptional quality of these e-courses.

**Self-Care for Music Therapists: Insights from Experienced MT-BCs**
by Deforia Lane, Rachelle Norman, Marcia Humpal, Russell Hilliard, Lisa Gallagher, Blythe LaGasse, Amber Weldon-Stephens, Ed Gallagher, Ami Kunimura, Cathy Knoll, and Amy Smith

NOTE: We are thrilled to be offering the **Self-Care for Music Therapists** e-course as a complimentary gift for every 2017 member of AMTA.

**Self-Care for Music Therapists: Insights from Experienced MT-BCs** is a practical resource to help music therapists explore the topic of self-care by listening and learning from the personal and professional experiences of their music therapy colleagues. Because music therapists have such different personalities and vastly different experiences in our daily lives, and because we all approach our professional careers from different perspectives, self-care is a topic best addressed from several different angles. We invited eleven experienced music therapists to provide 10-15 minute audio segments talking about self-care from their viewpoint, sharing a few tips and telling some stories about keeping their lives centered in the midst of the ups and downs of their music therapy career.

**Personalized Music Listening & Music Therapy: Ready Access to Favorite Tunes**
by Jennifer Geiger, Emily Christensen, Regina Dennis, Dale Taylor, and Leslie Henry
Participants in this AMTA E-course, *Personalized Music Listening and Music Therapy: Ready Access to Favorite Tunes*, will learn in general about personalized music listening for people in care facilities and specifically about several Music & Memory programs facilitated by board certified music therapists. The e-course includes information about research demonstrating the value of preferred music listening programs as well as cautions and safe procedures. The MT-BCs teaching this AMTA E-course share information about programs they have facilitated, and they provide guidelines for creating a personalized music listening program and for working with a Music & Memory certified facility. Participants in this e-course will learn information and creative ideas for board certified music therapists to use when developing programs to help people in care facilities gain ready access to their best-loved tunes.

*Medical Music Therapy: Building a Program*
by Dr. Lori Gooding

The purpose of this AMTA E-course, *Medical Music Therapy: Building a Program*, is to provide an overview of the steps involved in proposing, building, and eventually expanding a medical music therapy program. E-course participants will learn how to propose a program and review important points to consider during the process, including (a) supportive data, (b) tips for developing a strategic plan, (c) key points for administrators and decision-makers, (d) elements of an effective proposal, (e) persuasive advocacy and education strategies, and (f) detailed considerations for setting up, evaluating, and expanding the music therapy program. Information presented in this AMTA E-course in conjunction with the research literature and available resources provides a solid platform necessary to develop or expand a music therapy program in a medical setting.

*MT Intern Supervision: Training E-course for Intern Supervisors*
by Jane Creagan and the Association Internship Approval Committee

*AMTA Internship Supervision*, a self-study e-course designed to provide information to anyone interested in learning more about the music therapy internship process, and to provide training for board certified music therapists interested in supervising music therapy students in AMTA internship programs. Successful completion of this e-course also provides 5 CMTE credits approved by CBMT, and fulfills the requirement for internship supervision training for National Roster Internship Directors. The instructors for this AMTA E-course are members or former members of AMTA’s Association Internship Approval Committee (AIAC), teaching the curriculum they developed for internship supervision training required for National Roster Internship Directors. Clinical internship, a degree requirement for the bachelor’s degree in music therapy, is a capstone experience requiring music therapy students to apply the clinical skills they learned in the classroom. The clinical internship has been an important part of music therapy education since the early years of the profession. Music therapists who are intern supervisors and their places of employment which host the internship opportunities provide a very valuable service to the profession of music therapy by training students, an important step toward a long and rewarding professional career in music therapy. Whether you are just interested in learning more about the internship process, or are beginning to explore the possibility of becoming an intern supervisor, or are completing your National Roster Internship Application by taking this e-course as training required for becoming a music therapy intern supervisor, we extend our best wishes to you.

*Disaster Response for Music Therapists: Core Principles of Psychological First Aid*
by Barbara Else

The *Disaster Response for Music Therapists* e-course provides an overview of Psychological First Aid (PFA) and the core elements of the PFA certification course adapted from the American Red Cross and the Medical Reserve Corps/US Homeland Security. Participants learn the specifics of these core elements and hear case examples of adaptive music therapy strategies, considering how they address components of PFA, particularly preparedness, response, and recovery. PFA is an evidence-informed modular approach for assisting people in the immediate aftermath of disaster and terrorism: to reduce initial distress, and to foster short and long-term adaptive functioning. It is for use by disaster responders including first responders, incident command systems, primary and emergency health care providers, school crisis response teams, faith-based organizations, disaster relief organizations, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps, and the Citizens Corps in diverse settings.
Music Therapy Reimbursement: Sources and Steps to Success  
by Judy Simpson  
AMTA’s Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson, teaches the fundamentals of reimbursement in practical terms, helping E-course participants build a solid foundation of knowledge about multiple reimbursement sources, about public and private third party payment systems, and about the specific steps required to access coverage. E-course participants will discover how the process of funding music therapy can vary by clinical setting, client diagnosis, and payment source, and will learn industry terminology, procedural coding information, billing forms, and other key elements of reimbursement. This AMTA E-course equips each listener with the knowledge and tools that make it possible to secure funding for making top-quality music therapy services more accessible to individuals of all ages in a variety of clinical settings.

Music Therapy and Dementia: Protocols for Managing Problem Behaviors  
by Dr. Alicia Clair  
The Music Therapy and Dementia e-course includes detailed descriptions of behavior issues, theoretical framework, and operating principles for music therapy interventions, as well as step-by-step details about music therapy protocols to facilitate predictable outcomes when addressing problem behaviors resulting from dementia.

Music Therapy and Military Populations  
The Music Therapy and Military Populations AMTA E-course is based on a 2014 status report titled, Music Therapy and Military Populations: A Status Report and Recommendations on Music Therapy Treatment, Programs, Research, and Practice Policy presented by the American Music Therapy Association in 2014. It is a briefing paper for military leadership, military support personnel, federal government officials, representatives of arts and other related organizations, music therapy professionals, and non-profit policy makers. The information provides the groundwork to improve access to music therapy services among military populations and to inform strategic plans for expanded and prioritized implementation of music therapy programs, research, and practice policy in the military. This AMTA E-course allows board certified music therapists an opportunity to earn 3 CMTE credits approved by the Certification Board for Music Therapists by reading the briefing paper and submitting the required CMTE Evaluation form. This landmark report discusses the profession of music therapy with a focus on both active duty service members and veterans, and explores the music therapy profession’s rich, enduring contributions to readiness, rehabilitation, recovery, and wellness among America’s military populations. The white paper presents exemplary model programs and highlights the strong foundation of published research and evidence to inform practice. Recommendations contained in the paper span research, policy, and program development. Fascinating and important research in music therapy interventions on topics affecting today’s service members and their families is active and growing among various related populations. It is critically important for this research to be tested, replicated and conducted with service members and veterans. Recommendations in the area of practice policy include a call for an updated review of federal job classifications that enable board certified music therapists to provide music therapy interventions.

Music Therapy in Early Childhood: Meaningful Music from Infancy to Kindergarten  
by Marcia Humpal, Ronna Kaplan, and Amy Furman  
The Music Therapy in Early Childhood e-course features the work of three music therapy clinicians with many decades of experience working with young children. First, Marcia Humpal talks in chapters 1 through 4 about music therapy for infants and toddlers, exploring the manner in which very young children learn through play, and discussing considerations for planning effective music therapy for little ones. In chapters 5, 6, and 7, music therapist Ronna Kaplan talks about music therapy in preschool groups, using examples from her experiences at The Music Settlement and community outreach programs, and providing details about the Hierarchical Model of Music Therapy and the Art Integration Model. Music therapist Amy Furman talks in Chapters 8, 9, and 10 about the application of music in therapy for young children in the public schools, based on her extensive experience in the Minneapolis Public Schools. Amy provides numerous examples of programmatic and IEP-specific music therapy in preschool and kindergarten classrooms. Chapter 11 features Ten Take-Away Points, and Chapter 12 contains numerous supplemental resources. Among other helpful links, references, and other materials in Chapter 12 is a valuable bonus - a complimentary copy of the 62-page booklet from the well-received 2011 AMTA Institute, ”Developmental
Approaches to Early Childhood Music Therapy,” featuring Marcia Humpal, Dr. Rebecca Wellman, Elizabeth Schwartz, and Dr. Darcy Walworth.

Advocacy for Music Therapy: Engage in the Process
by Judy Simpson
Advocacy for music therapy is something we are all involved in every day as we provide quality services to our clients, as we continue our educations and sharpen our skills, as we read new research and new approaches to clinical practice, and as we talk to families, staff members, caregivers, community members, stakeholders, and decision makers. Advocacy is an ongoing process. Whether we are striving to expand our own services, to develop new jobs in our community, to expand the reach of music therapy in our area or state, or increase the general awareness of our profession, each music therapist can play a role in the process. In this AMTA E-course - “Advocacy for Music Therapy: Engage in the Process” - AMTA’s Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson, MT-BC, teaches the fundamentals of music therapy advocacy in practical terms, helping e-course participants build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills. This AMTA E-course equips each listener with the information and tools required for being an effective advocate for music therapy with the goal of making top-quality music therapy services more accessible to individuals of all ages in a variety of clinical settings.

Ethics & Copyright: An Overview for Music Therapists
by Barbara Else
Understanding the essential components of U.S. copyright law and intellectual property is an important part of music therapy clinical practice. Similarly, it is essential that music therapists understand some basic concepts and terms about licensing and proper use of protected works in music therapy practice. Copyright law in the U.S. has historical and legal ties to intellectual property law in England and Europe. Copyright law and intellectual property are dynamic legal and societal concepts influenced by our values, culture, technology, politics, policy, artists, and ethics. The laws governing copyrights aim to balance the interests of both the public and the copyright owners. The purpose of copyright; therefore, is to improve society through the advancement of knowledge by fostering creativity, developing wisdom, supporting democracy, disseminating knowledge, and enriching the public domain. Technological advances, including digital and online technology, create challenges for music therapists that require vigilance and care to maintain the law and abide by the rights of creators of protected works. At the same time, the law aims to allow the possibility for others to use and enjoy protected works. The main mechanisms in place to use protected works involve obtaining permission, typically via a variety of licensing mechanisms, depending on the purpose. This course fulfills requirements by the Certification Board for Music Therapists for earning three CMTE credits focusing specifically on ethics in each 5-year recertification cycle.

Future AMTA E-courses
We are currently developing an AMTA E-course featuring board certified music therapists who have experienced significant trauma in their lives. We are also beginning the process of producing an AMTA E-course featuring board-certified music therapists who are cancer survivors. Cathy is in the process of reviewing recommendations for e-course topics made by participants in the AMTA E-course on their CMTE evaluation forms. That information as well as recommendations by AMTA Board members and AMTA staff will be considered as we plan topic and speakers for additional AMTA E-courses to be produced in 2017 and 2018.

Recommendations for the AMTA E-courses
1. Currently, the potential market for the AMTA E-courses is very narrow – appealing only to board certified music therapists who are currently in need of CMTE credits. Few other potential customers will pay attention to these e-courses since the upfront fee includes the CMTE fee. We recommend changing the pricing structure in order to capture the attention of ALL music therapists, not just those who currently need CMTE credits, so more will consider purchasing e-courses in order to sharpen their clinical and professional skills. For example, people could purchase an AMTA E-course for $30.00 and, if MT-BC chose to earn the 3 CBMT-approved CMTE credits, they would pay a $120.00 CMTE Fee.
2. We highly recommend AMTA develop a systematic, dynamic, and ongoing marketing campaign to inform music therapists and other professionals about the availability of the AMTA E-courses. For example, one AMTA E-course could be featured each month in the Music Therapy Matters newsletter and on the AMTA Facebook page. These top-notch self-study e-courses have the potential of being a major source of income for AMTA while at the same time offering exceptional resources to professionals, students and interns. AMTA has access to a large pool of established, experienced, well-known instructors who are willing to donate their time and expertise to teach an e-course. But, unless we market the AMTA E-courses and let people know about their availability, all these great resources will just languish in our AMTA on-line store.

3. Because active and ongoing recruitment of e-course instructors results in an expanded library of top-quality professional resources, we recommend AMTA continue recruiting music therapists with expertise in clinical and professional areas of interest to music therapists and other professionals to develop additional AMTA E-courses.

**Overview AMTA E-course Development**

*Note: This is the introductory information we provide to all potential speakers/instructors for the AMTA E-courses.*

AMTA E-courses are similar to conference presentations or CMTE courses in that the instructor(s) addresses one specific topic related to music therapy research, clinical practice, education and training, or other realm. The difference between an e-course and a live session is that the learner in an AMTA E-course receives a pdf workbook along with a link to the audio discussion for self-study on their own time and at their own pace. The learner listens to audio segments while following a discussion outline and other written resources in the e-course workbook. A learner who wants to earn CMTE credits submits a CMTE evaluation that requires some assignments verifying participation in the e-course.

**E-course topics.** We recommend expanding the market of the AMTA E-courses to include not only MT-BCs wanting CMTE credits, but also music therapy professionals, interns, and students wanting to sharpen skills and expand their knowledge base. We might also market AMTA E-courses to other professionals. So we encourage people to think creatively about our "deep & wide" profession in order to come up with specialized topics of interest to our MT colleagues and other potential audiences.

**E-course timeframe.** In keeping with CBMT’s format for CMTE courses, AMTA E-courses can be based on 150 minutes of contact time for a 3-credit e-course or on 250 minutes of contact time for a 5-credit e-course. In general terms, this is how the contact time is allocated for a 3-credit e-course: 15 minutes for reading the introduction & conclusion in the workbook and the chapter about earning CMTE credits, 110 minutes (divided into 7 or 8 segments) for listening to the audio discussion while following the discussion outline in the e-course workbook, and 25 minutes for completing the e-course assignments and CMTE Evaluation.

**E-course audio recording.** The main focus of the learning experience in AMTA E-courses is the audio discussion. An e-course can be recorded by a single instructor, by several instructors who record at the same time and in the same location, or by several instructors who record specific units of the e-course in different locations. Dwight & Cathy can record audio segments at a national or regional conference, and the instructor can finalize the other segments of the e-course to send to Cathy after the conference.

**E-course content.** It should be noted that AMTA E-course instructors must provide some key components for Cathy and Dwight to produce their e-courses. We are happy to provide any assistance, opinions, or advice along the way.

The audio segment of the AMTA E-course requires:

1. A relevant, focused, timely topic of interest to music therapy professionals, interns, students, and/or other professionals.
2. A well-organized presentation of the topic divided into chapters that allow for audio segments of about 15 to 20 minutes.
3. A quality audio recording of each chapter’s discussion that captures and maintains attention of the
Cathy will organize, compile, edit, and produce the AMTA E-course workbook with assistance from Dwight. Instructors must provide this information for the workbook:
1. A written introduction of the topic to be included in the workbook.
2. A discussion outline - with as much detail as the instructor wants to provide - for each chapter.
3. A written conclusion to be included in the workbook.
4. A formally developed bibliography of all references in the workbook outline and in the audio discussion.
5. A resource section and appendices if applicable.
6. A list of CMTE learner objectives based on 2014 CBMT Board Certification Domains.
7. Biography and photo of instructor(s)

**Three final points.**
(1) AMTA E-course instructors may be asked to provide information for publicity and marketing.
(2) Over time, instructors will be asked to provide updates in content, resources, and other information as needed to keep the AMTA E-course current.
(3) Cathy and Dwight will provide support and input during the AMTA E-course production process, beginning with brainstorming about topics and instructors through each step until launch.
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER STRATEGIC PRIORITY WORK GROUP
Co-Chairs Jennifer Whipple, PhD, MT-BC and Todd Schwartzberg, MEd, MT-BC

We would like to thank the previous chairs of the “Strategic Priority on Music Therapy and Autism Spectrum Disorder”, Chair, Marcia Humpal and Co-chairs Dr. Petra Kern and Dr. Blythe LaGasse. Their invaluable and steadfast leadership along with the great work of their committee members provided wonderful resource materials and robust discussions. We are honored and humbled to carry on their great work.

Our committee will continue the great work of the previous committee and focus on the previously identified task categories approved by the Board of Directors. Moreover, we have contacted several of our colleagues from around the country to help us with this work. Below are the committee assignments:

Collaboration & information-sharing with Autistic Self-Advocates and organizations serving the ASD community and their families
Jennifer Gossett
Ronna Kaplan
Cathy Knoll
Jackie Birnbaum
CJ Shiloh

Funding
Ericha Rupp
Casey DePriest

Research
Laura Brown
Eugenia Hernandez-Ruiz
Nicole Rivera
Todd Schwartzberg
Rebecca West
Jennifer Whipple

Maintaining and updating ASD section of the AMTA website (and translating fact sheet and articles)
Todd Schwartzberg
Jennifer Whipple

Sub-committee chairs

Committees will receive a revised and condensed version of the current committee charges. Each subcommittee will meet over the next two months to confirm these charges with short and long-term goals. Other immediate tasks include: identifying 1-2 additional committee members for the “funding” committee along with drafting a letter to PBS signed by our committee and the BOD of AMTA thanking and supporting PBS regarding Julia on Sesame Street. We look forward to presenting the BOD with a draft of this letter for your consideration. This may be an invaluable opportunity to further both ASD awareness and the benefits/uses of music therapy for individuals with ASD; perhaps leading to an eventual collaboration between AMTA and PBS. Other committee plans include: meeting in person at national conference 2017 and developing a CMTE and concurrent sessions for national conference 2018. We tentatively aim to have our committee work completed at the end of 2018.

We look forward to updating the BOD at the Annual meeting regarding the work our committee completed during the summer and the upcoming work they will complete in the Spring.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Whipple, PhD, MT-BC and Todd Schwartzberg, MEd, MT-BC
CBMT Chair Report to AMTA Board of Directors
Lori Lundeen-Smith, MS, CCC-SLP, MT-BC

It is my distinct honor and privilege to attend the 2017 spring meeting of the AMTA Board of Directors. Since my term on the CBMT Board began in 2014, I have been tremendously impressed by the collaborative efforts between AMTA and CBMT. The increase in state recognition of the music therapy profession across the country through the State Recognition Operational Plan is but one example. I cannot fail to mention how much the CBMT Board appreciates President Geiger’s presence at our meetings, whether in person or through Skype, as she updates us on the work of AMTA. Together, we accomplish more, as we advocate for quality music therapy services for all.

Certificants: As of April 25, 2017, there are now 7,258 board certified music therapists! This is a very exciting landmark! In comparison, there were 7,017 certificants in November 2016.

Examinees: As of April 25, 2017, we have administered 432 examinations this year. This includes only new candidates and those retaking the exam following a failed attempt. Since January 1, 2017, recertification via the exam is no longer an option. In 2016, we administered 1,306 examinations, an increase partly attributed to the change in waiting periods between failed exam attempts from 90 days to 30 days.

Self-Assessment Exam (SAE) Reminder: A second SAE has been available on the CBMT website since last year. This tool provides added assistance for candidates preparing to take the exam.

Newly Certified: As of April 25, 2017, 221 were newly certified since January 1, 2017. In 2016, 611 were newly certified throughout the year.

APs: There are currently 96 Approved Providers. Seven of the 96 offer Specialty Courses. One new specialty provider, SUNY, New Paltz, has been added since last report. On-line courses and web-based self-study options continue to grow.

Renewals: Recertification rates remain high. The current recertification renewal rate per cycle averages around 81%. The last 6 cycles have averaged around 80-82%. We continue to attribute this level to a higher degree of awareness, greater number of employers requiring the MT-BC credential, and the state recognition plan.

Regional Conferences: CBMT staff members traveled to all AMTA regional conferences again this spring. Each region welcomed them warmly and they were kept busy answering questions and providing information on the certification and recertification processes for both current and future certificants.

New Board Members and Exam Committee Member: Since last report, Deborah Layman and Andrea Cevasco-Trotter have concluded their terms on the CBMT Board of Directors. Jennifer Deterville and Deanna Hanson-Abroneit were elected to fill the two open board positions for the term of 2017-2021. As well, an opening on the Exam Committee was filled by Natalie Mullis, who was appointed to a three-year term (2017-2019).

Recertification Process Revisions: The CBMT Continuing Education Committee and the Board of Directors continue work on policy and process revisions for recertification.

Regulatory Affairs: CBMT greatly values the productive working relationship with AMTA in the area of regulatory affairs. Dena Register, Kimberly Sena Moore, Judy Simpson, and Maria Fay are a dynamic team working to educate the public, music therapists, legislators, and other interested parties as our two organizations seek to support state recognition and licensure efforts.

Reminder of the MT-BC Use Policy: CBMT continues to monitor the use and misuse of the MT-BC Credential due to much reported misuse. The MT-BC Use Policy was announced last year and is available on the CBMT website. This policy outlines the permitted uses of the MT-BC trademarked credential and consequences for its misuse.

Reminder of Recertification by Exam Change: As of January 1, 2017, the exam is no longer an option for recertification.
I. **Current ETAB Membership:**
The Education and Training Advisory Board (ETAB) consists of six appointed members; the chairs of the three committees on the Council on Education and Clinical Training, and the Director of Professional Programs for AMTA, who is ex-officio without the right to vote. The current ETAB members are listed below. Beth Schwartz assumed the Chair of ETAB beginning in January, 2016.

A. At-Large members with term number and term end date:
   - Jim Borling (2) 2017
   - Doug Keith (2) 2018
   - Beth Schwartz (2) 2018
   - Connie Tomaino (1) 2019
   - Robin Rio (2) 2020
   - Annette Whitehead-Pleaux (1) 2020

B. AMTA Committee Chairs/Co-chairs:
   - Kamile Geist-APAC
   - Lauren DiMaio-AIAC
   - Tracy Leonard-Warner-CEC

C. AMTA Director of Professional Programs:
   - Jane Creagan

II. **Master’s Level Entry (MLE) Subcommittee:**
Jim Borling, current ETAB member and past Chair-ETAB, continues to serve on the MLE Subcommittee.

III. **ETAB Appointments:**
Annette Whitehead-Pleaux joined ETAB as an at-large member (first term) in January, 2017. Robin Rio was reappointed in January 2017 for a second four-year term.

IV. **Future Work of ETAB:**
ETAB members have made meaningful progress on the initial steps of analyzing responses solicited from noted scholars around the globe as part of an in-depth and comprehensive study surveying and synthesizing ideas on music therapy theory with the intent of continuing the work towards a “Music Therapy Body of Knowledge” and possible identification of a core set of principles that is common to all areas, levels, and modes of music therapy practice.

*ETAB continues to discuss the possibility of a future request to the AMTA BoD to support additional time (retreat or conference call) to work on a ‘Body of Knowledge’ White Paper.*
ETAB will meet during its regularly scheduled meeting times during the 2017 AMTA conference.

V. **ETAB Description-as a Reminder:**
The AMTA Education and Training Advisory Board serves as a visionary body to advise, inform, and make recommendations to AMTA on issues related to music therapy education and training. This board examines policy issues that focus on professional standards and the relationship of these standards to education and training requirements, advanced degrees, advanced competencies, levels of practice, professional titles, and state licensure.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth
Elizabeth K. Schwartz, MA, LCAT, MT-BC
Chair, Education and Training Advisory Board
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
ETHICS BOARD
Betsey King, PhD, LCAT, MT-BC and Carol Shultis, PhD, LPC, MT-BC, Co-Chairs

Members: Carol Shultis (co-chair), Betsey King (co-chair), Jennifer Sokira, Gretchen Patti, Janice Schriebman, Jamie George, Debra Dacus, Kevin Hahn

ACTION ITEMS:

There are no action items at this time.

MID-YEAR ACTIVITY REPORT:

- The Board welcomed two new members this year, Debbie Dacus and Kevin Hahn, and thanks AMTA for the approval to expand the Board. The new board members are from the Southwestern and Western regions: this will improve our ability to avoid conflicts of interest.

- At its November meeting, the Board
  - clarified its informal and mid-level procedures for its internal handbook, specifying that its informal processes take place between one Board member and the person who has made the inquiry/complaint while the mid-level procedures occur in mediation with the Board member working with both a grievant and a respondent.
  - revised its system for responding to inquiries and complaints (after noting the success in using the encrypted email services) by assigning one Board member to review all incoming emails and assign them to members based on current workload.
  - made a request of AMTA to provide mediation training for the Board at the 2017 annual conference.

- The Board has handled 14 informal complaints and several simple inquiries from members seeking guidance. Board members are currently processing two mid-level complaints.

- The Board sought and received action from the AMTA Board of Directors in resolving a complaint, and thanks Andi Farberman and John Hazard for their valuable assistance. The Board will be considering new language for the Code which will specify limited instances in which Board members can terminate a complaint at the mid-level or formal hearing stage.

- The Board has posted briefs on ethics in private practice businesses on its AMTA page. A brief on ethics in college/university advising will be posted before the annual conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsey King, Co-Chair
Carol Shultis, Co-Chair
The Journal of Music Therapy Report will be handed out at the 2017 Mid-Year Board of Directors’ meeting. President Geiger gave Dr. Robb additional time because she is working “overtime” for AMTA and music therapy as she prepares for the June 2-3 events as part of the Kennedy Center and NIH partnership.
Overview
The Editorial Board of Music Therapy Perspectives (MTP) has continued with steady review work in the first months of 2017. In total, 30 submissions have been received since November 13th, 2016; a mixture of new submissions, revisions, and re-submissions from 2016. This has a similar profile to 2016 (29 submissions).

The new Associate Editors, Laura Beer and Noah Potvin, have integrated seamlessly into the Editorial team, and have been very active in their support of the journal. In addition to her role guiding manuscripts through the review process, Laura has focused on eliciting feedback from music therapy clinicians regarding the journal, with the goal of ensuring MTP remains a vibrant publication for clinical practice. A brief report of this work, co-authored with Jennifer Jones, who is collaborating on this project, is included in this report. Noah has been very active in establishing a social media presence, starting a twitter handle, blog and podcasts, often working in tandem with Kimberly Sena Moore (JMT). Tweets, and blog posts occur at regular intervals, along with work on virtual issues of MTP, the most recent being for the World Congress in Japan.

Current Editorial Board Members
Thank you to the current members of the editorial board for their ongoing work for the journal:
Jennifer Jones, PhD, MT-BC Associate Editor
Laura Beer, PhD, MT-BC Associate Editor
Noah Potvin, PhD, MT-BC Associate Editor – Communications

Editorial Board:
Elaine Abbott, PhD, MT-BC
Gene Behrens, PhD, MT-BC
Melita Belgrave, PhD, MT-BC
Jacqueline Birnbaum, MA, MT-BC
Jim Borling, MM MT-BC
Mike Brownell, PhD, MT-BC
Andrea Cevasco, PhD, MT-BC
Amy Clements-Cortes, PhD, MT-BC
Rachel Darnay-Smith, PhD, LGSM (MT)
Abby Dvorak, PhD, MT-BC
Lillian Eyre, PhD, MT-BC
Robert Groene, PhD, MT-BC
Susan Hadley, PhD, MT-BC

Yasmine Illiya, PhD, MT-BC
Nancy Jackson, PhD, MT-BC
Ronna Kaplan, MA, MT-BC
Petra Kern, PhD, MT-BC
Blythe LaGasse, PhD, MT-BC
Wendy Magee, PhD, MT-BC
William Matney, PhD, MT-BC
Paul Nolan, MCAT, MT-BC
Masako Otera, PhD, MT-BC
Melody Schwantes, PhD, MT-BC
Alan Turry, DA, MT-BC
Mike Viega, PhD, MT-BC
Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, MA, MT-BC
Natalie Wlodarczyk, PhD, MT-BC
Annie Heiderscheit, PhD, MT-BC

Journal Schedule and Content
The 2017 spring issue (Volume 35, Number 1) has been mailed on time, as planned. This contains a wide range of articles drawn from the accepted manuscript pool. Volume two will include a mini-focus on music and speech, guest edited by Dr. Blythe LaGasse. Production for volume two is on time, and the complete volume is expected to OUP by July 31st.
Submission Activity

For the 2017 submission period (November 13-April 23), 30 manuscripts have been submitted for review. Of those, 17 were new submissions and 13 revisions of previously submitted manuscripts. Table 1 provides a summary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript Type</th>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Revised</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Practice</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book review</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Summary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Research Award</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Summary of Submission Activity

Table 2 provides a summary of journal statistics, including the average length of time to review submission, and the average length from submission to acceptance. The current acceptance rate for MTP is 71%.

Table 2. Summary of Journal Statistics.

Budget
Volume 35(1) was 99 pages. Volume 35(2) is expected to run at 100-101 pages. Thus, we expect the 2017 volumes to come in on budget.

Time to Print
Because of robust submissions to MTP over the previous three years, and the relatively high acceptance rate, we continue to have a long time to print publication for some manuscripts – as long as 18-24 months from acceptance. Although we have successfully reduced this time, to closer to 12 months this year, we anticipate a long “to print” time through to the end of 2018.

To address the “to print” time, I wrote to Dr. Andi Farbman and Jennifer Geiger to alert them to the current backlog of articles, and made suggestions about how this might be addressed moving forward. Jennifer will be speaking to the Board of Directors and we will continue discussions to address “to print” time.
**Reviewing MTP’s Mission – Clinician’s Voices**

In the past year we (Drs. Beer and Jones) have begun conversing with AMTA and MTP editorial board members about ways we could integrate clinicians’ experiences more directly into MTP’s format. The function of this journal is, at heart, to serve clinicians, and we wanted to explore ways to highlight clinical work that is innovative or challenging. Clinicians often do not feel able to write a full scholarly article about their work, yet there is a constant need in our field to share experiences, techniques, and models. As a result of the focus group (held at the 2016 AMTA conference in Ohio) and discussions, it was determined we would create a section in the journal titled Clinical Portraits. This name captures the spirit of the intention: to succinctly describe and share clinical practices with as much rich detail as possible. We want to share the real life experiences of music therapists.

In creating this new format we are aligning with other creative arts therapy journals, in which authors typically write 7-8 page articles describing clinical practices either through narrative writing, clinical case studies, or presentation of the artistic modality and framed by theoretical principles.

Dr. Jones and I wrote an editorial titled “Honoring Clinicians Voices” which introduces the new section to readers of MTP. This will be released online on May 11th and published in the journal later this year. In the editorial we address the question, “How well is the journal doing to meet the needs of clinicians?” We are working on creating parameters for submission and are excited about the possibilities this venture holds for creating dialogue and raising the visibility of the journal.

Laura Beer, PhD, MT-BC
Jennifer Jones, PhD, MT-BC

**Virtual Issue for World Congress**

Under the guidance of Noah Potvin and Kimberly Sena Moore, the following articles were selected to promote JMT and MTP at the World Congress in Japan this summer. Barb Else is now working with Yumi Sato and Megumi Azekawa to translate each article into Japanese.

- Jackson 2016: Music therapy and chronic mental illness: Overcoming the silent symptoms [https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miv017](https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miv017)
- Dassa & Amir, 2014: Singing familiar songs, middle to late stage NCD [https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thu007](https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thu007)
- Stegemoller, 2014: Neuroplasticity model of MT [https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thu023](https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thu023)
- Ghetti 2016: Performing a family of practices: Developments in community music therapy across international contexts [https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miv047](https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miv047)
- Geretsegger et al., 2015: Developing treatment guidelines, improvisation MT, ASD [https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thv005](https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/thv005)

In addition to the online presence, OUP will have a booth at the World Congress, and members of the AMTA leadership team plan on supporting the booth.

**Marketing Plan**

Chloe Miller submitted her marketing plan for MTP, which was developed from our joint planning meeting at the AMTA national conference in November. As noted in her report to the AMTA Board of Directors, MTP received 47,560 full-text downloads in 2016, an increase of 25%.

**AMTA Journals Family Landing Page**

As part of their goals for promoting MTP and JMT, OUP, under the guidance of Chloe Miller, is working on an AMTA family landing page, which is currently being finalized. It will include links to the journal landing pages, along with access to social media and exemplar articles from both journals: [https://academic.oup.com/amta](https://academic.oup.com/amta) (not yet active).
Editor-in-Chief Search
The call for a new Editor-in-Chief of MTP went out in March. Dr. Robb and myself were consulted about the position description and will provide support as needed. I am grateful for the long handover for the incoming EIC, which supports a smooth transition to the end of my term on December 31st, 2018. Applications are due May 2nd, 5:00 p.m. EST.

Additional Activity
1. The launch of the new MTP site (https://academic.oup.com/mtp) was, on the whole, very successful, with Michael Blong (OUP) and Barb Else investing considerable time in the transition. The main area for ongoing review is accessibility and dependability of the video and audio files, which we will continue to monitor.
2. Sheri Robb is coordinating with Dr. Ken Aigen to create a continuing education workshop for editorial board members focused on the manuscript review process. The current goal is to offer this at the national conference in St Louis.

Tony Meadows, PhD, MT-BC
Music Therapy Perspectives
2017 Marketing Plan

PURPOSE
The purpose of this marketing plan is to clarify core objectives and establish action items for Music Therapy Perspectives (MTP) in 2017; as well as map out the campaigns and tactics.

Ultimately, these items will aim to implement a compelling and cohesive marketing mix, tailored to MTP’s content and audience, with a purpose of increasing readership, usage and discoverability, to directly drive institutional subscriptions and citations, contributing to the journal’s Impact Factor, ensuring quality submissions for the future.

*This plan is a working document created in collaborative discussion between MTP’s editorial team and Oxford University Press (OUP), and as such, activity detailed within this plan is subject to change as and when the need arises.

CONTACT
This marketing plan was developed by your OUP marketing manager. If you have any comments or suggestions for improvements to this please feel free to contact them using the details below:

Chloe Miller
Marketing Coordinator
Telephone: +1 (919) 677-0977 x 5161
Email: chloe.miller@oup.com
JOURNAL ASSESSMENT

Usage: The usage of a journal refers to the number of full-text downloads the articles within the journal have received during a certain time period. From January to December 2016, MTP received 47,560 full-text downloads, which is a 25% increase from 2015 downloads.
MARKETING PLAN

A. Increase the journal’s total full-text usage from 47,560 to 52,300 downloads, an increase of 10%, by the end of 2017.

By striving to increase usage of highly-citable content in the journal, other areas, such as citations, dissemination of top research, and potential submissions, are supported.

1) Create at least one virtual issue for promotion

In Q2 2017, a collection of articles identified by the editor (topic TBD) will be freed for one year and hosted on a special landing page. An introduction written by the editor will also be hosted on the landing page. Tactics to support the collection include:

- **Internal Email**: An email will be launched to the journal’s email alert registrants linking to the virtual issue.
- **External Email**: A contact list will be rented from Clarivate Analytics, and a targeted list will receive an email promoting the issue.
- **Google AdWords**: A targeted Google pay-per-click campaign will be created linking to the article collection.
- **Web Banner**: A web banner will be placed on the journal’s web page linking to the virtual issue.
- **OUPblog Post**: A blog post will be written by either an article author or the journal editor to promote the virtual issue to a broader, general audience.
- **Social Media**: Articles from the virtual issue will periodically be selected and shared via OUP’s social media channels including Twitter (@OxfordJournals, @OUPPsychology), Facebook (Oxford Medicine and Oxford Psychology), and Tumblr (Oxford Academic).

2) Continue to promote email alert registration

Throughout 2017, promotions will be ongoing to support email alert registration in order to strengthen the list of contacts with an interest in MTP. These individuals will receive an email notification whenever a new issue publishes. Tactics will include:

- **Web Banner**: A banner ad directing to alert registration will be created and placed on the journal’s webpages throughout 2017.
- **Conference Promotion**: Print collateral with registration details will be sent to related conferences where the journal is present. Additionally, certain conferences may utilize raffles or prize drawings to incentivize attendees to sign up in the booth.
- **Secondary Announcements in Emails**: In any marketing emails distributed in 2017, a secondary story can be added beneath the email’s main message.
3) Continue promotions for content dependent instances

Promotions will take place depending on certain requests and situations including:

- **Article-Level Campaigns**: Notable articles can receive additional promotion upon the request of the editor.
- **Current Event/Observance Day Campaigns**: In coordination with related global observance days, anniversaries or current events, related articles will be selected by the marketer or flagged by the editor for promotion around these events.
- **Social Media/OUPblog Campaigns**: Articles that are flagged by the editor or selected by the marketer will be considered for social media promotions or OUPblog request.
- **Article Publicity Campaigns**: Articles that are flagged by the editor or selected by the marketer will be considered for press releases.

B. Implement cross-promotional campaigns with medical and psychology journals, books, and online products to support an expanded, global reach.

In Q3 2017, OUP will create a hub page to feature journal articles and additional content pieces (blogs, etc.). Click here for an example landing page. This page will focus on a particular topic (TBD) of interest across multiple journals – such as the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, Schizophrenia Bulletin, Social Work, and the Gerontological Society of America journal – ultimately driving journal usage and elevating journal profile. Various promotions, including print and digital promotions at relevant conferences, will support. Your marketing manager will circulate information about targeting articles for this campaign. Potential topics discussed: military trauma and dementia.

C. Support the journal’s individual social media growth on Twitter, and support the journal’s joint Facebook platform with the Journal of Music Therapy

Throughout 2017, OUP will support the growth of the newly formed social media platforms. Tactics to support include:

- **Facebook Advertising**: A Facebook advertising campaign will be used to drive traffic to the joint Facebook page.
- **Twitter Advertising**: A Twitter advertising campaign will run to drive traffic to the journal’s Twitter account.
- **Web Banner**: A banner ad linking to the journal’s social media platforms will be placed on MTP’s web pages and email alerts.
- **Homepage Panel**: A panel on the homepage will display MTP’s Twitter feed.
- **Internal Email**: An email will be launched to the journal’s email alert registrants notifying them of the newly formed social media platforms (planned to distribute in March 2017).

4 | Music Therapy Perspectives | 2017 Marketing Plan
D. Increase the journal’s international presence and influence.

Throughout 2017, efforts to enhance MTP’s international presence will remain a primary focus. Support will be executed via the following tactics:

- **Librarian Outreach**: Promotions at key, global librarian conferences – including ALA, UKSG and CALIS – at exhibition booths, inclusion in librarian e-newsletters distributed to all existing institutional customers, and institution-focused, digital campaigns will support MTP at a global level.

- **Conferences**: The journal will be promoted worldwide at relevant conferences attended by Oxford University Press. Sponsorship opportunities will also be explored at meetings without an OUP booth present.

- **15th World Congress of Music Therapy**: An exhibiting and advertising sponsorship will be organized for this Japan meeting. Promotional items and journal copies will be distributed. In addition, an online collection or virtual issue will be created in conjunction with the meeting, which can be promoted via geo-targeted ads, social media posts and emails.

- **Pay-Per-Click Campaigns**: Academics and researchers can be geo-targeted through advertisements on Google AdWords. Messages about the journal, translated abstracts, new virtual issues, and calls for papers can be promoted through AdWords campaigns to an international audience.

E. Provide support for editorial efforts and society objectives

**Editor check-ins**: Check-ins will occur via email as needed. OUP will contact editors to notify them of upcoming promotions planned by OUP, to gain input and suggestions for content. Additionally, this will be an opportunity for editors to share ideas for promotion, address questions or request items for upcoming conferences they plan to attend. Communication with society contacts will maintain continuity between the OUP and AMTA brands, and support a cross-promotion of objectives.
### 2017 Campaign Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Campaigns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUARTER 1:</strong> JAN – MAR</td>
<td>• Initiate Support of MTP’s Social Media Initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Brain Awareness Week (observance promotions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUARTER 2:</strong> APR – JUN</td>
<td>• Virtual Issue Campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Parkinson’s Awareness Month (observance promotions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUARTER 3:</strong> JUL - SEP</td>
<td>• 15th World Congress of Music Therapy in Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cross-Promotional Campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUARTER 4:</strong> OCT - DEC</td>
<td>• AMTA Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Cross-Promotional Campaign (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mental Illness Awareness Week and World Mental Health Day (observance promotions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ONGOING:</strong> JAN - DEC</td>
<td>• Conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Article-Level Social Media Promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Alert Registration Outreach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2017 CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Conferences are often the first point of contact with potential readers and authors, and they present excellent opportunities for OUP to raise the profile of MTP. Booths contain books, journals, and relevant online products.

Presence will be in the form of journal copies, inserts, promotional materials, and/or signage. Priority will be given to conferences that are most relevant to the journal or where OUP is able to have significant presence. The following conferences have been identified as potential outlets for promoting the journal during 2017:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date (2017)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Society for Social Work and Research</td>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>January 11-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for Personality and Social Psychology</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>January 19-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology</td>
<td>Albuquerque, NM</td>
<td>February 17-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Association of School Psychologists</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>February 21-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Counselling Association</td>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>March 16-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Social Work Association of America</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>March 22-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>May 6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Psychiatric Association</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>May 20-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association for Psychological Science</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>May 25-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canadian Paediatric Society</td>
<td>Vancouver, BC</td>
<td>May 31-June 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th World Congress of Music Therapy</td>
<td>Tsukuba, Japan</td>
<td>July 4-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Psychological Association</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>August 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>October 24-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for Neuroscience</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>November 11-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Music Therapy Association</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>November 16-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
<td>November 16-19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Absent: Andrew Knight, Robert Krout

On November 16, 2016 at the AMTA Conference in Sandusky, Ohio, the JRB meeting was called to order by Julie Andring, JRB Chair. Ten attending members briefly introduced themselves. President Elect, Amber Weldon-Stephens reported that the Ethics committee was closely reviewing the AMTA bylaws with the question of whether some cases should come directly to the Judicial Review Board rather than to the Ethics committee. The JRB committee accepted the charge of reviewing the AMTA bylaws and the JRB Procedures document process and propose updates to the document as needed. At this point, Julie has conducted a thorough review of the procedures and documentation and will be discussing clarifications and solutions for these issues with Executive Director Farbman over the summer. The procedures of the JRB will be compared to the procedures of the Ethics Board as a point of reference and aligning standards.

Julie reported that she is now the regional representative to JRB and therefore, could remain as Chair. Members unanimously endorsed this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Andring, PhD, MT-BC
JRB Chair
Pro Bono Workgroup
The Pro Bono Workgroup, a subgroup of the MLE Subcommittee, was formed in June of 2016 and began work on completing the seven steps of a Decision Model process. The members of the Pro Bono Workgroup are: Adam Clark, Pro Bono Informatics volunteer coach; Jane Creagan; Amy Furman; Bryan Hunter; Angie Snell; and Mary Ellen Wylie. The question before the group was is the MLE a preferable model for educating future music therapists.

The Workgroup met via conference call approximately two times per month initially; however, since late October we met almost weekly until the end of April. Our focus was completing the steps of creating a Decision Model along with a report. At this time, the Workgroup is editing a Draft version of a Final Report. The next step will be to utilize one or more conference calls to educate the other members of the MLE Subcommittee about the model created and what we learned. Once any adjustments or edits to the Final Report are completed, the plan is to send the report to the Board of Directors on May 25. Mary Ellen Wylie will be attending a portion of the Mid-Year Board of Directors meeting and will provide any updates regarding the Final Report.

The members of the Workgroup are very grateful for the work and guidance of Adam Clark. When asked what the cost of a paid consultant might be to do similar work for 10 months, Adam estimated the cost might be $2,000. Knowing the amount of time the five of us spent on calls with Adam each month and the work he did, we feel $2,000 is too conservative and the cost might be at least double that amount.

Regional Presentations
As in previous years, a power point presentation was created to update members on the recent work of the MLE Subcommittee. The presentation was given in March or April at each of the regional music therapy conferences by one or more members of the MLE Subcommittee. Comments from members were collected and will be discussed during the retreat. The 2017 Spring Regional presentation, along with the Spring Regional conference presentations from 2015 and 2016 are on the AMTA website and available for viewing.

Future Projects
In May work will begin on finalizing the results from the survey of music therapy educators and internship directors. In an effort to summarize work on a specific task and report findings, individuals or small groups of MLE Subcommittee members will work on different tasks, some related to the surveys and others not connected to the surveys. For example, two people are working to update the literature reviews from the ETAB papers of 2010 and 2011. Likewise, the remaining “Not Yet Investigated” questions will be examined, and one or more small workgroups will be formed to investigate and answer a question. We will work to collect findings and from the findings make recommendations.

Planning for the MLE Retreat in June will also be a project. In June writing will begin on a draft version of a Final Report of the MLE Subcommittee. Working in sections we will: give background information on the formation of the Subcommittee, review the 4 Charges to the Subcommittee, and summarize information learned from the various projects we have undertaken as we worked to address or complete each Charge. We will also compile Appendixes to provide supporting information. The goal is to have a Final Report to present to the Board of Directors in early October.

We always welcome your input and ideas. The members of the MLE Subcommittee are below:

Ron Borczon   Jim Borling   Cynthia Briggs
Jane Creagan   Amy Furman   Michelle Hairston
Marcus Hughes  Bryan Hunter  Ed Kahler
Ronna Kaplan   Eve Montague  Christine Neugebauer
Angie Snell    Mary Ellen Wylie (Chair)

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Ellen Wylie, PhD, MT-BC
Chair, MLE Subcommittee
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
MUSIC AND MEMORY WORK GROUP
Erin Spring, MM, MT-BC and Regina Dennis, MT-BC, Co-Chairs

Work Group Members: Erin Spring (Co-Chair), Regina Dennis (Co-Chair), Emily Christensen, Leslie Henry, Barbara Reuer, Dale Taylor

Music and Memory Work Group members Regina Dennis, Erin Spring, Emily Christensen, Leslie Henry, Barbara Reuer and Dale Taylor presented a CMTE at the 2016 AMTA National Conference. The presentation was designed to provide tools and empower music therapists working with and encountering Music and Memory℠ programs. The workgroup has submitted two proposals for the 2017 AMTA National Conference. One includes a workshop presentation and one proposal for a panel discussion which will include members of the workgroup, a research expert in music listening and representatives from Music and Memory℠.

Several members of the workgroup presented various sessions at their regional conference. Regina Dennis gave a concurrent presentation at the 2017 Mid-Atlantic regional conference on her collaboration with music therapists in her area in a peer networking group. Erin Spring, Leslie Henry and Dale Taylor presented a CMTE at the Great Lakes regional conference on collaboration with healthcare professionals in providing supportive music services. These sessions continued to provide clarification with the program, the importance of music therapy involvement and promoted collaboration between AMTA and Music and Memory℠.

The Music and Memory workgroup is currently developing an evidence-based list of safe music listening recommendations to be included in the Music and Memory℠ website as well as with our resources on musictherapy.org. In addition, the workgroup is continuing to develop a list of AMTA member contacts that will represent their state.

Working with Cathy Knoll, workgroup members Regina Dennis, Emily Christensen, Jennifer Geiger, Leslie Henry, Barbara Reuer, and Dale Taylor recorded information for an E-course on music listening. The E-Course was published on musictherapy.org in January of 2017.

The Music and Memory workgroup continues to collaborate with Music and Memory℠ Regional Directors Robin Lombardo, Letitia Rodgers, Deborah Ferris, and Stephanie Hoffman as well as with Dan Cohen, founder of Music and Memory℠. We continue to find ways to support each other and are working on developing communication with contact representatives from each state that are AMTA members who can provide guidance to support Music and Memory℠ programs.
Chair: David Knott
Steering Committee: Marial Biard, Della Molloy Daugherty, Stephanie Epstein, Kirsten Nelson, Amy Smith
Advisors: Dr. Sheri Robb & Dr. Claire Ghetti

This work group was established during the 2015 mid-year Board of Director’s meeting to replace the Pediatric Music Therapy Task Force. The purpose of the pediatric work group (PWG) is to increase awareness and recognition of this specialized population, establish best practice models, and disseminate information to key stakeholders. To that end, the group is currently focused on developing a survey to gather information about organizational structure and scope of clinical practice of music therapists working in pediatrics.

Previous Work:
- Finalized the pediatric database which is specific to only those hospitals who are members of the Children’s Hospital Association (total of 230 hospitals with 108 having a board-certified MT providing services).
- Christine Neugebauer left co-chair role to pursue doctoral degree and develop article to disseminate database findings.
- Developed survey questions to query individual music therapists working in pediatric settings (inclusive of and beyond CHA hospitals) and formatted draft survey within the REDCap survey system.

Action Plan:
A. Members of work group piloting survey to finalize questions and test user interface with REDCap design.
B. May 2017: Present finalized questions and gain approval from Andrea Farbman, AMTA Executive Director.
C. May 2017: Secure IRB approval to conduct survey.
D. June 2017: Implement study with unique email invitations to AMTA members identified as working in pediatrics, as well as others whose contacts will be gathered informally.
E. July – August 2017: Analyze collected data, develop preliminary findings.
F. September – October 2017: Develop draft article reporting results of survey.

Respectfully submitted,
David Knott, MM, MT-BC
With great pleasure, I would like to thank outgoing Regional Presidents, Andrea Dalton, Lori Gooding, Larisa McHugh, Antoinette Neff, Tim Ringgold, Gabby Ritter and Jennifer Sokira, for their service to the AMTA and to their Regions. Under their leadership, membership grew and a number of states made headway regarding recognition and licensure. Additionally, regions have decreased their carbon footprint through their expansion of “going green,” and awareness of multiculturalism and diversity is growing. The new Regional Presidents, Debbie Bates, Judy Engel, Kymla Eubanks, Andrew Knight, Christine Leist, Christine Neugebauer and Mike Viega are already off to an excellent start. Midyear reports have been filed and ideas are flowing for the upcoming year. Please read the reports from Regional Presidents for more detailed information about each Region.

As Regional Presidents Representative, I have made a concerted effort to increase my communication with Regional Presidents, sending notes and reminders with greater frequency and smaller amounts of information for easier absorption, and being generally available to help when questions or issues arise. The outgoing Presidents have been very responsive to the communication and have enthusiastically embraced the leadership tasks and actions their roles require. Many thanks to the Presidents for alerting Barb Else and myself to Disasters and other situations experienced by membership, allowing us to respond and be helpful to all Music Therapists! Without the notification by Presidents, many circumstances might have remained unknown. Over the past year we have responded to members impacted by fires, floods, toxic water, tornadoes and medical emergencies. We have been able to help music therapists connect in times of need, acquire replacement instruments for those damaged at a reduced cost, deliver advice for how to clean flood- and smoke- damaged equipment, and provide suggestions for self-care. I would also like to express my gratitude to Barb Else for her continued mentorship to myself and all AMTA members who respond to those in need.

It is a continued honor to serve in the role of Regional Presidents Representative on the AMTA Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Benkovitz Williams
Deborah Benkovitz Williams, MSW, LSW, MT-BC
NICU Music Therapist
Action Item: Recommendations for size of AMTAS 40th Anniversary celebration at Conference.
The AMTAS E-Board would like to submit an action item for the consideration of the AMTA BOD regarding the inclusion of a 40th anniversary celebration of the American Music Therapy Association Students at the 2017 AMTA conference in St. Louis, MO. I have met with Amy Furman to discuss the possibility of having a celebration reception. I would like the board to consider this celebration and make a recommendation on the size of the celebration and how the anniversary should be celebrated at the national conference.

The Student Affairs Advisory Board (SAAB) has 21 members all of which were represented at the annual meeting in Sandusky, OH in November 2016, except the SER SAAB advisor. All regional representatives and advisor positions are filled with active and dedicated students and colleagues. Current SAAB members include:

2017 AMTAS Executive Officers
President: Jamela Brown
President Elect: Garrett Weeks
Vice President: Megan Sindeldecker
Secretary: Zoe Levine
Treasurer: Rachel Williams
Parliamentarian: Kenneth Farinelli

Regional Representatives
Great Lakes: Katie Fitch (Advisor) and Mara Alvarez (President)
Mid-Atlantic: Conio Loretto (Advisor) and Meghan Smith (President)
Midwestern: Andrea Boswell-Burns (Advisor) and Cody Ray (President)
New England: Kayla Daly (Advisor) and Kayla McBrien (President)
Southeastern: Lorna Segall (Advisor) and Lauren Villajela (President)
Southwestern: Michelle Kennemer (Advisor) and Kevin Bock (President)
Western: Lillieth Grand (Advisor) and Laura Torgeson (President)

Jeffrey Wolfe, SAAB Chair

It has been an honor to advise a dedicated, innovative, and energetic group of music therapy students in my first year as SAAB Chair. In the reports below you will see some highlights of the work that AMTAS has accomplished since our last report.

As the Advisor for AMTAS, I carried forward several goals from the previous year including best practices for finances, a new voting system, and increasing revenue to support student scholarship opportunities through fundraising activity. With frequent change in student organizations, the SAAB will continue to address the goal of increasing communication amongst AMTAS members on a national, regional, and local level.

The 2016 AMTAS E-Board successfully facilitated the first national Passages conference at the AMTA conference in Sandusky, OH, on Thursday, November 16th. There were a total of eight student presentations and over 100 students in attendance. Barbara Else presented a keynote on MTR 2025. Thank you to the AMTA conference and local planning committee, the AMTA board of directors, the AMTAS E-Board, student presenters, and Barbara Else, for making this conference a success. I would also like to thank all of the students who attended and helped out during the conference. I am looking forward to the 2nd annual Passages conference in St. Louis, that will feature a mock internship experience.

It was an honor to coordinate the Gaston Research Award last year. I am in need of nominations for a non-music therapist judge (in a related field) with research experience.

I am thrilled to report that AMTAS turned 40 in 2017. I have been working with AMTA Past President, Amy Furman to discuss potential ways to celebrate this milestone.

It has been an exciting year and I am looking forward to a lot of positive growth over the next several months.
AMTAS EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS
Jamela Brown, AMTAS President
Since December the Executive Board and I have met three times we have discussed our goals for the year as well as formed scholarship deadlines. As a board, we have created several social media tags and have brainstormed methods for delivering the Newsletter as a blog and distributing the “Under the Canopy” Podcast. We have developed a progress plan for revamping the SAAB guidebook. We have set in motion ideas for creating the new AMTAS logo, and the T-shirt design and distribution plan are coming along nicely. We are currently in the beginning stages of devising a plan for the second, annual National Passages.

Goals:
- To increase communication among local and regional music therapy students.
- To create a new AMTAS executive board election voting system.
- To increase fundraising efforts.
- To create a new AMTAS logo.
- To increase networking opportunities for music therapy students.
- To create a new SAAB Guidebook.
- To create and implement AMTAS finance policies and procedures.
- To host the 2nd annual national Passages conference.

Garrett Weeks, AMTAS President-Elect
In January, I met with Jamela and set the goals for this coming year. I updated the current standing committee representatives from the past year who wanted to keep their position. In February, I wrote my submission for the MUSSETTE flyer and started to review some of the AMTAS documents. I also sent out final emails to students confirming or denying them holding their positions from the previous year. In March, I updated the national school roster for new standing committee representatives to be able to apply for positions. I also attended our regional SER conference and was able to talk with presidents and help link their thoughts and ideas for the coming year.

Megan Sindeldecker, AMTAS Vice President
Since beginning my position as Vice President of the AMTAS Executive Board in January, I have received and updated the usernames and passwords for the e-mail, Dropbox, Weebly, and all social media accounts. In January, I updated the website with professional biographies of the 2017 AMTAS Executive Board, re-organized the official documents section, updated the Regional AMTAS information/logos, and uploaded the 2016 Bylaws. In February, I collected submissions for the 2017 Musette from other executive board members and published it on March 1st, 2017. In March, I emailed regional presidents soliciting items for the website as well as advocating for each regional conference to utilize the national platform of the AMTAS social media accounts. In April, I have continued to update the social media accounts, website, and scholarship information. For the social media accounts, I have continued the “#MusicTherapyMonday” challenge as well as “#WordsOfWisdomWednesday” with advice collected from various music therapists who attended the 2016 National AMTA Conference.

Zoe Levine, AMTAS Secretary
As secretary of AMTAS, here are my completed job duties to date. I have recorded and formatted the minutes for the executive board meetings. A small change this year was that the vice-president formatted the Musette. It was successfully distributed and my report was included. I requested newsletter submissions from all the regions and have managed the switch to a blog format for distribution to the regions and members. I compiled a master contact list to be submitted April 15. I also created an “About AMTAS” flyer to be distributed to the regions with the SAAB guidebook and am helping facilitate the creation of a new AMTAS logo. Finally, I am in the process of planning the conference podcast. This year the podcast will feature pre-planned stories from new professionals as well as glimpses of the student conference experience.

Rachel Williams, AMTAS Treasurer
In December I deposited a $100 check into my personal bank account, to pay for the website fee with the approval of the SAAB Advisor and Executive Board. The fee was taken out on December 11th, 2016. I had two meetings with the old AMTAS treasurer, where we discussed the main points of the position. Three checks were not cashed before January 1st; GLR, children Music fund, and the CBMT scholarship.
In January I contacted AMTA representatives Angie Elkins and Dianne Wawrzusin via email regarding bank deposit and statement procedures. In February I received the deposit slip for the fourth quarter membership revenue; 4th quarter check was higher than last year, $305.10, as well as the January Bank Statement. I uploaded a PDF of the bank statement to dropbox. I received the materials in the mail from the past AMTAs treasurer, the check book and file folders. In March, I sold some of the remaining bumper stickers from the 2016 National Conference at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, as well as sent some to current AMTAS President Elect, Garrett, to sell at his regional conference. In April, I sent an email asking Angie about the February statement and checking in to see if the 1st quarter deposit has been deposited. I am currently drafting an email to send to the regions, now that all conferences are over, to check in on fundraising revenue.

Kenny Farinelli, AMTAS Parliamentarian

As Parliamentarian, I have begun reviewing both Roberts Rule’s of Order and the AMTAS bylaws. I have made notes on potential revisions up through Article IV in the bylaws and will continue to seek feedback from my fellow Executive Officers about bylaw revisions when relevant. My goals when revising are to change or keep the document so as to be as clear, concise, and consistent as possible. Additionally, I have begun the process of forming a committee consisting of each region’s parliamentarian and myself in order to amend the voting procedure used during AMTAS elections. The committee will begin to hold meetings as soon as possible to formulate options for voting of which we will propose to implement at conference this coming November.

REGIONAL SAAB REPORTS
Region: Great Lakes Region, Abigail Prochaska, Outgoing GLR AMTAS President
SAAB Advisor’s Name: Katie Fitch, MA, MT-BC

GLR Passages 2017 occurred on March 16th, 2017 from 1-5pm during GLR Conference in Milwaukee, WI. This year, the executive board recorded Passages and this recording will be posted on our GLR-AMTAS YouTube channel. The GLR executive board continued to incorporate new activities for student networking. John Hartman, MT-BC from Milwaukee Center for Independence in Milwaukee, WI was the Keynote Speaker. He discussed the importance of diagnostic differentiation, motivated students to really understand client diagnoses, and challenged them to rise to the many challenges we can face as music therapists.

The Gift of Music Grant 2017 was awarded to two private practices in the Great Lakes Region. This year we quadrupled our applicants from 3 last year to 12 this year! It was a tough decision process so we decided to choose two winners for this grant. The winners of this grant were Kay Luedtke-Smith from Do Re Me Music Therapy in Minnesota and Amy Schaack from Life in Harmony Music Therapy in Wisconsin.

The Music Therapy Beat was the new project for the 2016-2017 year and was successful. Each month the executive board and one school in the region put together this newsletter. It consists of a video newsletter, things happening in the region, scholarship opportunities or other opportunities, and a podcast created by a school in the region. All of our newsletters can be found on our website glramtas.weebly.com/the-music-therapy-beat.html

At national conference, GLR-AMTAS held a Lip Sync Battle Fundraiser to raise money for the Gift of Music grant and student scholarships at GLR Conference in March 2017. Through this we raised enough money to provide $200 to 2 private practice owners in the GLR through the GLR-AMTAS Gift of Music Grant and enough to provide 3 scholarships to GLR students for conference registration reimbursement.

2017-2018 GLR-AMTAS exec board:
President: Mara Alvarez, Alvareml@alverno.edu
President Elect: Michelle Bingheim, Me-bingheim@wiu.edu, 217-257-8953
Vice President: Lauren Bernard, Bednarll@alverno.edu, 414-881-9237
Secretary: Kristin Foster, Kristin.foster@smwc.edu, 618-638-6506
Treasurer: Sarah Murrin, Smurrin14@mail.bw.edu, 330-304-6722
Parliamentarian: Sara Langenburger, Sara.langenberger@smuc.edu, 317-224-4710
This year’s Passages Conference for our region’s students and new professionals was held on October 1, 2016 at Nazareth College.

This year’s MAR Regional Conference was held March 15-18th 2017 in Rochester, NY.

This year’s regional project was Connecting the MAR, a push for students to participate in and interact with each other using our social media accounts.

MAR Conference Committee members, Molly Pow and Adrienne Meyer, spearheaded the redesign and reorganization of the annual Student Service Project to become the STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (SLA). The theme for this year’s SLA was building a successful private practice and owning a Music Therapy business. Students had the opportunity to visit and tour Music Therapy businesses and private practices around the Rochester area and participated in many dynamic learning opportunities at the conference site, specific to the theme.

Scholarships Awarded:

**SOPHOMORE SCHOLARSHIP**
- Hayley Spriggs (Elizabethtown College)
- Colleen McDonough (Temple University)

**JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP**
- Emma Martin (Slippery Rock University)
- Meghan Smith (Temple University)

**GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP**
- Amara May (Fredonia)
- Rebecca Warren (Fredonia)
- Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarship
  - Erica Gibbons (Montclair State University)
  - Bethany Wentling (Elizabethtown College)
  - Jennifer Messner (Elizabethtown College)

**MUSIC THERAPY CLUB AWARD**
- Montclair State University
- Elizabethtown College

New MAR-AMTAS E-Board Members
- Meghan Smith (Temple University) – President, maramtspresident@gmail.com
- Rachel Williams (Fredonia) – President Elect, maramtspresidentelect@gmail.com
- Colleen McDonough (Temple University) – Vice President, maramtsvicepresident@gmail.com
- Liz Ingram (Molloy College) – Parliamentarian, maramtsparliamentarian@gmail.com
- Emma Martin (Slippery Rock University) – Secretary, maramtssecretary@gmail.com
- Ally LaVerdiere (Temple University) – Treasurer, maramtstreasurer@gmail.com
- Jake Mauersberg (Temple University) – Government Relations Chair, maramtsgovrelations@gmail.com
- Jason Willey, MMT, MT-BC - Student Affairs Advisor, maramtsadvisor@gmail.com

Region: Mid-Western Region, Jennifer Hopper, Outgoing MWRAMTAS President

In the spring of 2017, the Midwest region had a combined regional conference with the Western region in Bloomfield, CO. The entire “Rocking in the Rockies” conference took place from Tuesday, March 14th 2017 - Sunday, March 19th, 2017. The combined student passages conference took place on Thursday, March 16th, 2017. The key note speaker was Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC. Our internship panel included Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC, Kristina Guevara, MT-BC, and Alyssa Ott. Our student presenters were Katherine Lee, Yen-Po Lai, Laura Torgeson, Danielle Keaton, Shaina Davis, and Sarah Hallgrimson. The entire conference was focused on the self-care of music therapists.
At conference, the Midwest region raised funds through a Lip Sync Battle, selling Music Therapy Notes, and selling specialized Jamberry nail stickers.
The Midwest Student Scholarship winners for spring 2017 were Emily Stewart, Amanda Sciarabba, and Samantha Hinson.
The proposed regional project for the year of 2017-2018 is another Cadenza 5K at the AMTA national conference in St. Louis, MO.

Incoming Regional Board Members:
President  Cody Ray  816-668-1736  Mr.CodyRay@gmail.com
President Elect  Pam Potzer  720-880-8779  papotzer@rams.colostate.edu
Vice President  Molly Taylor  813-541-9239  mollyerintaylor@gmail.com
Secretary  Kailey Campbell  573-418-0545  kaileythepirate54@gmail.com
Treasurer  Liz Sampson  816-785-7116  lizhopesnow@gmail.com
Parliamentarian  Ryan Smith  720-454-2514  rysm1677@rams.colostate.edu
SAAB  Andrea Boswell-Burns  816-286-9897  aboswellburns@gmail.com

Region: New England Region-AMTAS, Calvin Eng, Outgoing President
SAAB Advisor’s Name: Kayla Daly, MA, MT-BC
The New England Region conference was held in Newport, Rhode Island from March 29-April 1, 2017. The conference is titled “Empowering the Wind in our Sails.”

Our focus for this year was to continue in advocacy for our profession and raise funds for the student board, to support our students. More updates on our region’s projects are elaborated below.

In collaboration with Dr. Xueli Tan of Lesley University, we presented two seminars, which was held at Lesley University and was opened to the public. Our first event was held on the 4th of February and was titled “Beyond Power, Privilege, and Oppression: Courage for Social Justice in Clinical Settings”. The second event was held on the 25th of February and was titled “Voices from the East: Definitions and Experiences of Music Therapy in Asia Regions.”
The 2017 NER-AMTAS Fundraiser and Advocacy Event was held on the 11th of March, at the Italian American Club of Walpole. This event was opened to the public and we reached out to families, educators and students around the area of Walpole. The goal of the fundraising was twofold. First, it was to raise funds to provide scholarships for music therapy students in the New England Region. This will support students becoming student members in the professional organization, and to attend Regional and National Conferences. Second, the event was to advocate for music therapy to the local community.

We raised $443 from our fundraising event. We provided three $50 scholarships to each school in our region (Anna Maria College, Berklee College of Music, Lesley University) to support students in becoming AMTA Student Members. The method of distribution was left to the discretion of each Vice President and their faculty. The awardees are:
Mellany Gomez from Anna Maria College – Awarded $50
Ali Fox from Lesley University – Awarded $25
Allison Dagger from Lesley University – Awarded $25
Noyonika Nilanjan Bhattacharya from Berklee College of Music – Awarded $25
Hailey Lepski from Berklee College of Music – Awarded $25

We provided two $125 conference scholarship to attend regional conference. The awardees are:
Forrest Paquin from Berklee College of Music
Alison Dagger from Lesley University

In our efforts of giving back, NER-AMTAS donated $50 to a professional member who was in need and requested assistance for attending regional conference.

NER-AMTAS received $400 from the AMTAS grant. The money was spent on providing AMTA student member scholarships, supporting the two seminars held at Lesley university, and organizing our fundraising and advocacy event.
Incoming Regional Board Members:

President        Kayla McBrien       508-406-1288  kmmcbrien@amcats.edu
President Elect  Alison Dagger       802-356-7059   adagger@lesley.edu
Vice President of Anna Maria Emily Hawley 860-462-6008 erhawley@amcats.edu
Vice President of Berklee Meera Sinha 914-462-6589 msinha@berklee.edu
Vice President of Lesley Jessica MacLean 781-690-3964 jmaclea4@lesley.edu
Treasurer        Mary Reinsch        860-328-5782 mcreinsch@amcats.edu
Secretary        Kathlynn Sell       339-222-7374  ksell@berklee.edu
Public Relations Chair Laura Sekarputri 602-651-4000 lsekarputri@berklee.edu
Advocacy Chair   Bryanna Tobin       860-391-3019  bctobin@amcats.edu

Region: Southeastern Region, Lauren Elyce Viljamaa, President
SAAB Advisor's Name: Lorna Seagall, PhD, MT-BC

The South Eastern Region held their regional conference, “Music Therapy: Researching the Possibilities”, March 30-April 1, 2017 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Student Sessions were held Friday, March 31st and featured five presentations representing a variety of perspectives from different institutions of education. Concurrent sessions included: “Ask the Professionals: Workshop and Discussion” (Melissa Deaton, MT-BC, Amanda Oliver, MM, MT-BC; and Lorna Seagall, PhD, MT-BC), “Sound Therapy: An Investigation” (MT students from UGA: Bonnie Houpt, Haley Sue Long, Emily Carroll, Madison Miller, Holly Huggins, Reba Baltrusaitis, Mia Cellino, Marah Stefanisko, Maddi Dorrill, Caelee Woodring, and Aisling Manison), “Norwegian Music Therapy and US” (Eva Piontkowski), “Refresh, Rethink, and Research: Undergraduate Exploration in Music Therapy Sessions and College Freshmen Transition Skills” (Ava Marvin), and “Developing Interventions Through the Therapeutic Function of Music Plan: A Graduate-Equivalency Student Perspective” (Kolby Koczanski).

This year we as a student collective focused on a very important area of interest, advocacy. Each institution within the South Eastern Region was asked to create or expand upon their current advocacy programs. Upon discussion with the SER board of directors we have been strongly encouraged to continue with our advocacy efforts this upcoming year.

Two conference fee scholarships of seventy dollars were awarded at Chapel Hill this year. The very deserving recipients were: Meaghan Hanley and Julianne Heany. We plan to continue these scholarship opportunities for 2018, and hope to add a scholarship for national conference as well.

SER-AMTAS board contact info:
President: Lauren Elyce Viljamaa, (770) 881-6908, amtas.ser@gmail.com
President-Elect: Abby Callaway, (770) 286-3255, amtas.ser.presidentelect@gmail.com
Treasurer: Erika Lowenthal, (248) 909-0660, amtas.ser.treasurer@gmail.com
Parliamentarian: Sarah McWaters, (727) 946-6566, amtas.ser.parliamentarian@gmail.com
Secretary: Traniqua Felton, (252) 337-5816, amtas.ser.secretary@gmail.com

Region: Southwestern Region, Siobhan Kelley, Outgoing President
SAAB Advisor's Name: Michelle Kennemer, MT-BC

The SWAMTA Regional conference occurred March 23-25th in Fort Worth Texas. Regional participation in the monthly challenge was successful, it would be important to rethink a better way to encourage student participation in advocacy projects.

We hosted a student social on the Thursday evening of our conference.

SWAMTAS gave out three scholarships: $250 for Rachel Gan (SMU), $250 for KaLee French (WTA&M) and a $500 senior scholarship for Michael Mateo (TWU).

Incoming Regional Board Members:
President: Kevin Bock, kbock@smu.edu, 210-867-3987
President-elect: KaLee French, kaleelynnfrench@hotmail.com, 432-381-9561
Secretary: Cheyenne Gordon, ckgordon1@buffs.wtamu.edu, 325-203-1172
Treasurer: Marques Roberson, mroberson4@twu.edu, 469-422-5390
Parliamentarian: Adrian Brent, amb083@shsu.edu, 409-659-4280
WRAMTA 2016 Conference took place in Boise, ID on March 10th-13th, 2016. 60 students attended this year’s regional WR/MWRAMTA Regional Co-Conference 2017: March 16-19, 2017 Broomfield Colorado at the Omni Interlocken Hotel & Resort.

WR/MWRAMTA Student Passages: This year, the Midwestern and Western Regions spearheaded our first ever combined conference. In addition to a diverse range of CMTEs and concurrent sessions from both regions, the student executive boards from the Western and Midwestern Region hosted a combined Student Passages conference. Highlights from this event included: interactive music-making & activities, five student presentations, keynote speaker Piper Laird MT-BC, internship panel, and a special WRAMTAS closing session tradition.

Scholarships: WRAMTAS raised funds during previous conferences in order to provide conference scholarships for AMTA student members. This year, WRAMTAS awarded three scholarships. Advocacy Conference Scholarship (2): Jay Dressler, Katherine Lee. Songwriting Scholarship: Sarra Erb.

University Activities: The President-Elect has remained in contact with the colleges and universities in the Western Region. Music therapy students in the region are actively engaging in advocacy, professional development, leadership, and community outreach. One representative from each university submitted a report outlining activities that music therapy student clubs have organized. These events included:

- Fundraisers
- Advocacy events
- Social events
- Community outreach
- Professional development events
- Study groups/sessions
- Masterclasses/workshops
- Music therapy club retreat

Fundraising: WRAMTAS sold original music therapy bumper stickers and Conference-logo guitar picks at the 2017 Regional Conference to raise funds for future conference scholarships. In addition, WRAMTAS supported MWRAMTAS’s lip-sync battle fundraiser—held at the 2017 Regional Conference.

Incoming Officers 2017-2018: Below is the names and contact information of the incoming 2017-2018 WRAMTAS Executive Board. Please take note that all board members will be conducting business ONLY with their officer, rather than personal, email addresses.

President: Laura Jones-Torgeson, wramtas.pres@gmail.com, 480-528-5845
President-Elect: Katie Rahn, wramtas.preselect@gmail.com, 707-771-8801
Secretary: Tabitha Williams, wramtas.sec@gmail.com, 228-806-2378
Parliamentarian: Rachel Quirbach, wramtas.parl@gmail.com, 603-801-6784
Treasurer: Abigail Christian, wramtas.treas@gmail.com, 435-669-7304
Media Relations Coordinator: Eternity Stallings, wramtas.mrc@gmail.com, 480-352-9928
REGIONAL REPORTS
REGIONAL ACTIVITIES (November 2016 – April 2017)

GLR Officers (March 2017 through GLR 2019 Regional Conference):

Debbie Bates, MMT, MT-BC  President
Larisa McHugh, MA, MT-BC  Past President
Rebeccia Findley Barnard, MM, MT-BC  President-Elect
Melaine Pohlman, MT-BC  Vice President
Todd Schwartzberg, M.Ed., MT-BC  Vice President-Elect
Stephanie Harris, MA, MT-BC  Treasurer
Jennifer Whitlow, MA, MT-BC  Secretary

Executive Board and Committee Representative Changes: At the conclusion of the 2017 GLR conference, we welcomed a new Executive Committee, listed at the beginning of this report. The GLR would like to thank Lisa Gallagher (Past President) and Angi Snell (AMTA Government Relations committee representative) for their years of service. Laura Brown has resigned as Workforce Development Committee representative in order to serve on the Autism Task Force. We wish her well in her new role! We welcome Nancy Swanson (IL) as the Government Relations committee representative and Annie Heiderscheit as Research Committee representative.

President: The GLR Executive Board held a productive strategic planning meeting prior to the March conference. We continue to work towards our goals including 1) continuing to improve communications; and 2) increasing board accountability and effectiveness. Additional strategic planning initiatives for the coming year relate to Work/Life Balance and Business Practices. Work groups have been established, and we are eager to move forward with new projects that will best serve the GLR members. We had a very productive meeting at the regional conference where we continue to work on streamlining the conference processes. We also discussed several new business items, including the 2018 budget, member support and special projects funds, fundraising, and sponsorships.

Past President: The GLR Membership Support Fund is to assist members in the region who may be experiencing temporary financial struggles. We received several requests for assistance this year and could provide assistance to two members. We have refined the Membership Support Fund process this year, capping the funds that a member can receive at $250. A slate of nominees was presented and approved to run for the 2018-2019 Assembly of Delegates. Voting will occur early this summer.

President Elect: Each year the GLR presents the following awards: Honorary Life for long time dedication to the field of music therapy, Scholarly Activity for significant contributions to the knowledge base of the profession, and Service for outstanding service to the region. The 2017 award recipients were: Kamile Geist, Scholarly Activity; Larisa McHugh, Service and Angi Snell, Honorary Life. Special Projects: The GLR has two types of Special Projects: the MUSE Fund (Musical instruments and supporting materials, clinical Services and Education) and the Research Fund. During the 2017 GLR conference the Executive Board reviewed 3 Research Applications and 4 MUSE Fund applications. The Executive Board awarded the MUSE fund to Angel Foss and Beck Center for the Arts (OH) for “Creating Arts Experience Project.” The Research Fund was awarded to Dr. Jim Hiller for “The impact of vocal re-creation on nutritional intake of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias: A two-group randomized experiment.”

Vice President/VP-Elect: Co-Chairs for the 2017 GLR Conference, held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, were Tom Brefka, Erica Flores, and Tamra Fricke. Approximately 500 people attended the conference in Milwaukee. The 2018 GLR conference, Embracing Every Note: Celebrating Diversity in Music Therapy will be April 12 – 15 at Eagle Crest Resort in Ypsilanti MI, with Bernadette Skodack, Laurel Rosen-Weatherford, and Kellee Coviax Hansen as co-chairs. The 2019 conference will be held in Ohio (date and location TBD), and Amy Foley, Tanya Corso, and Brittany Scheer were approved as the co-chairs. VP Melaine Pohlman and VP-Elect Todd Schwartzburg will work with Helms-Briscoe
to identify a site for the 2019 conference.

**Treasurer:** Stephanie Harris is working on the 2018 budget and finishing up the 990 tax process with AMTA. Updates were made to the GLR bank accounts.

**Website:** The GLR website: glr-amta.org offers up to date information on conferences, events, offerings, news, events, job listings, and members only information in the GLR. We send out email blasts to all GLR members when there is an update to the website, a new member offering, or other events happening within the region. We continue to be active on social media. There are over 930 music therapists and supporters connected on our Facebook page, @GLRAMTA has over 575 followers and Instagram was utilized throughout the regional conference.

**Mentorship Pilot Program:** The mentor program has gone live. Twenty-five mentors have been trained since 2016. Program assessment processes have been developed. The Operational Focus for 2017 includes: increasing utilization by member mentees; revise web presence to be more welcoming to Mentees; and utilize Mentor screening and selection processes to broaden Mentor foci to enable wider appeal. Recent program innovations include: new and revised program brochures; “Meet the Mentors” highlights on the website, in Voice of the Lakes, and social media blasts. During GLR 2017 there was a CMTE training, a Mentor Roundtable, and a Meet the Mentors event.

**Voice of the Lakes:** The GLR newsletter, *Voice of the Lakes*, is posted on the website. It is also distributed to members via email. The publication dates, May and late November, have been selected to capture conference events and reports from the Executive Board and standing committees.

**SELECT STATE NEWS**

**Illinois:** Current membership includes: 67 professional members and 2 student groups with a combined total of 59 student members. There are currently 8 active, approved national roster internship sites and five active university-affiliated internship sites. The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulations and the Music Therapy Advisory Board continues to hold meetings where testimony is given by different organizations. The MT advisory board continues to look at title protection but there is are extreme costs related. IAMT’s new website launched in January 2017. One of the most important features of the revamped website is that it is now essentially ADA compliant. Other improvements include a streamlined process to sign-up for membership and events, and personalized logins for members. They are now a non-profit organization.

**Indiana:** AIMT currently has 67 members, including 3 students and 3 retired members. The organization is in good financial standing. Indiana has five active national roster internship sites. Non-profit paperwork has been filed for 2015. Our Spring Meeting was held on April 8th at IUPUI, with two workshops and a networking lunch. The morning workshop was titled, “Working in the Field: Who Am I? Examining Contractors vs. Employees,” led by Jennifer Whitlow, MT-BC and Morgan Sparks, MT-BC. The afternoon workshop was titled, “Get Your Name Out There: The Importance of Research and Publication for Music Therapists,” led by Haley Baumgarten, MS, MT-BC. The new board members who will begin their service after the state business meeting held during GLR are as follows: President: Jennifer Whitlow, Vice President: Kathy Williams, Treasurer: Christian Porter and Secretary: Leigh Ann Fuller.

**Michigan:** MMT currently has 30 professional, 4 lifetime, and 3 student/intern members, with two active student groups at WMU and EMU. The Spring workshop will be held on May 13 at WMU; details are still pending CBMT review. The presenters will be Ed Roth, Jennifer Fiore, and Erin Wegener; the topic will be neurologic-based. We re-energized our state task force this January. A Hill Day in Lansing is planned for Wednesday, May 24, 2017. We are excited to be hosting the 2018 GLR Conference on April 11-15, 2018 at Eagle Crest Resort in Ypsilanti. Please plan to join us for Embracing Every Note: Celebrating Diversity in Music Therapy.

**Minnesota:** MTAM has 63 members, with 43 professionals and 17 students. Our spring conference will be held Saturday, May 6 at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. A speaker is booked but the content of the conference is still pending CBMT approval. Minnesota has six national roster internship sites. The state task force remains active. MTAM continues to support its members: A fundraising event was held this fall for former MTAM President and state AMTA delegate, Peter Meyer who suffered health issues last year. Another fundraising event featuring the Better Than Karaoke Band is planned for Barbara (Babs) Sperling in April to help defer healthcare costs. 
Ohio: AOMT has a total membership of 86, with 70 professional members. The state task force remains active. In February, AOMT hosted a low-cost CMTE with Dwyer Conklyn presenting “Evidence Based Practice: Understanding, Integrating, and Implementing All Aspects of Your Practice.” This CMTE was a third event added to support a request from members for an additional continuing education event annually. Plans are underway for the 2017 state conference, which will be held on September 8-9 in Columbus.

Wisconsin: March is Music Therapy Month in Wisconsin. Governor Scott Walker has declared March as Music Therapy Month for 2017. WCMT currently has 48 members. A Hill Day will be held in April. WCMT held an Executive Board Meeting in January to discuss positions that need to be filled and updates to the website. There are two current positions open that we are working on filling including Clinical Practice and Fundraiser Chairs.

SELECTED NEWS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Student Affairs Advisory Board: GLR Passages 2017 occurred on March 16th, 2017 from 1-5pm during GLR Conference in Milwaukee, WI with 50 students in attendance. This year, the executive board recorded Passages and this recording will be posted on our GLR-AMTAS YouTube channel. The Gift of Music Grant 2017 was awarded to two private practices in the Great Lakes Region. This year we quadrupled our applicants from 3 to 12! The winners of this grant were Kay Luedtke-Smith from Do Re Me Music Therapy in Minnesota and Amy Schaack from Life in Harmony Music Therapy in Wisconsin. The Music Therapy Beat was the new project for the 2016-2017 year. Each month the executive board and one school in the region put together this newsletter. It consists of a video newsletter, things happening in the region, scholarship opportunities or other opportunities, and a podcast created by a school in the region. GLR-AMTAS held a Lip Sync Battle Fundraiser to raise money for the Gift of Music grant and student scholarships at GLR Conference in March 2017.

Association Internship Approval: There are currently 38 internship sites. Kay Luedtke-Smith recognized WI internship sites at the 2017 GLR conference.

Standards of Practice: We are looking at updating the Standards of Practice and looking at supporting documents at AMTA and CBMT to see how we can guide this process and make the SoP more relevant. If you have any input, please let the committee know.

Professional Advisory Committee: The Executive Board appointed Jessica De Villers in February. Leslie Henry is working with Ms. De Villers in the transition process. Within the region a couple issues are being monitored: Consulting with Summa Health in regard to their “Musician Program” and “The Comfort Clip.”

Reimbursement: One current focus is a major reimbursement survey that will cover a lot of different areas, including private practice, facilities, Medicaid, etc. They are working to develop a series of quarterly webinars that will address types of reimbursement.

Membership: A membership drive took place with several MT-BCs making calls to encourage former members to renew their membership. As of March 31, 2016 there are 794 members in the GLR. Several states in the region are above the national average for AMTA membership. It is likely that regional membership will continue to increase with the national conference in Ohio this year.

Affiliate Relations: AR is in the process of revising the AMTA Fact Sheets. There will be two levels of the fact sheets (a research version and a one-page version). Fact sheets will hopefully be presented in November.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Bates, MMT, MT-BC
President, GLR of AMTA
Great Lakes Region

**Elected Officers**

Debbie Bates, MMT, MT-BC  
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**Standing Committees**

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Jennifer Fiore, PhD, MT-BC  
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Julie Palmieri, MM, MT-BC  
Technology  
Rachelmnt@gmail.com

Currently vacant  
Workforce Development & Retention  

Great Lakes Region

Assembly Delegates (2016 – 2017)
Debbie Bates
Sharon Boyle
Deb Burns
Ed Gallagher
Lisa Gallagher
Jennifer Jones
Larisa McHugh
Peter Meyer
Melaine Pohlman
Ellen Rayfield
Tracy Richardson
Cindy Ropp
Todd Schwartzberg
Michael Silverman
Angela Snell

Assembly Alternates (2016 – 2017)
Laura Brown
Tanya Corso
Rebecca Findley
Kamile Geist
Allison Gunnink
Kelle Coviak Hansen
Jim Hiller
Melissa Hirokawa
Julie Palmieri
Lee Anna Rasar
Jenni Rook
Jan Schreibman
Holly Semno
Bernadette Skodack
Mary Stryck
Nancy Swanson
Jeff Wolfe
Regional Conference Update: 2017-2019
The 2017 MAR conference in Rochester, NY (held March 15th-18th) was a huge success, despite the blizzard! We had 516 people attend conference, however we had 564 registrants. We assume that some folks did not attend due to the weather. The breakdown of participants was as follows: 142 professional members, 87 professional non-members, 144 student members, and 137 student non-members. We also had 6 participants recorded as conference guests.

We once again hosted a pre-conference institute. This year’s David Ott Pre-Conference Institute was called Trauma-informed Practice for Music Therapists: Understanding Our Clients and Ourselves. A 5 hour CMTE facilitated by Megan Smith, MA, LCAT, MT-BC; Sarah Kliman, LMSW, MT-BC; Leigh Kirby, MS, MT-BC; Sarah Fitzgibbons, LMHC, MT-BC.

In addition, a free 3 hour CMTE called Continuing the Conversations: Doing Race in Music Therapy facilitated by Marisol Norris, MA, MT-BC, Ming-Yuan Low, MA, MT-BC, Susan Hadley, Ph.D., MT-BC, Demeko Freeman, MT-BC, and Michael Viega, Ph.D., LCAT, MT-BC was provided to highlight the need to discuss issues of diversity and multiculturalism in our profession.

We will be hosting our 2018 conference in Pittsburg, PA April 11th-14th and have a wonderful local team in place. We have already booked for 2019 and we will be in Reston, VA, where we hope to host a National Hill Day! In order to make this happen, we had to move our conference from the typical Thursday-Saturday schedule to a new Friday-Sunday schedule. We are hopeful that we are announcing the conference early enough for folks to be able to rearrange their typical travel and time off so they can still attend and help us advocate for Music Therapy in the nation’s capital!

We continue to work hard to streamline all of our conference processes. Going forward, conference planning will work toward concurrent sessions that meet the needs of our very large and very diverse music therapy constituency. Look for fewer concurrent sessions during each session slot, more stringent concurrent session review procedures, and a dedicated effort to the highest quality session offerings. This process began this year with a “Presenter Information” document outlining expectations for concurrent session presentations including, ethics, confidentiality, copyright, and standard presenting etiquette. These changes are in response to our conference surveys for the past several years in which registrants expressed dissatisfaction with the overall level and quality of many concurrent session offerings.

Finances
The MAR Board of Directors is currently working on the budget for the fiscal year 2017-2018, to be approved this Spring. (Our fiscal year ends on June 30th.) The MAR-AMTA is financially sound. We continue to place a heavy focus on pushing funds back to the membership through scholarships and awards. Our research committee, who awards a Research/Special Project award and a Collaborative Research Award reached out to us in April to make a special request to fund TWO awards in both categories this year, and the board was able to reach consensus and fully fund all 4 awards, showing the MAR’s dedication to increased music therapy research.

Our Treasurer-Elect, Brigette Sutton, will officially take office as Treasurer at the beginning of our new fiscal year, July 1st.

Regional Newsletter, Communications, Website and Historian/Archivist
Our regional newsletter, Tuning In to Rx Music is now at 2979 subscribers (active contacts on Constant Contact, our social email marketing service). We have about a 35% opening rate, which is a good rate. Our website, Facebook page and Twitter accounts continue to be highly trafficked, and our Conference App was received well again this year.

Mark Ahola, our new Historian, is brainstorming many new ideas to bring our history alive and we are working towards streamlining and further defining our Historian and Archivist positions.
Government Relations
At our regional conference in Rochester, NY, we hosted a 3 hour free CMTE Advocacy Training for NY MTs as well as a large and successful Advocacy Breakfast. We are currently working on our Government Relations finances to establish a system for checks and balances, as well as guidelines for our reimbursement policy. We updated our bylaws so that the MAR Eboard is appointing ONLY our task force chair/co-chairs and other members to state task forces are added at the discretion of the chair/co-chairs, with support from the MAR Government Relations Chair. We hope this will help keep the work of the state task forces moving forward quickly, without the MAR Eboard holding up their work. Additionally, we are exploring and discussing membership requirements for state task for chairs and members. And finally, we voted to renew our legislative consultant contract for New York for another year.

Membership
a. We ended 2016 with a total of 959 MAR members. This is a 28-member increase from the 3rd quarter. The largest increase between 3rd and 4th quarters were seen among our students totaling in 262 members, this was followed by professional (537) and graduate student (115) members.
b. Member numbers for this year and the previous years for the fourth quarter are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Member Category</th>
<th>12/31/16</th>
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<th>12/30/14</th>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliate</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorary life</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inactive</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
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<td>Professional</td>
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<td>Retired</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad student</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>137</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>262</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Member Call-Drive: Professional members will be recruited via Facebook and email to participate in annual call drive.

2. Member Support, Scholarships, & Awards
a. 2016 Awards: We offered one MAR- AMTA National Conference Award and two Regional Conference Awards last year.
b. 2017 Awards: We awarded two Regional Conference Awards and one membership support award.
c. Proposed Scholarships: Three scholarships are being proposed to assist member professional development, including a career development award and a new scholarship to assist racially/ethnically minoritized undergraduate and graduate students who can demonstrate financial need and acceptance or enrollment in an AMTA approved music therapy program.

3. Member Concern
a. Propose that ad-hoc committee is be constructed to address membership concerns discussed at fall 2016 meeting (re: cultural sensitivity) and increase overall regional awareness and engagement in matters pertaining to multicultural competency and diversity within the field. Our membership coordinator, Marisol Norris, is exploring this option.

Student Affairs
MARAMTS was pleased to award 6 scholarships, 2 for each category (Sophomore, Junior and Graduate) at our conference in Rochester, as well as the Jenny Shin Memorial Scholarship. MARAMTS also awarded two Music Therapy clubs in the MAR for their efforts in advocacy, volunteering and fundraising.

MAR Conference Committee members Molly Pow and Adrienne Meyer spearheaded the redesign and reorganization of the annual Student Service Project to become the STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (SLA). The theme for this year’s SLA was building a successful private practice and owning a Music Therapy business. Students had the opportunity to visit and tour Music Therapy businesses and private practices around the Rochester area and
participated in many dynamic learning opportunities at the conference site, specific to the theme. Gratitude goes to Spectrum Arts and Upstate Music Therapy Center for hosting students and supporting the SLA this year.

We also held a special forum for students at our regional conference. A panel of Music Therapists at different stages of their careers, from internship to retirement (and everywhere in between), were on hand to answer questions from students regarding their experiences in our field. The forum has proven to be both informative and inspirational for students in attendance.

Included in our conference program was also Passages Re-visited sessions, allowing those students who presented at Passages the opportunity to present again. Planning will soon begin for Passages 2017. Thank you once again to Nazareth College for hosting the last Passages event, under the leadership of Nicholas Sherman, Alex Bruno and Rachel Williams.

And the students chose their new Student Affairs Advisor, Jason Wiley.

**Policies and Procedures**

We are working on several draft policies and procedures and are considering contacting a lawyer to help us navigate some of the legal language involved. For example, we have a draft version of a Whistle Blower policy, Conflict of Interest policy, a Webmaster Service Agreement (as she receives a stipend for her work), and Retention of Records. These have been in draft form for quite some time, because we do not feel knowledgeable enough to complete them on our own. We continue to explore the option of having a lawyer assist us.

**Board of Directors 2017-2019**

**Executive Officers**
President: Michael Viega
Immediate Past President: Gabby Ritter
President-Elect: Beth Deyermond
Vice President for Membership: Marisol Norris
Vice President for Conference Planning: Jennifer Swanson
Vice President for Conference Planning-Elect: Lauren Faggiano
Government Relations Chair: Amy Rodgers-Smith
Government Relations Chair-Elect: Christy Joy Shiloh
Treasurer: Brigette K. Sutton
Treasurer Elect: James Maxon
Public Relations Chair: Missy Reed
Student Affairs Advisor: Jason Wiley
Student Representative: Colleen McDonough, MARAMTS Vice President

**Ex-Officio Officers**
Recording Secretary: Currently Open
Newsletter Editor: Mark Ahola
Historian: Mark Ahola
Assembly Chair: Donna Polen (until the new assembly elects their new chair at National Conference)
Parliamentarian: Gary Verhagen

**Appointed Positions**
Archivist: Meaghan Bakey
Regional Event Planner: Elaine Kong
Continuing Education Coordinator: Clare Arezina
Regional Exhibits Coordinator: Chris Gold
MARAMTS Executive Board
President:
Name: Meghan Smith
MARAMTSpresident@gmail.com

President Elect:
Name: Rachel Williams
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Vice President:
Name: Colleen McDonough
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Parliamentarian:
Name: Elizabeth Ingram
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Secretary:
Name: Emma Martin
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Treasurer:
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Government Relations:
Name: Jake Mauersberg
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Student Affairs Advisor:
Name: Jason Willey
MARAMTSadvisor@gmail.com

National Committee Representatives:
(Information is incomplete, as our incoming President, Mike Viega, will be making his own appointments to the National Standing Committees. All information is up to date as of April.)

Academic Program Approval: Suzanne Sorel
Affiliate Relations: Scott Horowitz
Association Internship Approval: Susan Glaspell
Continuing Education: Clare Arezina
Government Relations: Amy Smith
International Relations: Flossie Ierardi
Judicial Review: Leah Oswanski
Membership: Marisol Norris

Professional Advocacy: Jenny Swanson
Reimbursement: Briana Priester
Research: Joke Bradt
Standards for Clinical Practice: Empty
Student Affairs: Jason Wiley
Technology: Noa Elimelech
Workforce Development and Retention: Missy Reed

2018-2019 MAR ASSEMBLY
DELEGATES, listed alphabetically

1. Elaine Abbott
2. Mark Ahola
3. Gene Ann Behrens
4. Beth Deyermond
5. Nicole Hahna
6. Scott Horowitz
7. Flossie Ierardi
8. Tony Meadows
9. Julie Neal
10. Leah Oswanski
11. Donna Polen
12. Gabby Ritter
13. Brigette Sutton
14. Gary Verhagen
15. Mike Viega

ALTERNATES, in order of being called

1. Clare Arezina
2. Andrea McGraw-Hunt
3. Tracy Wanamaker
4. Kate Myers-Coffman
5. Bob Miller
6. Melanie Walborn
7. Laurie Keough
8. Katie Myers
9. Montserrat Gimeno
10. Joni Milgram-Luterman
11. Mary Claire Holliday
12. Bryan Muller
Executive Officers:
President – Andrea Dalton, MA, MT-BC
Past President – Kara Mills-Groen, MA, MT-BC
President Elect – Andrew Knight, Ph.D., MT-BC
1st Vice President – Kirsten Meyer, MA, MT-BC
2nd Vice President – Tyanne Mischnick, MME, MT-BC
Secretary – Abbey Dvorak, Ph.D., MT-BC
Treasurer - Emily Olschki, MA, MT-BC

Appointed Officers:
Archivist - Bill Davis, Ph.D., MT-BC
SAAB – Andrea Boswell-Burns, MA, MT-BC (New)
On-line Media Coordinator - Andrew Knight, Ph.D., MT-BC (Regional Website: www.mw-amta.com)

2016-17 Assembly of Delegates
Andrea Dalton
Kara Mills-Groen
Andrew Knight
Blythe LaGasse
Elizabeth Stegemöller
Deanna Hanson-Abromeit

Alternates:
Kirsten Meyer
Melanie Harms
Maggie Rodgers
Mary Lynn Bennett
Brenda Land

MWR-AMTAS Executive Committee
President – Cody Ray, Drury
President Elect – Pam Potzer, CSU
Vice President – Molly Taylor, CSU
Secretary – Kailey Campbell, UMKC
Treasurer – Elizabeth Sampson, UMKC
Parliamentarian – Ryan Smith, CSU
Past President – Jennifer Hopper, UMKC

Committee Representatives:
Government Relations- Emily Wangen, MT-BC
Research- Cynthia Colwell, Ph.D., MT-BC
 Continuing Education- Rebekah Stewart, MA, MT-BC
Workforce Development and Retention- Kelly Carlson, MA, MT-BC
Professional Advocacy- Kelli McKee, MA, MT-BC
Affiliate Relations- Faith Halverson-Ramos, MA, LPC, MT-BC
Reimbursement- Sarah Thompson, MM, MT-BC, CBIS
Clinical Practice Networking- Erin Carter, MT-BC
Technology- Lindsey Wilhelm, MA, MT-BC
Academic Program Approval- Melanie Harms, Ph.D., MT-BC
Association Internship Approval Committee- Kimberly Hawkins, MT-BC
Standards of Clinical Practice- Lora Barthelman, MS, MT-BC
International Relations- Soo-Jin Kwoun, Ph.D., MT-BC
Judicial Review Board- Abbey Dvorak, Ph.D., MT-BC
Membership- Lorissa McGuire, MT-BC
Diversity and Multiculturalism - Maria Gonsalves Schimpf, MA, MT-BC
State Contacts:
Kansas: Lorissa McGuire
Missouri: Andrea Dalton
Iowa: Kim Hawkins
Nebraska: Jamie Young
Colorado: Sarah Thompson
North Dakota: Emily Wangen
South Dakota: Lora Barthelman
Montana: Trina Rainey
Wyoming: to be filled

Action Items:
There are no requested action items for the Board of Directors at this time.

Board News:
Our website continues to undergo many positive changes to improve access to information for our membership. One of the most recent additions is photos of each of the board members so that they may be more easily identifiable to our members.

As president, one of my favorite opportunities is recognizing deserving individuals in our region. This year, Cindy Colwell was recognized with the Research Award for her extensive contributions to the field, both in service to the Research committee and in publications. Our Service Award went to Faith Halverson-Ramos, who has worked tirelessly with the Online Conference for Music Therapy and has served as our regional representative to the Affiliate Relations committee. We initiated an Advocacy Award in 2017, recognizing Betsy Murray for her involvement in supporting the Colorado Task Force through the legislation process. The very first Presidential Award was given to Kara Mills Groen, who has been on the regional board of directors since 2001. The region provided two scholarships this year: the Conference Scholar was Rachelle Norman, and the Membership Support award went to Katie Just. Additionally, three student scholarships were given to Emily Stewart, Amanda Sciarabba, and Samantha Hinson. All of these winners were recognized at the regional conference Awards Dessert.

Ginny Driscoll has stepped down as our SAAB representative after several years in that position. She has been marvelous in supporting the students in their efforts. Most notably, Ginny was instrumental in the development of the Cadenza 5k at National Conference in 2015, securing sponsorship from several companies. We thank Ginny for her service to the region. I have appointed Andrea Boswell-Burns to fulfill the role of advisor to the students of our region; she brings with her enthusiasm, a strong commitment to student involvement, and creativity.

The Midwestern Region students held successful fundraisers at the regional conference, selling custom-designed Jamberry nail wraps, custom-designed Music Therapy Notes (that included lined, staff, and graph paper), and a Lip Sync battle. They are hoping to increase their scholarship offerings, and specifically want to target the new academic program to our region, Concordia University in Nebraska, to provide opportunities for their students to attend conferences.

The Midwestern Region will hold elections for our board positions in the month of April. The new officers will assume those positions July 1. The nominating committee this year consisted of Kara Mills Groen (chair), Andrea Dalton, Lindsay Wilhelm, and Kelley Pujol.

The Midwestern Region has begun to work with a consultant from Helms-Briscoe to improve the process of hotel selection and contract negotiation. There is no cost to the region, and we have already benefitted from this relationship in securing our conference hotel for 2018. This process will also provide continuity with the biannual transition of the Vice President position, as well as allow the Vice President and local committee more time to arrange other details of the conferences.

Regional Conference:
The Midwestern region partnered with the Western region for the 2017 regional conference, which was held March 16-19, 2017, in Broomfield, CO. The theme was “Rockin’ the Rockies,” and that we did, with Sarah Thompson leading
the local arrangements committee. We had approximately 400 in attendance, with 190 registrants for the 11 CMTEs and 3 Institutes. The combined student organizations held Passages, which was also well-attended. An event for high school students interested in music therapy was held for the first time, and we intend to do this at future conferences as well. Final details, including financials, will be available at a later date, as our regional treasurers are still paying invoices and dividing profits.

The 2018 Midwestern Regional conference will be held in Iowa City, IA. We will be hosted by the University of Iowa in their new music building, with the conference hotel right next door. The local arrangements chair is Kelly Carlson. Our keynote speaker is Barb Else. We hope to provide several CMTE options, as well as a regional Leadership Academy.

**Finances:** The Midwestern region continues to be in good financial standing. The regional conference was a financial success, and our spending continues to be aligned with our budget.

**Bylaw Revisions:** Andrew Knight, President-Elect, submitted multiple bylaws revisions, which were all voted on and approved by the membership at the business meeting in Broomfield, CO. Andrew spent substantial time reviewing the previous version of the bylaws and comparing them to AMTA’s bylaws to find consistency whenever possible, and the region is grateful for his attention to detail. A summary of the changes follows:

--The most substantial change was the elimination of the 2nd Vice President and the creation of a Vice President-elect position. This change will allow more continuity in conference planning and ease some of the burden of work on the Vice President (formerly 1st Vice President). The bylaws were changed to reflect the new duties of these two positions as well as the succession in case of vacancy.
--The section on membership classes was updated to reflect the AMTA bylaws.
--Regarding consecutive terms, our previous bylaws stated that no elective officer, with the exception of the treasurer, shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms. This has been revised to also include the Assembly Delegates in the exception, as it has been a practice for many years in our region.
--A new item was added to establish a process for recalling any elected officer in the event the membership wishes to have them removed from office.
--A new item was also added to establish parameters for Board of Directors meetings, specifically who may call a meeting, what constitutes a meeting, and what business can occur.
--The bylaws were changed to establish a clearer process for the change in leadership after an election, identifying who is responsible for initiating the transfer of information and records and in what time frame that should occur (i.e., in the interim between the election and their assumption of office).
--The bylaws regarding committees were revised for clarification and to reflect more current practice. There are now only 3 standing committees for the region: Auditing, Regional Information, and Continuing Education Review.
--There were several items consisting of grammatical changes and clarification of information.

The full, revised bylaws will be published on our regional website, and are available upon request.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Dalton, MA, MT-BC
National Conference in Sandusky, OH 2016

The SER was very active at the 2016 National Conference in Sandusky, OH. In addition to serving on various committees, serving as committee chairs, and on the Assembly of Delegates, SER members were involved in Intensive Educational Opportunities/Special Trainings (2), CMTE Sessions (1), Concurrent Sessions (~32), and Research Poster Presentations (18). Amber Weldon-Stephens served as AMTA President-Elect and Michelle Hairston also continued her service on the MLE Subcommittee. We are thankful for all of our members who participated and appreciate their service to the profession.

Regional Conference 2017 and 2018

The 2017 SER-AMTA regional conference was held in Chapel Hill, NC from March 30-April 1, 2017, and once again we had record breaking numbers in attendance with 375 attendees. The SER was pleased to host AMTA President, Jennifer Geiger, at our conference. Our conference planning team continues to focus on providing continuing education opportunities for our membership with over 35 concurrent sessions, 8 CMTE sessions, and 1 institute. The Research Poster Presentation featured 11 research posters. A number of our members were recognized for their contributions with awards for Professional Practice (Jamie George), Service (Cheryl Stephenson), Service (Thomas Hobson), Advocacy (Jaye Watson) and Student Spirit Award (University of Georgia). Intern scholarships were awarded to Rachel Smith Green (Undergraduate) and Reece Jennings (Graduate/Equivalency). Congratulations to all of the winners and a huge thank you to all who helped make this conference a success!

Conference information continues to be handled online, and our green approach is both well received and cost effective. We continue to use the services of a professional organization (Conference Direct) to locate conference sites that are appealing to members but cost-conscious. We would like to thank Thomas Hobson, Regional Conference Coordinator for his years of service to the SER. We would also like to welcome Austin Robinson, who took over the role of Conference Coordinator in 2017. Our 2018 SER conference will be held in Chattanooga, TN from March 29 - March 31, 2018.

Finances

During the SER conference in Chapel Hill, the Board of Directors approved a balanced budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. The organization continues to be financially sound, and budgetary matters, including investment accounts, have been well managed. Lana Hawkins, our Treasurer, facilitated the transition of SER investments to a new broker. This change will allow for greater ease of access to investment information. We would like to thank Lana for all of her efforts on behalf of the region.

Regional Newsletter

Our regional newsletter, the Quodlibet, continues to be distributed online with minimal requests for paper copies. (One paper copy per issue is maintained for archival purposes.) Members are notified via direct email when the new edition is available online, and announcements are posted on the regional website. This process continues to be managed by our 2nd Vice President, Carmen Osburn. We would like to thank Carmen for all of her efforts as 2nd Vice President as she transitions to her new office as President-Elect.

Regional Communication & Website

Our regional website is managed by our webmaster, Carmen Osburn, and can be accessed at http://www.ser-amta.org/. The webmaster position is a non-voting appointment with reporting lines to the 2nd Vice President. They are responsible for web updates as well as distribution of information via email. Carmen has updated committee information as well as college and university program information on the website. She worked with the student organization (SER-AMTAS) to provide a long term platform via the SER website for disseminating student information. The webmaster, in coordination with our Technology Committee chair, also provides information for our membership on our regional Facebook page (Southeastern Region of the American Music Therapy Association) and Twitter account (SE Region of AMTA).
Disaster Response
The SER Past President, Cheryl Benze, coordinated disaster response for the SER. In this role, the Past President works with national and international representatives from AMTA and the World Federation to coordinate and/or disseminate disaster response information.

Membership
The SER continues to encourage Music Therapists in the region to become AMTA members. During the 2017 regional conference, Lori Gooding explained to the membership that the SER has lost a seat on the 2017-2019 AMTA Assembly of Delegates due to decreases in our membership numbers. The SER Membership committee is chaired by Sarah Pitts. The committee continues to promote membership via a number of initiatives, including a phone drive to music therapists across the southeast during the 2017 regional conference. Members who participated in the conference phone drive were entered into a drawing for a prize.

Regional Leadership
The 2015-2017 officers completed their term on March 31, 2017. We are thankful for their service and acknowledge the time and efforts that they contributed to the SER. We are also thankful for those who serve on the Assembly of Delegates; these individuals will continue their term through Saturday of the 2017 National Conference. Again, we are thankful for their service. The following is a list of the 2015-2017 Board of Directors and Assembly Delegates:

Assembly Delegates (2015-2017): Note - Delegates will be seated through the Saturday meeting in November 2017.
Lori Gooding (President), lgooding@fsu.edu
Christine Leist (President-Elect), leistcp@appstate.edu
Cheryl Benze, cheryl.benze@uky.edu
Andrea Cevasco-Trotter, amtrotter@ua.edu
Dianne Gregory, dgregory@fsu.edu
Cathy McKinney, mckinneych@appstate.edu
Jessy Rushing, jessyrushing@gmail.com
Cheryl Stephenson, cherylsstephenson@gmail.com
Olivia Yinger, olivia.yinger@uky.edu

Assembly Alternates (2015-2017):
Rebecca Engen, engenr@queens.edu
Carmen Osburn, ceburn@muw.edu
Molly Waldrup-Johnson
Jessica Hoyle, hoylejn@gmail.com
Stephanie Bolton, sbolton1@gmail.com
Victoria Vega, yvvega@loyno.edu
Gretchen Benner, piedmontmusictherapy@gmail.com
Beth Collier, beth@collier.net
Sarah Pitts, sepitts9@gmail.com

Elections:
The Nominating Committee, chaired by Past President Cheryl Benze, produced a slate of nominees for elections held in January of 2017. These elections were once again successfully conducted by electronic ballot. The following individuals were elected to serve during the 2017-2019 term:

SER-AMTA Board of Directors (2017-2019):
President: Christine Leist (NC), leistcp@appstate.edu
President-Elect: Carmen Osburn (MS), ceosburn@muw.edu
1st Vice President: Beth Collier (GA), beth@collier.net
2nd Vice President: Andrea VerBurg (GA), andrea@thegeorgecenter.com
Secretary: Yvonne Glass (TN), Yvonne.marie.glass@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lana Hawkins (GA), lana@thegeorgecenter.com
Past President: Lori Gooding (FL), lgooding@fsu.edu
SER-AMTAS President—Lauren Viljamaa (UGA), lauren.viljamaa@gmail.com

Non-Voting Members of the BOD:
Government Relations Representative: Rachel Coon-Arnott (GA), 119rachel@gmail.com
& Jamie George (GA), Jamie@thegeorgecenter.com
Historian/Archivist: Michele Gregoire (FL), gregoire@flagler.edu
Student Advisor: Lorna Segall (KY), lorna.segall@uky.edu
SER-AMTAS President-Elect: Abby Callaway (UGA), catherine.callaway25@uga.edu

Assembly Delegates (2017-2019): Note - Delegates will be seated at Sunday meeting in November 2017.
Christine Leist (President), leistcp@appstate.edu
Carmen Osburn (President-Elect), ceosburn@muw.edu
Cheryl Benze, cheryl.benze@uky.edu
Andrea Cevasco-Trotter, amtrotter@ua.edu
Lori Gooding, lgooding@fsu.edu
Cathy McKinney, mckinneych@appstate.edu
Cheryl Stephenson, csstephenson@gmail.com
Olivia Yinger, olivia.yinger@uky.edu

Assembly Alternates (2017-2019):
Rebecca Engen, engenr@queens.edu
Jessy Rushing, jessyrushing@gmail.com
Roy Joyner, rjoynermtbc@gmail.com
Jessica Simpson
Dianne Gregory, dgregory@fsu.edu
Alejandra Ferrer, alejandra.ferrer@belmont.edu
Stephanie Bolton, sbolton1@gmail.com
Freddy Perkins, perkinsfd@gmail.com

In addition to our term-based leadership, we also have a number of individuals who serve in an ongoing manner as SER representatives to various AMTA committees. Current representatives to AMTA committees include:

Academic Program Approval: Carmen Osburn (MS), ceosburn@muw.edu
Affiliate Relations: Andrea VerBurg (GA), andrea@thegeorgecenter.com
Association Internship Approval: Chrissy Watson (TN), chrissymtbc@gmail.com
Clinical Practice Networking – Elizabeth Haley (MS), ehaleymtbc@gmail.com
Technology: Kimberly Bell (LA), kbellmtbc@yahoo.com
Continuing Education: Natalie Generally (NC), natalie@smallstepsmusiclle.com
Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee: Natasha Thomas (LA), natalasha.mtbc@gmail.com
Government Relations: Rachel Coon-Arnott (GA), 119rachel@gmail.com & Jamie George (GA), Jamie@thegeorgecenter.com
International Relations: Melody Schwantes (NC), ms18994@appstate.edu
Membership: Sarah Pitts (GA), sepitts9@gmail.com
Professional Advocacy: Sharon Graham (FL), sharon@musictherapyfl.com
Reimbursement: Jennifer Walker-Puckett (GA), therabeatmusic@gmail.com
Research: Andrea Cevasco-Trotter (AL), amtrotter@ua.edu
Standards of Clinical Practice: Dana Bolton (TN)
Workforce Development & Retention: Charlie Seaman (AL), cgseaman@ua.edu

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine P. Leist, PhD, MT-BC
President, SER-AMTA (2017-2019)
Membership
As of April, 2017 NER membership totaled 236 members, with 139 professional members and 89 students (graduate and undergraduate), and 8 in ‘other’ categories.

The executive board has continued to encourage and promote the value of membership in both NER and AMTA with a short term goal of 50% of MT-BCs in the region joining AMTA on an annual basis. An annual membership calling drive was held and NER as well as AMTA membership benefits were explained and discussed. As previously reported, this goal is also being supported with our Membership Support Committee and our Financial Committee.

Treasury
An internal audit was conducted in December of 2016 and led by Treasurer Rebekah DeMieri, a board member, and another member at large. NER did not change banks and remains with Bank of America. A change was made to the type of account the region has so as to eliminate the monthly fee to the student account.

Student funds continue to be managed by the student organization treasurer, with oversight provided by both the Treasurer and our Student Affairs Advisory Board representative, Kayla Daly.

The New England Region continues to be fiscally sound, maintaining a minimum of six months’ operating expenses in our savings account which also saw another increase due to a profitable conference. Our budget meeting will take place in early June 2017 with the goal of maintaining a balanced budget and continuing to fund our NER Member Support Program (described below) with both fundraised and additional funds from the 2017 conference. The executive board continues to take seriously their role as the region’s financial stewards in maintaining the region’s financial health.

As previously reported, New England Region’s Financial Committee, has been tasked to explore and carry out non-conference fundraising options for the region, with a view of using additional funds raised for member support, dues assistance and services. Under the leadership of Dorothy Stapleton, this task force that includes Courtney Biddle, Marissa Scott, Rebekah DeMieri and Eve Montague has coordinated several fundraisers including online donations, an Instrument Yard Sale, a Craft Table Sale, restaurant fundraisers, a portion of proceeds from Barefoot Books sales, and cash donations. The task force, now a committee, has raised $848.23 so far this fiscal year.

The New England Region’s Financial Committee continues to help support the Membership Support Program and will also begin to help support Conference Scholarships. Since July 2016, the total money raised through fundraising efforts has totaled $717.46. The committee has been able to raise funds in a variety of ways which include; sales of Barefoot Books (sponsored by one of our region’s members), Amazon Smile, and a fundraiser at a restaurant in Portsmouth, NH. At the 2017 regional conference held in Newport, our fundraising efforts resulted in $123.48, which included our second annual Instrument Yard Sale and the debuted of our Craft Table. The Craft Table and Instrument Table included items donated by our very own members.

As we look to the future, the Fundraising Committee hopes to team up with a local New England music instrument distributor, Mud Pie Productions. Details on this partnership are still in the works, however the preliminary plan is a portion of all purchases made by NER music therapists to Mud Pie will result in monies directly benefitting the NER region, perhaps to support the Membership Support Program or an Instrument Scholarship Program. The Board will further discuss, but benefits to our membership is the goal. NER will also continue with Barefoot Books fundraiser and will pursue another restaurant fundraiser in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Next year, we hope to do a 50/50 raffle at our 2018 regional conference, perhaps sell items with our regional logo on them and partner with restaurants in the local area of our conference site.

The original Membership Support Task Force, led by Adrienne Flight, along with Meredith Pizzi, Sara Casti, Elizabeth Ferguson, and myself completed their recommendations for a membership support program which hoped to both bring in new members to the region and encourage engagement within the region. This year, it began as a task force committed to hosting a "Pay It Forward" campaign, whereby NER shares the cost of one year of professional AMTA membership dues with music therapists in NER. This supports NER's strategic plan goal of increasing
membership. In exchange for this financial support from NER, recipients get involved with NER or advocate for music therapy in some way during the year, then report back to NER about their activities. Funds for this program were from NER's 2016 conference profit and monies fundraised by NER. The first year of the program went well. Now a regional committee, the Membership Support Committee - Pay It Forward Campaign offered awards to 25 NER music therapists. The total amount offered was $4,025. Two awardees declined the awards but had already joined AMTA, bringing to total number of awards to 23. The total amount spent by NER on this program will be $3,750. Moving forward, the committee is growing, with four NER music therapists taking part in its organization and implementation. The committee gathered information regarding the application process, timelines, and steps involved in the shared payment process in order to fine tune the program for next year, when it will continue.

Additional appointments to this regional committee include Marissa Scott, Emily Boyce, and Meredith Pizzi. Elizabeth Ferguson and Marissa Scott will act as co-chairs. Adrienne Flight, now NER President Elect will remain available, ad hoc.

Specific focus was given this year to the reports that finances are a significant barrier to membership in our region. Therefore, this innovative program allowed applicants to apply to receive a percentage of their membership dues as well as commit to one or more ways to “pay it forward” though volunteering and advocating for music therapy with the region and within their community. The board adopted this program and has supported it with a generous budget line of $6000, inclusive of the $1497 fundraised for this purpose. The additional funds were able to be allocated due to our wise management of conference expenses. The hope was that this program could welcome 40-60 new members. The NER Membership Support Committee see the total 23 new NER-AMTA members as a success and inches us closer to the goal that 50% of MT-BCs in NER become 2017 NER-AMTA members.

Student Involvement
Kayla McBrien, NER-AMTAS President, former NER-AMTAS President Calvin Eng, and Kayla Daly NER-AMTAS SAAB representative together, in collaboration with Dr. Xueli Tan of Lesley University, have organized their second interactive seminar to be held on the Lesley Campus. "Voices from the East: Definitions and Experiences of Music Therapy in Asia Regions”. In the spirit of fundraising, the students organized a live music fundraising event, their 1st Annual Fundraiser event, held at The Italian Club in Walpole MA from 6-9pm, March 11, 2017. The funds raised from raffle prizes, the suggested door donation, and the GoFundme.com donations will go directly to benefit student scholarships in the New England Region, which totaled $443.00. These scholarships will enable students to receive financial support in becoming a member of their association and/or attending conferences.

To continue the smooth transition between the current SAAB representative Kayla Daly and the former SAAB representative transition Christine Routhier both are continuously communicating to ensure a swift and efficient transition. As previously reported, NER did not change banks and remains with Bank of America. A change was made to the type of account the region has so as to eliminate the monthly fee to the student account. Student funds continue to be managed by the student organization treasurer, with oversight provided by both the Treasurer Bekah Demieri and our SAAB representative, Kayla Daly.

NER Regional Conference
Our 2017 Regional Conference was a success with 210 total registered attendees. It took place March 29-April 1, 2017 at the Hotel Viking in Newport, RI. Some highlights included; a national office visit from President Geiger, a Multicultural Forum, a Song Circle, a well-attended FREE CMTE from Team Rainbow, and a regional Leadership Academy. The 2018 Conference Committee is already making plans for the Spring Annual Regional conference that will take place in Westbrook, CT: April 19-21, 2018 at the Water’s Edge. Vice President Courtney Biddle and Vice President-Elect Channing Shippen will continue to use cost saving and member-centered decisions to benefit the NER membership.

State Information
NER has state task forces in every state in our region: CT, MA, RI, VT, NH, and ME. Connecticut PL 16-66 which created title protection for music therapists went into effect on 10/1/2016. While specific regulations for enforcement have not yet been issued, the task force members Jennifer Sokira, Heather Wagner, Emily Bevelaquia, and Natalie McClune had the opportunity to testify to request that music therapy licensing would be considered in the current legislative year. Due to the fiscal situation in the state the Public Health Committee declined this request at this time. The task force will continue to advocate and look for opportunities that will increase access for music
therapy clients in the future.

Other Activities
NER-AMTA Constitution and Bylaws Merge
The Bylaws Committee including former Board Members Christine Routhier, Linda Bosse, and then President-Elect Judy Engel were tasked to merge the current NER-AMTA Constitution and NER-AMTA Bylaws which governs the regional organization. The rationale for the merging of both documents was to streamline these documents into one; to follow AMTA's model of their Bylaws, to avoid duplication, and to make updates. The NER membership were electronically notified of the modified document which included all major and minor edits. The NER members and non-members were given this document, via email and through all NER communication outlets. During the regional Membership Meeting, a unanimous vote placed the new American Music Therapy New England Region Bylaws into effective on 3/31/17. Many thanks to Christine Routhier and Linda Bosse for their expertise and assistance.

Strategic-Planning
The Strategic Planning committee, including Past President Jennifer Sokira, Assembly Delegate Heather Wagner, President Judy Engel and Assembly Delegate Eve Montague, will be meeting in the fall to evaluate the current strategic plan, to ensure alignment of regional activities to the plan, as well as to advise regarding any adjustments or additions to be made for the current term (2017-18). The NER Strategic Plan goals of improving member engagement and further developed fiscal responsibility continue as previously reported, and the work of both the Membership Support Task Force and the Financial Task Force have arisen from the NER strategic plan. The committee will also be discussing formalizing procedures for future strategic planning.

National Appointments
With the merging of the NER-AMTA Constitution and Bylaws, a new and non-voting Historian position is now available. Current plans to inquire with the NER membership are in the works to fill this position before national conference. The Academic Program Approval (APAC) position became vacant and the presidential appointment of Heather Wagner was approved by the Board, during the month of April, 2017.

NER Expanded Leadership
Executive Board voting members
Past President Jennifer Sokira, jen@ctmusictherapy.com
President Judy Engel, judynengel@gmail.com
President-Elect Adrienne Flight, adrienneflight@gmail.com
Vice President Courtney Biddle, courtneymtbc@gmail.com
Vice President-Elect Channing Shippen, channing.shippen@gmail.com
Treasurer Rebekah DeMieri, bekah.demieri@gmail.com
Secretary Kari O’Briant, kari.obriant@gmail.com

Assembly Delegates
Emily Bevelaqua, emily@ctmusictherapy.com
Eve Montague, eventmontague@verizon.net
Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, annette@romanmusictherapy.com
Caryl Beth Thomas, cbethomas@rcn.com
Jennifer Sokira (seated president), jen@ctmusictherapy.com

Assembly of Delegates Alternate (2016-2017)
(In order of being called)
Meredith Pizzi, mpizzi@romanmusictherapy.com
Adrienne Flight, adrienneflight@gmail.com
Julie Andring, Jamusictherapy@optonline.net
Tom Hayden, tomhayd@gmail.com

Assembly Delegates (2018-2019)
Judy Engel (seated president), judynengel@gmail.com
Heather Wagner, heatherwagner.mtbc@gmail.com
Eve Montague, evemontague@verizon.net
Joy Allen, joyallen@berklee.edu
Meredith Pizzi, mpizzi@romanmusictherapy.com

Alternate Assembly Delegates-(in order of being called)
Emily Bevelaqua, emily@ctmusictherapy.com
Julie Andring, Jamusictherapy@optonline.net

Non-voting Members of Executive Board
NER-AMTAS President Kayla McBrien, kmmcbrien@amcats.edu
NER-AMTAS President-Elect Alison Dagger, adagger@lesley.edu

Webmistress Cassandra Mulcahy, cassandra.musictherapy@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor Kari O’Brien, kari.obriant@gmail.com
Social Media Coordinator Jennifer DeBedout, musicblooms@gmail.com
Judicial Review Julie Andring, Jamusictherapy@optonline.net
Heather Wagner, heatherwagner.mtbc@gmail.com

NER Appointments to AMTA Standing Committees

Academic Program Approval Heather Wagner, heatherwagner.mtbc@gmail.com
Affiliate Relations Joy Allen, joyallen@berklee.edu
Association Internship Approval Eve Montague (chair), evemontague@verizon.net
Clinical Practice Networking Kelsy Gati, kelsy@ctmusictherapy.com
Diversity & Multiculturalism Ruth Kahn, cairokahn@aol.com
Continuing Education Julie Andring, Jamusictherapy@optonline.net
Government Relations Jennifer Sokira, jen@ctmusictherapy.com
International Relations Meg Capen, meg.capen@gmail.com
Membership Elizabeth Ferguson, granitestatemusictherapy@gmail.com
Professional Advocacy Emily Bevelaqua (chair), emily@ctmusictherapy.com
Jennifer DeBedout (representative), musicblooms@gmail.com
Reimbursement Thomas Hayden, tomhayd@gmail.com
Research Xueli Tan, xtan3@lesley.edu
Standards of Clinical Practice Adrienne Flight, adrienneflight@gmail.com
Student Affairs Advisor Kayla Daly, kayladaly@wcetherapy.com
Technology Cassandra Mulcahy, cassandra.musictherapy@gmail.com
Workforce Development & Retention Courtney Biddle, courtemymtbc@gmail.com

130
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING- MAY 31-JUNE 5, 2017
Southwestern Region Board Report
Antoinette Neff, MT-BC, President

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES (November 2016 – April 2017)

1. **SWR 2017 Conference**: The conference was held in Ft. Worth (March 23-25) with approximately 315 attendees. Overall, the conference was a success both professionally and financially. Our CMTE courses elicited a profit of $900.00. Our CMTEs included a Leadership CMTE free to AMTA members led by our invited guest, **Meredith Pizzi**. This year Methodist Hospital in Houston provided a $10,000 sponsorship which went toward education and other conference expenses. Overall, we made approximately $15,000 in profit.

2. **Awards/Recognitions**: This year **Michelle Kennemer** received a Harmony Award in Service and **Jaqueline Peters** received the Mary Toombs Rudenberg Lifetime Achievement Award. Also, one of our members, **Kamica King**, was one of four recipients to receive the prestigious Virginia Chandler Dykes Scholarships representing the College of Arts and Sciences at TWU.

3. **SWR 2018 Conference**: We are currently in the planning stages for 2018 regional conference which will be held in Lubbock, TX. Christine Neugebauer and Ed Kahler are local chairs.

4. **Advocacy**: We provided funds to send two members, **Suzanne Heppel** and **Kate Harrison**, to attend Arts Advocacy Day in Washington DC. Both members were highly impressed and found the experience to be highly beneficial. We’d like to thank **Judy Simpson** for the amazing work that she does on behalf of our profession! Our Texas State Task Force continues to work with State Representative, Sarah Davis, on the HB 1376 bill relating to a study on the state certification of music therapists. It is currently, in committee.

5. **Elections**: Our region is currently in its election cycle. We are pleased to report that several people have stepped up to run for positions in this year’s election. This is also our first year implementing electronic voting using the “Election Buddy” online system. Electronic voting seems to be both cost-effective and a better way to increase voting responses. Voting closes May 5, 2017 with new officers to start June 1st.

6. **Membership**: As of March 31, 2017, we have a total of 255 members including 146 professional members, 73 student members, 25 graduate student members, 4 honorary life members, 3 retired members, and 2 affiliate members.

7. **Red River Valley**: Our regional newsletter continues to be published regularly and is available online at [https://swamta.wildapricot.org/RRV](https://swamta.wildapricot.org/RRV).

**SWAMTA Officers and Committee Representatives**

Board of Directors, voting members:
**President** Antoinette Neff, MT-BC
**Past President** ChihChen Sophia Lee, PhD, MT-BC
**President Elect** Christine Neugebauer, MS, MT-BC, LPC
**Vice President** Diane Powell, MT-BC
**Vice President Elect** (Vacant)
**Secretary** Esther Craven, MT-BC
**Assembly Delegate Representative** Edward P. Kahler, Ph.D., MT-BC*
**SWAMTAS President** Siobhan Kelley from SMU
*Also serving as Parliamentarian

Board of Directors, non-voting members:
**Treasurer** Amy Rogers, MT-BC
**Government Relations Representative** Suzanne Heppel, MT-BC
Continuing Education Director: Jennifer Townsend, MA, MT-BC, CCLS
RRV Co-Editors: Jessica Leza, MA, MT-BC and Karen Sholander, MT-BC
SAAB Representative: Michelle Kennemer, MT-BC
Website Administrator: Christina Stock, MT-BC
Publicity Director: Veronica Butler, MT-BC

Committee Appointments:
Academic Program Approval: Barbara Bastable, MA, MT-BC
Affiliate Relations: Amanda Sehr, MT-BC
Association Internship Approval: Jacqueline Claxton, MEd, MT-BC
Continuing Education: Jennifer Townsend, MT-BC, CCLS
Diversity and Multi-Culturalism: Kamica King
Government Relations: Suzanne Heppel, MT-BC
International Relations: Yu-ling Chen, PhD, MT-BC
Judicial Review Board: Kathleen Coleman, MM, MT-BC
Membership: Tiffany Laur, MT-BC
Professional Advocacy: Carolyn Dobson, MT-BC
Reimbursement: Kate Harrison, MT-BC
Research: Nancy Hadsell Ph.D., MT-BC
SAAB: Michelle Kennemer, MT-BC
Clinical Practice Networking: Mary Altom, MT-BC
Standards of Clinical Practice: Michael Zanders, PhD, MT-BC
Technology: Alison Etter, MT-BC
Workforce Development and Retention: Carolyn Dachinger Moore, PhD, MT-BC

Assembly Delegates of 2016 & 17
Antoinette Neff, MT-BC, Christine Neugebauer, MS, MT-BC, LPC, Della Molloy Daugherty, PhD, MT-BC, Debbie Dacus, MT-BC, Ed Kahler, PhD., MT-BC Carolyn Dobson, MT-BC

Assembly Delegate Alternates of 2016 & 17
Mary Lawrence, MT-BC, Marcus Hughes, MT-BC, LMT, Karen Miller, MM, MT-BC, Kamica King, MT-BC, Jennifer Townsend, MA, MT-BC, CCLS Kathleen Brown, MT-BC

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Neugebauer, President-Elect
Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association
Hello AMTA Board of Directors,
I am honored to take over as President of the Western Region. I serve at the pleasure of our members and look forward to working with AMTA over the next two years of my term.

Here is a summary of recent activities in the Western Region.

Conference:
“Rocking the Rockies” held March 15-19, 2017, was the Western Region’s first co-conference venture. The Midwest region played excellent host to a co-conference held in Bloomfield, Colorado, just outside of Denver. With 398 attendees, we consider this a very successful conference. We held 11 CMTEs and 3 Institutes. We sold out of exhibitor table space at this event and were exceptionally grateful for a local, regional and national vendor presence.

At this conference, our region announced just under $3500.00 in professional and student scholarships and grants.

Celeste Poll Student Conference Scholarship – Julia Petrey-Juarez
Wilhelmina Harbert Professional Conference Scholarship – Hiromi Itoh, MT-BC
Intern Scholarship – Marcia Elaina Brown
Intern Scholarship – Amy Calderon
Professional Development Grant – “Choir for Dementia Care Partners” - Emily Christensen, MT-BC

The 2018 Western Region conference will be held in Ontario, California, with Institutes and Trainings beginning February 26, 2018, and the conference running March 1-3, 2018. We will be utilizing the Ontario Convention Center and Radisson just across the street for all of our conference needs. The 2019 Western Region conference will return to a very successful and familiar location in Portland, OR.

(Any names in **bold** indicate the first time the person has served on the Board, Assembly or Committee Role.)

2017-2019 Board of Directors

Past-President: Tim Ringgold, MT-BC
President: Kymla J. Eubanks, MM, MT-BC
**President-elect: Leanne Wade, M.Div., Ph.D., MT-BC**
**Vice President-elect: Angie Kopshy, MM, MT-BC**
Vice President: Carly Brambila, MT-BC
Secretary: Candice Bain, MT-BC
Treasurer: Kevin Hahn, MM, MT-BC
WRAMTAS President: Laura Torgeson
(non-voting board members):
Parliamentarian: Bill Dluhosh, MT-BC
**Media Relations Coordinator: Kelly Robertson, MT-BC**
Continuing Education Director: Emily Polichette, MM, MT-BC
Government Relations Committee Representative: Karla Hawley, MEd., MT-BC
WRAMTAS President-elect: Katie Rahn (effective May 1, 2017)

**Current Assembly Delegates (2016-2017):**
Eric Waldon, Ph.D., MT-BC
Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC
Ron Borczon, MT-BC
Christine Korb, MM, MT-BC
Matt Logan, MA, MT-BC
Emily Priestaf, MM, MT-BC
Tim Ringgold, MT-BC & Kymla Eubanks, MM, MT-BC
Alternate Assembly Delegates (2016-2017):
Lisa Jackert, MA, MT-BC
Petra Kern, Ph.D., MT-BC
Lillieth Grand, MS, MT-BC
Kevin Hahn, MM, MT-BC
Judith Pinkerton, MT-BC/L
Andrea Scheve, MM, MT-BC
Emily Polichette, MM, MT-BC
Kerry Leavell, MA, LPC, MT-BC
Angie Kopshy, MM, MT-BC

Incoming Assembly of Delegates (2018-2019):
Eric Waldon, Ph.D., MT-BC
Kevin Hahn, MM, MT-BC
Kymla Eubanks, MM, MT-BC
Melita Belgrave, Ph.D., MT-BC
Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC
Ron Borczon, MT-BC
Spencer Hardy, MT-BC
Becky Wellman, Ph.D., LPMT, MT-BC
Leanne Wade, M. Div., Ph.D., MT-BC

Incoming Alternate Assembly Delegates (2018-2019):
Helen Dolas, MS, MT-BC
Tara Brinkman, MT-BC
Lillieth Grand, MS, MT-BC
Angie Kopshy, MM, MT-BC
Emily Polichette, MM, SCMT, MT-BC
Christine Korb, MM, MT-BC
Kerry Leavell, MM, LPC, MT-BC
Rachel McCauley, MT-BC
Sarah Pavis, MT-BC

AMTA Regional Committee Representatives (2017-2019):
Academic Program Approval Committee – Christine Korb, MM, MT-BC
Affiliate Relations Committee – Tara Brinkman, MT-BC
Association Internship Approval Committee – Manal Toppozada, MA, LPMT, MT-BC
Clinical Practice Networking Committee – Kathrine Lee, MT-BC
Continuing Education Committee – Emily Polichette, MM, SCMT, MT-BC
Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee – Beth Robinson & Melita Belgrave, Ph.D., MT-BC
Government Relations Committee – Karla Hawley, MEd, MT-BC
International Relations Committee – Kazumi Yamaura, MT-BC
Judicial Review Committee – Piper Laird, MM, MT-BC
Membership Committee – TBD
Professional Advocacy Committee – Kalani Das, MT-BC
Reimbursement Committee – Kate Harris, MT-BC/L
Research Committee – Eric Waldon, Ph.D., MT-BC
Standards of Clinical Practice Committee – Helen Dolas, MS, MT-BC
Student Affairs Advisory Board – Maya Zebley, MA, MT-BC
Technology Committee – Spencer Hardy, MT-BC
Workforce Development and Retention Committee – Feilin Hsiao, Ph.D., MT-BC

Respectfully submitted,

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NATIONAL OFFICE REPORTS
I. COMMENTARY & HIGHLIGHTS

II. ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

III. ASSOCIATION SERVICES & MANAGEMENT

IV. ASSOCIATION PERSONNEL

V. ASSOCIATION FINANCES

VI. NATIONAL MUSIC THERAPY REGISTRY

VII. FUTURE PRIORITIES

APPENDICES
I. COMMENTARY & HIGHLIGHTS

Commentary
Climate in Washington, D.C. and around the U.S.

Regardless of who one voted for in the 2016 election, few can dispute that the climate in Washington, D.C., and around the country has been unpleasant, to say the least. In my personal opinion, the lack of civil conversations combined with harmful, hateful, and disparaging comments, and horrific and unspeakable actions toward minority groups and women, especially those who are black, Muslim, Jewish, and/or LGBTQAI, and the constant fear-mongering toward immigrants and others, have reached unprecedented proportions. Even in 2013, 70% of Americans felt that “incivility had reached crisis proportions,” according to the Civility in America 2013 survey. In addition, “Americans reported encountering incivility more than twice a day on average (2.4 times per day), and 43 percent expecting to experience incivility in the next 24 hours. Additionally, 81 percent of Americans think that incivility is leading to an increase in violence.”

http://www.webershandwick.com/news/article/civility-in-america-2013-incivility-has-reached-crisis-levels. And this survey and report were well before the 2016 election cycle began!

The National Institute for Civil Discourse grew out of the need to stem the tide of the incivility crisis. http://nicd.arizona.edu/about

Gabrielle Giffords
Former Member of Congress, Arizona
The National Institute for Civil Discourse (NICD) was established in May of 2011 after the tragic Tucson shooting that killed six people and wounded thirteen others including former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. All were participating in a “Congress on Your Corner” event, a fundamental act of democracy.

In survey after survey, Americans blame the media for creating a level of incivility that is undermining their faith in journalism and deepening our nation's political dysfunction. In response, the National Institute for Civil Discourse is working with the Poynter Institute for Media Studies and the Newseum Institute to explore actions journalists can take to contribute to a more civil society. Retrieved [http://nicd.arizona.edu/about](http://nicd.arizona.edu/about)

The climate in Washington has many repercussions. I was called upon by the American Art Therapy Association (AATA) to address its Board of Directors relative to its response to Karen Pence’s support of art therapy. This situation has put AATA in the position of having to respond to the public and its members quickly and having to decide how to proceed. I highlighted five guiding principles for difficult organizational decisions. See Appendix A.

In AMTA, we are striving to increase our cultural competence and sensitivity to diverse populations through, first and foremost, listening to each other, and a variety of work groups, committees, and other initiatives. It is important that AMTA continues to grow and develop as a more diverse organization and that we foster growth and development between and among our members and the music therapy community as a whole.

**Highlights**

**Time-Sensitive Post-Conference Tasks**

As we departed from our 2016 annual meeting, we recognized that our “task list” was large and time-sensitive. We typically have more time to catch our “collective breath” than we did last November/December; we have been working “fast and furious” ever since! The task list and results include:

1. assessing the feasibility of AMTA hosting the World Congress of Music Therapy in 2020; action—determined it was not feasible and held a conference call to notify WFMT officials.
2. analyzing whether to renegotiate the national office lease a year early; action—attempted to renegotiate our lease but did not receive a satisfactory proposal; broker advised us to try again in September.
3. monitoring implementation of the new online platform of Oxford University Press; action—staff time needed, i.e., Angie Elkins, Barb Else, and Tawna Grasty, to troubleshoot problems, most of which have been resolved.
4. proceeding with establishing a process for the selection of Editors in Chief for AMTA journals due to the expiration of the editors’ terms on 12/31/18; action—co-chairs, Drs. Adamek and Forinash, appointed and working closely with staff liaison, Barb Else.
(5) determining whether to draft a Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking publishing partners in anticipation of the end of our first contract with Oxford University Press; action--following discussion with publishing consultant and Board, decided that we are satisfied with OUP partnership and intend to pursue a new contract with OUP instead of disseminating RFP to other publishers.

(6) assisting with planning and implementation of the NIH Workshop, “Music and the Brain: Research Across the Lifespan” January 26-27, 2017; action--hosted dinner meeting with music therapy researchers, prepared packets for workshop participants, and fully participated in the workshop.

(6) determining fees and rates for the 2017 AMTA annual conference in St. Louis; action--successfully completed during a Board conference call in February.

(7) following-up with progress of the National Organization for Arts in Health (NOAH); action--multiple levels of follow-up, including NOAH President, Todd Frazier, individuals within NOAH, and through NCCATA.

As you will note, the bulk of these tasks required significant effort, beginning in late November and, all but the NOAH follow-up, which is ongoing, were resolved or completed by the end of January. Remember also that these labor-intensive tasks are on top of our normal busy workload, which includes priority items such as conference follow-up, membership promotion for the 2017 membership year, and overall administration and management of all member and association services.

Historic Highlight

AMTA Participates in Historic “Music and the Mind Initiative”

AMTA hosts pre-NIH Workshop dinner on January 25, 2017, for Music Therapy research team. From left to right standing: Ed Roth, Christian Gold, Joke Bradt, Deforia Lane, Sheri Robb, Andi Farbman, Elizabeth Stegemöller, and Michael Thaut; from left to right seated: Barb Else, Connie Tomaino, and Judy Simpson.
At the invitation of renowned soprano, Renée Fleming, AMTA was invited to participate in the planning of a collaboration on music and health, leading to a Kennedy Center celebration on June 2-3, 2017. Ms. Fleming is an “Artistic Advisor At Large” and an ambassador for the Kennedy Center; this event and collaboration are but two of the many things on her “to do list” during her tenure. Leadership on the NIH side comes straight from the top: Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director, is heading the collaboration and has appointed representatives from eleven NIH institutes/centers. Kennedy Center leadership includes its President, Deborah Rutter, and other top leaders. Music therapy practice and research was highlighted.

In late January, the two-day workshop was hosted by NIH Director, Dr. Collins; Renée Fleming, artist Ambassador to the Kennedy Center; and Deborah Rutter, President of the Kennedy Center. Eminent scholars and researchers from 24 institutions and three countries discussed the evidence regarding how music is processed in the brain and used as therapy. Speaking on music therapy research and subtopics at the workshop were Joke Bradt, Christian Gold, Deforia Lane, Sheri Robb, Ed Roth, Elizabeth Stegemöller, Michael Thaut, and Connie Tomaino. The MTs in attendance also met as a group, as the photograph depicts. A copy of the workshop agenda is in Appendix B.

The NIH/Kennedy Center collaboration broadens the scope of the Kennedy Center’s “Sound Health” initiative to include current knowledge and understanding of how listening to, performing or creating music involves intricate circuitry in the brain that could be harnessed for health and wellness applications in daily life; exploring ways to enhance the potential for music as therapy for neurological disorders; identifying future opportunities for research; and creating public awareness about how the brain functions and interacts with music. The NIH workshop was live streamed within the NIH and recorded. A summary of the presentations is in progress. Based on the workshop contributions, the NIH aims to identify areas of science that provide the greatest opportunity to validate current findings and advance knowledge about when and how music can be an effective treatment.
A second public event at the Kennedy Center on June 2-3 called *Sound Health: Music and the Mind* will highlight selective findings of the NIH workshop. The event will feature performances by the NSO and interactive presentations and discussions with some of the world’s leading minds working at the intersection of neuroscience and music. Dr. Sheri Robb is hosting one of four 90-minute curated presentations on Saturday, June 3, “Breakthroughs with Music Therapy: Recovery, Resilience & Quality of Life,” on the topic of music therapy research and practice in selected areas of practice.

The June 3rd presentation segments are as follows:

- **Opening:**
  - Film montage, “Music Got Me Here,” a film by Susan Koch
  - Dr. Sheri Robb, MT-BC
  - Ben Folds, singer-songwriter

- **Recovery:**
  - Forrest Allen, client
  - Tom Sweitzer, MA, MT-BC
  - Dr. Wendy Magee, MT-BC

- **Resilience**
  - Dr. Deforia Lane, MT-BC
  - Dr. Sheri Robb, MT-BC

- **Quality of Life**
  - Dr. Blythe LaGasse, MT-BC
  - CJ Shiloh, MT-BC
  - Jordon Cochran, parent

- **Finale & Coda**

The flier that was beautifully designed by Angie Elkins, for the Saturday workshop, is in Appendix C.

***Highlights: Advancing & Safeguarding, and Preserving***

AMTA has always pro-actively fought to advance, protect, safeguard, and preserve the Music Therapy profession, and to ensure that our organization is the “go to” organization for the general public, and for music therapy professionals and students alike. AMTA’s actions to protect and safeguard music therapy are more challenging due to the internet and social media outlets and because of the speed at which information is received and processed. Additionally, some “information” on the web and some that is disseminated through social media can be misleading at the least, and inaccurate and incorrect at the worst. On one hand, these technologies provide unlimited opportunities and, on the other hand, they provide
serious quality control and management challenges. AMTA works diligently to preserve the integrity of music therapy on many levels.

**AMTA Advancing & Safeguarding**
- New--AMTA Social Media Coordinator—Kim Bell’s expanded role
- Government Relations (federal and state levels)
- Music Therapy Research 2025 (MTR 2025) Implementation
- Wilson Trust Music Therapy Initiative
- Music Therapy & Military Populations
- National Organization for Arts & Health & Artists in Healthcare “Certification”

**AMTA Preserving**
- Archives
- Financial Action Plan
- Organizational Sustainability Planning

**Advancing & Safeguarding**

**AMTA’s New Social Media Coordinator**
In recognition of the expanding use and presence of social media, AMTA expanded Kim Bell’s part-time consulting role as Information Specialist to include the monitoring and publishing of increased social media in myriad venues. Her report reflects these new responsibilities. Thus far, response has been positive and the coordination is essential.

**Government Relations**
AMTA’s government relations department safeguards the practice of music therapy in numerous ways. Our Government Relations staff and consultant: Judy Simpson, Rebecca Preddie, and Maria Fay, committee members, and our many task force members are tireless advocates on Capitol Hill. So far this year, we have legislative activity in nine states and MT-BCs in 28 states have actively advocated for music therapy services with state legislators and/or state agency officials (see Judy’s report—stay tuned for updates at the mid-year meeting). Our government relations team also advocates for music therapy to non-governmental regulating bodies, like the Joint Commission, and with many Washington-based coalitions (see Rebecca’s report).

Kudos to Judy Simpson for her able and constant guidance; to Rebecca Preddie for her federal policy analysis and coalition representation; to Maria Fay for her added assistance; to Barb Else for her “as needed” assistance; and to Dena Register and Kimberly Sena Moore, our partners at CBMT, for their collaboration. Please see the Government Relations reports for descriptions of “protecting and safeguarding.”

**MTR 2025 Implementation**
The Board established the MTR 2025 Implementation workgroup at mid-year last year. As you can see in Barb Else’s report, follow-up is underway. Following the historic summit in the summer of 2015 for which we commissioned nearly 20 papers and convened over 60
speakers, delegates, and guests, we are now busy with converting these ideas into real-life action statements with deadlines. Implementation plans include activities sanctioned by AMTA as well as the activities of all members who want to join us in furthering the 42 recommendations created by MTR 2025—it will take a village. There is plenty of work to go around and collaborating to achieve our goals is essential.

Wilson Trust Music Therapy Initiative
We are proud of the successful Wilson Trust programs and services funded by AMTA, resulting from the original donation to AMTA in 2010 focused on increasing access to music therapy services in the Puget Sound area. Recent matching grants to the Snohomish County Music Project; the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC) Service League and University of Washington Medical Center Arts in Healing Program; and the Swedish Medical Center Foundation are no exception. You can read details in Barb Else’s report.

In August, Barb Else (WTMT National Coordinator), Patti Catalano (WTMT Regional Manager), and I conducted site visits during a packed three-day schedule. We are well positioned now to determine the needs and priorities and chart our course for the remaining money, which is approximately $200,000.

Music Therapy & Military Populations
Despite the fact that we had promising connections with high-ranking officials in the Air Force, including Brigadier General Cook, former Director of Public Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, because of personnel changes and funding/priority changes, our work with the Air Force is on hold. The main military activity is with the Creative Forces Initiative with the National Endowment for the Arts and VA and other military programs with Americans for the Arts. We have assisted NEA with the development of positions around the country as well as with recruitment of qualified MT-BCs. We look forward to continued collaborations to increase access to active duty, Veterans, and families.

National Organization for Arts & Health
As you know, AMTA hosted the fall Board meeting of NOAH (National Organization for Arts & Health) and joint sessions at our 2016 annual conference. We continue to communicate and monitor the work of this organization. Our recent focus has been NOAH’s whitepaper on the “State of the Field of Arts & Health” into which we have advocated for separation of arts in health from the creative arts therapies and clarity about the differentiation. In addition, we continue to insist on accuracy when referring to music therapy research. We are also concerned about the status of their “certification” for artists in healthcare, which requires no training. A separate organization, known as the “Artists in Healthcare Certification Commission,” houses the exam but has not been active. We have continued to advocate for a CAT’s seat on the NOAH Board and offered an artist in healthcare seat for NOAH on NCCATA’s Board.

Preserving Archives
The preservation of AMTA’s archives began with its inception in 1998 and the unification of AAMT and NAMT. We have been honored to have our archives under the meticulous care
of Dr. William Davis at Colorado State University; and we continue to be grateful that Bill’s retirement includes his continued dedication to the archival collection. To facilitate the digitization of our collection, an effort has been underway to raise at least $30,000 for the archives; we currently have approximately $8500 remaining from the nearly $15,000 that was raised to date. We need the fundraising efforts to continue so that our preservation of vital music therapy resources can continue. We appreciate Bill’s continued contributions to the “care and feeding” of the AMTA Archives and to the legacy of music therapy in America. Please see the report of Archivist, Bill Davis and read about President Geiger’s field trip to the Archives.

Financial Action Plan (FAP)
Special thanks to Treasurer Clair for providing the necessary leadership to shape and execute another iteration of our Financial Action Plan described in her report. The FAP is extensive and beginning to bear fruit. In addition, it has spawned, for example, other sub-projects such as 1) the establishment and implementation of the annual maintenance fee for AMTA-approved academic programs, which is a huge success (100% participation); 2) the Professional Member Growth Work Group (see O’Grady and Furman report); 3) plans for a new type of introduction to music therapy text book being coordinated by Dr. Clair; and, finally, 4) the beginning of a Legacy Society for bequests. The FAP engages Board members and others in the fiscal success of AMTA and lays the groundwork for long-term financial planning.

Treasurer Clair, is to be commended for her long-standing and tireless leadership with the development and implementation of the FAP. We look forward to the contributions of Board members as their 2016-2017 term concludes.

Organizational Sustainability Planning
AMTA has had the good fortune, with few exceptions, of having continuous, uninterrupted service from me as the Executive Director and from full-time staff members. Given that three to four years is the average staff tenure in non-profit organizations, AMTA has been extremely blessed. Though we have had our share of medical leaves, some planned and others on an emergency basis, we have always accommodated those leaves internally. Early in my tenure as Executive Director (more than 25 years ago), I had a planned medical leave followed by a maternity leave a year later. In both instances, Dr. Bryan Hunter functioned as “Acting Executive Director.” In the cases of staff leaves, we have typically used a combination of part-time personnel and the other staff filling in the gaps. As you have witnessed, the National Office staff work collaboratively.

The Board began discussing succession planning for the Executive Director position a few years ago as it reflected on non-profit best practices. At the 2015 mid-year meeting, the Board decided that reviewing the AMTA Strategic Plan was a priority first step for succession planning. To accomplish this review, the Board convened a special three-hour session at the 2015 annual meeting prior to the regular board meeting. President Elect Geiger discussed the role of strategic planning in non-profits and reviewed the AMTA Strategic Plan & Priorities.
Past President Ronna Kaplan’s chaired a work group on succession planning and provided a report to the Board for the 2015 annual meeting. Two recommendations were presented. The first is to prepare an “Emergency Succession Plan,” which I am now referring to as an “Emergency Operations Contingency Plan.” The second recommendation is for leadership development for the national office staff because of the number of potential retirements in the coming years.

I reported last mid-year that progress had been made in the area of succession planning as a result of my attendance at an excellent two-day seminar for nonprofit CEOs, “A Next Steps Planning Workshop” presented by Raffa, L.L.C., which is a well-respected consulting group that caters to all aspects of operating nonprofit organizations.


I recommend using the umbrella term, “Organizational Sustainability Planning1,” instead of “Succession Planning” because the latter is too narrow and the former allows us to focus on best practices.

As the overarching fiduciary agent for AMTA, the Board needs to ensure that our organization is sustainable and the first two items related to our sustainability are

1) an emergency contingency plan; and

2) a sustainability plan that includes an assessment of our

- leadership (volunteers and staff);
- resources (financial, physical, human, technological, and reputation);
- strategic direction and mission relevancy; and
- culture (values, decision-making authority, and diversity).

I have arranged for Karen Schuler from Raffa, L.L.C., to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the board in sustainability and succession planning on Friday of the mid-year meeting.

II. ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

The following lists selected priorities requiring discussion and action by the Board of Directors at the 2017 mid-year meeting. This list is not all-inclusive, rather it is selected highlights. Additional action items are identified throughout the Board book in the reports of Officers, Council Coordinators, Committees, staff and consultants, and others.

Financial

- Review Year-to-Date Status of FY 2017
- Review and consider for approval, FY 2018 Budget
- Review Updated Board’s “Financial Action Plan” as outlined in the Treasurer’s report
- Review AMTA Investments

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• Determine whether or not to “restrict” the Belli Family donation received 12/16 for a specified purpose or purposes

**Professional Issues**

- Review Implementation Progress for Music Therapy Research 2025 (MTR 2025)
- Review Status of AMTA-approved academic program fees—95% participation as of 4/1/17
- Review and consider for approval, Social Media Advisory (see Barb Else’s report)
- Determine next steps for collaborating with NOAH and monitoring “Artists in Healthcare Certification”
- Consider timeline and next steps for Master’s Level Entry Exploration
- Review progress on collaboration with CBMT for the State Recognition Operational Plan
- Act on Professional Programs action items
- Review status of work group on Music Therapy programs in hospital-based pediatric programs

**Association Management & Conferences**

- Consider option to implement Electronic Voting for 2018-2019 Election
- Begin Association Sustainability Planning
  - Preparation of AMTA Emergency Operations Contingency Plan
  - Sustainability Plan
  - Succession Planning Discussion (mid-year meeting)
  - Prepare for AMTA National Office lease renewal in September, prior to expiration on 12/31/18
- Continually Assess AMTA Website User Experiences
- Review Editors in Chief selection process; Monitor progress of Journals: overall well-being, circulation, production, marketing, financial, and personnel. Develop transition plan and timeline for new publishing contract
- Review Conference Sites for 2017-2019; options for 2020
- Review Conference Staffing Needs and Resources
- Consider Status of AMTA Hosting 2023 World Congress of Music Therapy

**Electronic Voting Implementation for 2018-2019 Elections**

Many thanks to Amy Furman, chair of the nominating committee, and Lauren Bevilacqua and Kymla Eubanks from the Western Region, for their helpful review of electronic voting options. Of the electronic voting tools that were collected and reviewed, it appears that “Balloteer,” meets our needs because it is the most comprehensive, secure, and anonymous.

Two key decisions need to be made by the Board before the decision is final: 1) whether reminder emails are desired and 2) if the election is online-only or if it is a hybrid election. Reminder emails would mirror our existing system. In the past,
we notified members to watch their mail boxes for ballots and then we typically sent two additional reminders.

Balloteer has two options, a one-time election and a managed election. With the $79.50 one-time election option (which is very affordable), only a single email ballot can be sent, asking people to vote. The managed election option is $675, but allows email reminders to be sent to those who have not yet voted. Because the two options are significantly different in cost, it is important for the Board to decide what it wants to have happen as far as the election process goes, as well as the determination of the budget allocation, before making a final decision. Please note that whichever electronic system is selected, the question remains as to whether this “advance” will increase voter participation or not. There is some indication that voter turnout was low in regions that employed online voting.

The second decision is whether this election is online voting only or a hybrid. The concern is that a hybrid model in which members with an email address are allowed to vote electronically, but members without an email address get a paper ballot could compromise the anonymity of the paper ballot voter. Currently, there are only 42 members without email addresses in our database – more than half of those are in Japan. As any research survey, a small “N” number makes it easier to unintentionally reveal private information - especially for those voting from inside the US. It should also be considered whether a request for a paper ballot will be considered for those who currently have an email address in our database, but would prefer to vote by paper ballot. In all of the tools reviewed, there are not options for those without email addresses to participate in the online election; paper ballots would need to be handled by hand and then added to the total vote count after the election is closed. A process should be in place for someone to do this count job if the decision is to move forward with a paper ballot option.

Additional information will be provided by Amy Furman at the meeting and then the Board can make an informed decision as to whether or not to implement online voting for the 2018-2019 election. The highest priority is to maintain the integrity of our election process.

III. ASSOCIATION SERVICES & MANAGEMENT

- **Total Membership Number Remains the Same, Increases in Professional Members and Graduate Student Members as of 4/1/17**
  - Increase in Professional members by 48 or 3%
  - Increase in Graduate Student members by 36 or 11%
  - Decrease in Undergraduate Student members by 83 or 10%

As of 4/1/17, the total membership number is 3,139

Our experience over the years has proven that we are dependent on the Membership Committee for Regional and other targeted Membership Drives; personal contact is
meaningful, though laborious. We appreciate the Board members who are working on the Professional Member Growth group under the leadership of Kristen O’Grady and Amy Furman, especially the newer board members who “stepped up to the plate” without any hesitations (and thanks to Deb Benkovitz also, a returning board member).

 ➢ **Membership Analysis 1999-2016**

In reviewing membership data dating back to the inception of AMTA in 1998, we reached a new historic peak year for total members as of 12/31/2016 with 4,104 members; the previous high point was 1999 due to unification and the World Congress. As of 12/31/99, the total professional membership equaled 2,745 as compared to the total for 12/31/16 of 2,274 resulting in a decline of 17%.

By comparison, the 12/31/99 total of undergraduate students (1,004) and graduate students (107) equaled 1,111 as compared to the 12/31/16 total of undergraduate students (1,228) and graduate students (441) of 1,669, representing an increase of 50%, due mainly to the increase in graduate students. The undergraduate student number has ebbed and flowed, reaching an all-time high of 1,228 as of 12/31/16; whereas the graduate student number has steadily increased, peaking in 2013 with 500; comparing the number of graduate students in 12/31/99 to 12/31/16, there is an increase of over 400%.

 ➢ **Commentary: Workforce Numbers & Access to Quality Music Therapy Services—Cause for Examination/Reflection**

In every mid-year and annual Board report, an analysis and synthesis of membership data, financial information, and data from the National Music Therapy Registry (NMTR) and the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) are provided, examining trends retrospectively. In examining professional member numbers from Board books, it appears that the mean and median of the total number of professional members of AMTA/NAMT from 1992-2014 (excluding 1998 and 1999) hover around 2500.

At the 2014 mid-year meeting, Historian Bryan Hunter provided a few tables with pertinent data—one that depicted the number of CBMT certificants combined with the number of NMTR registrants as compared to the total number of AMTA professional members and a second table showing that the percentage of MT-BCs as compared to AMTA professional members has dropped from a high in 1999 of 65% to a low of 36% at the end of 2013.

Perhaps the most striking calculation, however, relates to access to qualified music therapists, which is simply the total number of certificants and registrants as of 10/1/1998, which was 4534, as compared to 10/1/16, which was 7256—a 60% increase.

Assisted by the data, how do we assess the workforce supply of those “qualified” to practice in 1998 as compared to today. Is a 60% increase good? is it bad? how does it compare to other similar professions? In scrutinizing the data, a number of questions arise, many of which are relevant for the MLE discussions:

- What is/are the implication(s) for the next 20 years given 60% growth in the past 18 years? How many of those with credentials or designations are practicing?
• What factors account for this level of growth?
• Given the steady number of students who have graduated from AMTA-approved programs and the steady increase of MT-BCs, how much growth in new MT-BCs has occurred?
• What is the impact of music therapists taking time out for families?
• What is the impact of those leaving the profession to pursue another profession?
• What is the impact of those retiring from the profession?
• What are the most efficient and effective ways to grow the profession?

In terms of the AMTA mission, the number of qualified active music therapists in the workforce is a primary focus. Further, answers to these questions are important data points for the MLE subcommittee’s research. Measuring the growth and workforce supply also are keys to the health and well-being of our profession. These numbers are not merely important for membership or income, they are keys to ensuring access to “quality music therapy services” as our mission charges us to do.

➢ AMTA Works for Regions
There are many ways that AMTA, as a national organization, works to support its seven regions. Support includes, of course, all of the IRS tax filings and insurance processing, which are extremely extensive, as well as the routine handling of dues and payment plans, mailing lists, contract reviews, and assistance with regional conferences. This year AMTA was called upon by multiple regions to review contracts and make recommendations, some on an emergency basis as they were preparing to begin the regional conferences; analyze state non-profit statutes; assist with establishing a system to track government relations costs; and various other administrative and financial matters, requiring many hours of staff time provided free-of-charge to our regions.

In addition, as regions institute new conference registration online systems, additional work is required by national office staff because members know that they can call the national office and a “live” person answers the phone. When members encounter problems with the new regional systems, it causes frustration. Their frustration is often levied against national office staff who have no knowledge of these systems but try to help members nevertheless. In the case of the new online registration system implemented by the Mid-Atlantic Region, national office staff responded to more than 100 MAR-related calls.

We respectfully request, beginning with the 2018 Regional conferences, that every conference webpage, and conference registration form and ad have a contact phone number for members to call to respond to their questions and reduce the problems they encounter.

➢ AMTA Publishing Revenue
Publications have become an ever-growing resource for advancing the profession, as well as a source of revenue. This is a great contribution to the intellectual property of our profession and to our operating revenue. We surpassed our goal of $240,000 in FY 2009 and exceeded $270,000 for FY 2010. The trend of increasing revenue, however, declined in FY 2011 and
FY 2012; and yet we still achieved around $230,000, which is a sizable amount. In FY 2013, however, we increased publications revenue by 7% resulting in more than $245,000 with only one new monograph. Sales significantly lagged behind projections in FY 2014: we had $182,000 with a budgeted amount of $240,000. We decreased the budget to $195,000 in FY 2015. We completed FY 15 with total revenue in publications of $187,477. We reached $186,672 in FY 16. However, our year to date as of March, 2017 is $121,000, significantly less than anticipated, with a budget of $173,000.

We need to continuously monitor the impact of the used book market, the rental text book market, and eBooks, so that we can predict future revenues more accurately and so that we can publish more contemporary options. We are excited about the prospect of a new type of intro text being coordinated by Treasurer Clair as part of the Financial Action Plan. It promises to be a win-win for students, professors, and professionals alike! In addition, data from the recent publications survey sent to educators as part of the FAP, provides direction on the needs and how to proceed.

Top 10 best-selling books in FY 2016 as of 6/30/16 = $152,561 (82% of the overall publications income):
- Introduction to Music Therapy, Davis, Gfeller & Thaut = $60,482
- Music in Special Education, Adamek & Darrow = $27,528
- Introduction to Approaches in Music Therapy, Darrow ed. = $12,991
- Music Techniques, Standley & Gooding = $11,690
- Music Therapy and Geriatric Populations, Darrow et al. = $7,675
- Effective Clinical Practice—Mental Health, Crowe & Colwell = $7,512
- Medical Music Therapy—Pediatrics-Abromez & Colwell = $6,918
- Medical Music Therapy—Gooding = $6,484
- Medical Music Therapy, Abromeit = $6,158
- Music & Older Adults, Clair = $5,123

Recent publications, edited by Register and DeLoach, are not selling as well as they should; efforts will be made to promote these two publications.

Now that all of the back content for our journals is online, we are delighted by the easy access; but we no longer have any revenue from the Research Jump drive, which brought in anywhere between $10,000 - $20,000. We are, however, accruing “pay per view” and single copy revenue.

AMTA’s Library (most recent first)

October 2014 (FY 2015)
MEDICAL MUSIC THERAPY: BUILDING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM
Edited, Lori Gooding, PhD, MT-BC, Florida State University
[replaced Jayne Standley’s “Medical Music Therapy” (2005)]

July 2013 (FY 2014)
BRIGHT START MUSIC: DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN.
Edited, Darcy DeLoach, PhD, MT-BC, University of Louisville
September 2012 (FY 2013)
THE SOUNDS OF EMERGING LITERACY: MUSIC-BASED APPLICATIONS TO FACILITATE PRERADING AND WRITING SKILLS IN EARLY INTERVENTION
Edited, Dena Register, PhD, MT-BC, West Virginal University; Jane Hughes, MM, Retired-Leon County Schools, Tallahassee, Florida; Jayne M. Standley, PhD, MT-BC, Florida State University

Published Summer 2011 (FY 2012)
MUSIC THERAPY AND GERIATRIC POPULATIONS: A HANDBOOK FOR PRACTICING MUSIC THERAPISTS AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS
Melita Belgrave, PhD, MT-BC; Alice-Ann Darrow, PhD, MT-BC; Darcy DeLoach, PhD, MT-BC; Natalie Wlodarczyk, PhD, MT-BC

Published Fall 2010 (FY 2011):
“Premature Infants & Music Therapy” second edition, Standley & DeLoach
“Music and Special Education” second edition, Adamek & Darrow
“Adults in Medical Settings” monograph series—Hanson-Abromeit & Colwell

➢ E-Courses & Marketing
As of June 30, 2016, the total revenue for E-Courses was nearly $20,000 or double what our income was in FY 15. The year-to-date revenue as of March 31, 2017, was $10,385, slightly decreased from the previous year. We have eleven top-notch E-Courses currently available and others nearing completion. For the past two years, a new E-Course has been free to members as a benefit of membership. As more educators adopt these courses for their classes, we expect the revenue to significantly increase. See the Financial Action Plan and Cathy Knoll’s report for details on new courses and future plans.

There is a pressing need to market the E-Courses. We recognize that the E-Courses have not realized their full potential as a member benefit and because there has not been a focus on marketing them. We plan to develop a marketing plan to maximize communication about the courses as well as revenue.

➢ Journal Circulation and Subscriptions (as of 5/9/17)
As of May 9, 2017, the total circulation numbers for JMT and MTP are presented in the tables that follow. Subscriptions are one part of circulation. JMT and MTP subscriptions as of May 9, 2017 have decreased by approximately 10% and 6%, respectively. Additional subscriptions will be accrued in 2017.

Our OUP representative, Michael Blong, will present a current publisher’s report at the Board meeting.

Here is an explanation of the categories from OUP:
The most important thing to keep in mind is the distinction between three key subscription categories: 1) traditional institutional, 2) migrated, 3) consortia.
1. **Traditional institutional** subscriptions are full-rate subscriptions to the journals. These are broken down by type of subscription:
   a. Online-only
   b. Print
   c. Print + Online or Combined

2. **Migrated** subscriptions are subscriptions that were previously traditional institutional subscriptions, but the library has converted their subscription as the journals are now part of our consortia package. Though they are now part of our consortia agreements, migrated subscriptions are still invoiced at the full-rate subscription price. This is because the library previously had a full-rate subscription. (This is the arrangement that publishers made with librarians so they can take advantage of consortia arrangements and journals can continue to maintain previous income levels). Migrated subscriptions are all online-only.

3. **Consortia** subscriptions are new online-only subscriptions to the journal that are the result of our consortia package. These are institutions that have access to the journals at a discounted rate.

**Consortia**

Consortia are groups of libraries that purchase whole collections of journal content, as opposed to purchasing on a title-by-title basis. They only receive online access to content and are required to maintain full-rate subscriptions to any title to which they are already subscribed (these are identified as “migrated” subscriptions in the figures and tables below). This provides libraries the opportunity to make more content available to their patrons than they would as an individual library, and it provides the journals with additional sales that might have been otherwise unrealized. Consortia agreements are an increasingly important source of readership and revenue as traditional institutional subscriptions decline, but should be viewed in the context of additional points of access and not be considered equivalent to traditional institutional subscriptions in either circulation or revenue.

**Developing Countries Initiatives**

OUP participates in a number of free or heavily reduced developing country access initiatives, and we include *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives* in these arrangements. We review the participant country list annually, and use the World Bank’s economies rating every year to make sure that all countries within the lower and lower middle levels are able to access our content free or at a reduced rate (usually 95%). OUP continues to increase its content availability to developing countries, reaching more than 1,700 sites in 2013. In addition to providing content to developing countries, we work with partners, such as Research4Life, to provide the technological infrastructure so that readers can access the content.
## 2017 Circulation Totals by Journal

### Subscription Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscription Type</th>
<th>JMT 2014</th>
<th>JMT 2015</th>
<th>JMT 2016</th>
<th>JMT May 2016**</th>
<th>JMT YTD*</th>
<th>MTP 2014</th>
<th>MTP 2015</th>
<th>MTP 2016</th>
<th>MTP April 2016**</th>
<th>MTP YTD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Institutional</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combined</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Migrated</strong></td>
<td>121</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consortia (Primary)</strong></td>
<td>1,704</td>
<td>1,789</td>
<td>1,927</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>1,905</td>
<td>1,747</td>
<td>1,805</td>
<td>1,919</td>
<td>1,956</td>
<td>1,903</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal (Institutional, Migrated, &amp; Consortia)</strong></td>
<td>2,069</td>
<td>2,131</td>
<td>2,275</td>
<td>2,271</td>
<td>2,203</td>
<td>1,858</td>
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<td><strong>Developing Countries</strong></td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1,619</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
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<td>5,500†</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL CIRCULATION</strong></td>
<td>2,303</td>
<td>3,750</td>
<td>7,775</td>
<td>7,771</td>
<td>7,703</td>
<td>2,092</td>
<td>3,532</td>
<td>7,533</td>
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*As of May 9, 2017  
** As of April 28, 2016
Michael Blong and I worked together to derive the 2018 subscription rates (see tables). OUP recommended a small price increase for JMT and MTP. Printing, paper, and distribution costs will go up in 2018, so a small price increase is needed to offset higher expenses. According to OUP, library budgets are growing, and librarians are prepared to see higher journal prices. With the strong online usage that JMT and MTP are experiencing on the new OUP platform, Rebecca is convinced that the journals will continue to be seen as a value to libraries. AMTA, therefore, agreed to a minimal increase for 2018 rates for JMT and MTP.

**Journal of Music Therapy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional: Online-only</th>
<th>USD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2017 price</td>
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<table>
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<table>
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**Music Therapy Perspectives**

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<tr>
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<td>2018 price</td>
<td>259.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>2017 price</td>
<td>290.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018 price</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional: Print + Online</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2016 price</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017 price</td>
<td>315.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 price</td>
<td>331.00</td>
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</table>
Scholarships & Fultz Fund & Clinician Research Grant
AMTA is proud to administer 20 scholarship/grant funds, all of which are coordinated by Rebecca Preddie. Thanks to Kymla Eubanks, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, and to Michele Forinash, Chair of the Fultz Committee. Our two new chairs did an outstanding job on their first cycles.

The coordination and management of our 20 scholarships and grants is a large staff task for which AMTA receives no overhead expenses. A big thanks to Rebecca Preddie. And thanks to the Board for acknowledging the amount of staff time required to administer these funds and passing a motion to institute a policy of requiring overhead costs for any new scholarships or grants.

Affinity Programs
Beginning in FY 2005, we established an affinity program with Amazon.com. AMTA receives 5% of purchases made from buyers who use the AMTA Amazon icon on our website to purchase goods from Amazon, which amounted to just over $1,700 as of 6/30/16. In addition, selected AMTA publications are being sold on Amazon.com. Though Amazon demands highly discounted prices for its purchase of our books, the worldwide exposure is well worth the partial loss of revenue. Based on recent orders, it appears that our sales through Amazon are increasing. We also participate in “Amazon Smile.”

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

Finally, AMTA receives an annual stipend from AON/HPSO, which is the company that AMTA recommends to members for liability insurance coverage. Judy Simpson will be pursuing other liability insurance options for members that may impact the annual stipend.

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)
The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the official workplace giving campaign of the Federal government. The mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing Federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

As the world's largest and most successful annual workplace giving campaign, each year, more than 300 CFC campaigns throughout the country and internationally help to raise millions of dollars. Pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors during the campaign season support more than 18,000 eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world. The Director of OPM has designated to the Office of CFC Operations (OCFCO) responsibility for day-to-day management of the CFC. See—www.opm.gov/cfc/
The vast majority of CFC designated charities participate as national organizations as members of national Federations. Since 2007, AMTA has participated in the CFC as part of a grouping of mental health-related non-profits. Dianne Wawrzusin serves as AMTA’s CFC liaison with the Mental Health and Addiction Network (www.mhane.org) and submits the annual application and corresponding paperwork on behalf of AMTA. To maintain our participation, AMTA is required to submit numerous non-profit documents, and extensive reports for review and approval on an annual basis.

AMTA must provide a document that describes our services in at least 15 states over the prior three years. For the 2017 CFC application, the relevant years were 2014, 2015, and 2016. This document must clearly reflect national or international service. To meet the tests of the CFC, AMTA must:

- Explain how the services contributed to the health and welfare of the benefiting people or organizations
- Describe the services that were delivered
- List the locations where the services were provided
- State when the services in each location were offered
- List or describe the individuals or organizations that benefited from the services.


AMTA anticipates receiving our approval letter this summer from The US Office of Personnel Management to confirm our participation in the Fall 2017 CFC.

AMTA’s payment #1 for the 2016 CFC will not be received until July 2017.

AMTA has received the following 2015 CFC payments:
- Payment #1 ($835.38) – July 2016;
- Payment #2 ($2,093.27) - October 2016;
- Payment #3 ($2,211.73) - January 2017;
- Payment #4 (not received yet) – April 2017; and if needed, late summer 2017.

It is important to note that although the 2015 pledges projected amounted to $10,274, there is a projection of ($1,746.53) not being received due to fees charged by CFC processing offices and pledges that donors do not fulfill. Some federal workers change jobs, pass away or otherwise cannot meet their pledge totals (estimated at 17%). Additionally for the 2015 CFC, the MHANe Board approved a 3% fee on the adjusted pledge amount (Gross Pledges less 17%) of ($255.82). The actual total amount expected to be distributed between July 2016 - April 2017 is $8,271.38.
For additional information on the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) please visit the Workplace Giving Alliance ([www.wg-alliance.org](http://www.wg-alliance.org)).

- **Investing in AMTA’s Infrastructure**
  Infrastructure investment means developing and improving basic physical and organizational structures needed for the efficient and effective operation of an organization.

  **Seven-Year Lease**
  As a reminder, our lease term is from October 2011 through December 31, 2018. Our square foot costs dropped from approximately $33.50 in our previous lease to $29.50 for the first year with the average cost over the seven years of the lease being $32.20, which is $1.30 per square foot less than what we were paying through September 2011. We won’t reach our current rate until year 5 of the current lease. We received 3 months of free rent, which is valued at $26,238, and an additional improvement allowance of $30,000 for painting, carpeting and shelving. If we had remained under our current terms with a 3% escalator, the total amount spent over the seven years would have been just under $800,000. All in all, we have a very tenant-favorable lease that was well-timed in terms of being far in advance of the completion of development in the Silver Spring downtown area.

| The Board should discuss the length and terms of the next lease. Negotiations with our landlord should begin again in the last quarter of 2017 to maximize our leverage. |

- **Upgrades: Email Server, Phone Hardware and Voicemail Software,**
  - New laptops as desktops, New Tablets,
  - New Copier, and New Postage Machine
  The decisions we made about all of the technological upgrades have been “spot on,” resulting in improved productivity in the national office. Each decision has afforded us increased functionality while saving money. We replaced all of our desktop computers with new laptops that can be used in the office or on travel. Angie has been invaluable with keeping us up to speed with functioning and up to date computers. [See Angie’s report for more details.]

  We also have a Canon copier, new fax machine (after 20 years), and a recent Pitney Bowes postage machine, all of which have greatly increased function without much additional cost. We are constantly reassessing the functionality of our equipment. In most cases, we had no choice but to replace the machines because new parts were no longer available. The staff is very appreciative of all the upgraded equipment and how it eases the speed with which they can serve members and other customers.

- **Member Connections—Disaster Relief and A Personal Touch—**
  **AMTA Expresses Thoughtfulness, Compassion & Congratulations**

  **AMTA Expresses Thoughtfulness**
  The AMTA national office staff continuously responds to the births, deaths, illnesses, retirements, and miscellaneous important events in the lives of our members.
This year we were saddened by the loss of two long-time and noteworthy members of our AMTA family: Janet Murphy and Paul Cotten.

Music therapist, Donna Polen, beautifully shared a tribute to Janet Murphy in MAR’s Spring 2017 newsletter, Tuning in to Rx Music. Janet graduated from the University of Kansas in 1971 with a degree in music therapy and then moved to New Jersey for her internship. She worked at Wassaic Developmental Center (now Taconic DDSO) a New York state agency serving adults with developmental disabilities. Janet trained dozens (perhaps hundreds) of music therapy interns through Wassaic’s national roster internship.

Janet eventually moved into an administrative position as a Treatment Team Leader. In this position, she managed 8 – 12 group homes as well as overseeing day program centers in various counties throughout the Hudson Valley. Janet retired in 2008. The MAR Executive Board voted to establish the “Janet C. Murphy Memorial Conference Scholar Award” in her honor.

Another music therapy pioneer, Dr. Paul Cotten, Sr., died peacefully at his home in Ellisville, MS on April 15, 2017. Dr. Cotten was born in 1936 and earned a bachelor of music education, master of music therapy, and a PhD in psychology. He began working in the field of mental retardation in 1958, ending his impressive career as Director of the Ellisville State School and then Boswell Regional Center. During his tenure in mental health, he served as an adjunct professor at the University of Southern Mississippi and William Carey University. Following his retirement from the state, he became a full-time professor of psychology, gerontology, and music therapy at William Carey University until October 2016.

Dr. Cotten will always be remembered as a man whose life was all about people. Students have stated that he was always there to provide support and encouragement. Dr. Cotten’s philosophy was to be immortal by being involved with others younger than he, facilitating experiences and training others to improve the quality of life for others. Dr. Cotten received the Laurel humanitarian of the Year Award in 2012 as well as countless other awards.

On behalf of AMTA, the national office staff acknowledges these events with a personal touch. We keep a supply of greeting cards on hand to offer either congratulations or a note of support. On occasion, staff travel to memorial services for members we have lost. Dianne Wawrzusin is an expert at assembling personalized care packages for members, their families and their children. We have received notes of thanks for reaching out to members who appreciate that they felt embraced by the larger AMTA community. Here are a few excerpts:

- Earlier this year, I was a public health graduate student working on a thesis concerning Alzheimer's disease and music and was really fortunate to have been helped by you (Dianne)!
  
  Thank you so much for the info you graciously shared with me and for helping me connect with other wonderful people as well! I have gotten many responses back,
and I've also been asked to send Barb Else warm greetings from Prof. Ridder in Denmark.

I value all that I learned in the process, and I am immensely grateful for all of the help and info and contacts that you sent my way. Thank you so, so much for taking the time to do all of that for me. I truly appreciate it.

❖ Thanks so much for the sweet card congratulating us on our new baby boy! We are excited!

❖ Your card and package arrived on a day that I was weary from this long medical journey our little son travels. What a blessing to know that after all this time I had not been forgotten and that others are still praying for our miracle boy. Your gift and your thoughtfulness moved me to tears. I thank you for your love, support, and most of all your faithful prayers.

❖ I have been home from the hospital now for a little over 2 months but I haven’t forgotten about the support AMTA showed for me while I was in the hospital. These thoughtful gestures reminded me of how blessed I am to work in a profession with such supportive colleagues.

**Disaster Response Update**
The magnitude of disasters over the past few years has continued to be exceptional and tragic in so many ways. We appreciate the increased coverage for disasters by Deb Williams and Barb Else. As you will read in their reports, a few situations—man-made and natural—have arisen this year. And with increasingly atypical weather patterns, we continue to be vigilant so we can be poised to assist members and others in need. Over the past decade, we have been fortunate to have Barb monitoring these often urgent and life-threatening situations for our membership in the US and working in collaboration with the World Federation of Music Therapy to assist music therapists around the world. Thanks to Deb for adding this to her Regional President Representative’s tasks.

On a more personal note, it’s not just that AMTA assists during these difficult situations; it’s the care and kindness that has been shown to our members and other music therapists (you do not have to be an AMTA member to receive assistance) over so many years. Dianne also adds to the team with lovely personalized care packages. We are so grateful for Barb’s, Deb’s and Dianne’s skills in this never-ending area of need.

IV. **ASSOCIATION PERSONNEL**

**Intensifying & Expanding Workload**
On the occasion of the 67th anniversary year for our association, it is incumbent on the entire leadership of AMTA, especially the Board of Directors, to look inward and continuously question our path; to look outward and analyze trends; and to integrate looking inward and outward as we set priorities and plan for a healthy, robust, and dynamic future for music therapy and AMTA.
Because the Board has the fiduciary responsible for overseeing our association and determining long-range goals and objectives, it is crucial for me as the Executive Director to reiterate concerns I have included in my written and oral reports for many years—the staff workload continues to expand at a troubling rate. The national office staff and consultants are stretched beyond their limits. This is not new but it needs to be reiterated to keep it on the Board’s radar.

We have seen huge increases in:

- misrepresentations of “music therapy” in print, online, and throughout social media outlets;
- education, clinical training, and research inquiries;
- clarifying confusion about music therapy in general and AMTA programs and policies in particular, based on content generated on Social Media outlets;
- state recognition and regulation activity and targeted opposition;
- assistance with music therapy program development and financing/reimbursement;
- federal legislative coalition participation;
- website requests and online order fulfillment; and
- the complexity and increasing expense of conference site selection and planning.

Simply put, we require additional, sustainable revenue to expand staff resources to meet the demands facing the members of our association and in order to fulfill our mission.

We should be proposing significant increases in part-time and full-time staff positions to satisfy this rapidly increasing demand from members and consumers alike. Though we had a sizable surplus in FY 16, we still have a deficit budget in FY 17, and another deficit is proposed for FY 18. Per the Treasurer’s report and related financial materials, including the FAP, plans are underway to stem these deficit tides. The reality, however, is that we have not reached a regular and stable sizeable surplus sufficient to afford/sustain additional staff positions.

It is especially important for the Board to keep in mind that the need is there, it is unfilled, and the staff remain stretched!

In addition to these selected association highlights listed, please remember the many other AMTA ongoing activities including routine office administration; managing bank accounts and investments; hiring and supervising staff; preparing and analyzing financial materials; fulfilling requests from Regional officers and officials, members, and others; generating letters of support for members’ grant requests, program development proposals, and academic promotion applications; responding to government relations inquiries; publishing MTM Online newsletters, ENewses, journals, and other publications; conference management; responding to public education requests; continuous Website updating; ongoing maintenance of all computer, office and other related equipment; and other miscellaneous tasks.
Personnel Stability

Our association has grown and prospered because of the stability and long-term dedication of its staff members. In addition, AMTA has been spared the expense of replacing personnel, as well as the time it takes to get new staff oriented and “up to speed.” Our most recent part-time hire was a rehire--our part-time office assistant, Jenny McAfee, who worked for us previously, returned in August of 2015.

National Office Staffing Status

The current staff structure of the AMTA National Office as of May 1, 2017, includes nine full-time professionals (two of whom work 35 hours a week and one who works around 30+ hours per week), one part-time staff assistant, and seven part-time consultants. 

Amongst the National Office contingent of 17 staff and consultants, half are Board Certified Music Therapists.

Executive Director (Andi Farbman - 29 years)
• five music therapists (MT-BCs) functioning as:
  ❖ Director of Communications and Conferences (Al Bumanis - 26 years)
  ❖ Director of Government Relations (Judy Simpson - 18 years)
  ❖ Director of Membership and Information Systems Manager (Angie Elkins - 20 years)
  ❖ Director of Professional Programs (Jane Creagan - 28 years)
  ❖ Administrative Services Coordinator/Office Manager (35 hours) (Dianne Wawrzusin – 10 years in this position)

• Government Relations Associate (Rebecca Preddie – 14 years full time employee—full time GR since 2009—8 years)
• Senior Administrative Assistant— (30-35+ hours per week) (Tawna Grasty – 10 years)
• Membership & Meetings Associate (35 hours per week) (Cindy Smith – 19 years)
• Office Assistant (15-20 hours per week) (Jenny Peter – 2 years)

Consultants

❖ part-time Senior Research and Policy Advisor and Special Projects consultant; Wilson Trust National Project Manager; Journals’ Consultant, and Government Relations consultant (MT-BC) (30+ hours per week) (Barbara Else)
❖ part-time Information Specialist and Social Media Coordinator (MT-BC) (40-60 hours per month) (Kimberly Bell)
❖ part-time Government Relations Specialist (MT-BC) (40 hours per month) (Maria Hricko Fay)
❖ part-time Special Education Legal consultant (3-5 hours per month) (Myrna Mandlawitz)
❖ part-time Wilson Trust Regional Manager (MT-BC) (1-2 days per month) (Patti Catalano)
❖ part-time financial management consultant CPA (1-2 days per month) (Char Patterson)
part-time document and storage specialist
(5-10 hours per month) (Travis Smith)

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS (in alphabetical order):

♦ Al Bumanis, MT-BC, Director of Communications and Conferences
[26 Year Veteran]
We had a series of joyful celebrations for Al’s 25th anniversary last year. For twenty-six years, ever since he rolled up his sleeves and came to work a month before his start date to help with the Senate Hearing on Music Therapy & Aging in 1991, we have had the distinct honor and pleasure of working with Al. AMTA has benefited greatly from his mastery of conference planning principles and logistics, as well as his congenial and collegial working style. As the hotel and hospitality industry rebounds from the lagging economy, hotel selection and contract negotiations are becoming costlier and more complex. We should all be glad that we have the team of Al and Cindy on our side! Additionally, the exponential increases of electronic and social media have enlarged his workload tremendously as he strives to fulfill our mission of educating the public about music therapy. Al has scores of web-based articles to evaluate every day!

♦ Jane Creagan, MME, MT-BC, Director of Professional Programs
[28 Year Veteran]
Jane celebrated a special anniversary in June of 2014—twenty-five years with AMTA, which we celebrated at the 2014 mid-year meeting. We owe Jane a great deal of thanks for exceptional and tireless work. Jane’s “extra work” over and above her committees includes working with the MLE Board Subcommittee & Pro Bono Analytics Work Group and the Education and Training Advisory Board. She provides historical context and sage advice, while she continues to manage hundreds of career inquiries, new academic program inquiries, the academic reapproval process, and the clinical training site approval process. Her technical assistance work in terms of the increased number of labor-intensive education and clinical training inquiries has expanded. NMTR queries have increased again due to state regulation issues; and Jane has done well with these inquiries. Jane spends a significant portion of every day patiently answering questions and providing guidance to AMTA-members, education and clinical training directors/administrators, exhibitors, and many prospective students and parents. On top of all of her “professional program” responsibilities, Jane and Cindy are a terrific sponsorship team, succeeding in securing conference sponsorship each year. Thanks to Jane for more than two and a half decades of commitment.

♦ Angie Elkins, MT-BC, Director of Membership Services
*** [20 Year Veteran]***
Angie is always busy with the multiple aspects of her job—the demands keep increasing as does her skill set. Her job defines high level “multi-tasking.” We are fortunate to have someone of her caliber and expertise to coordinate our technology needs especially an MT-BC. Given all of our additional infrastructure replacements and computer upgrades every year, it is clear that Angie’s job never ends in a “rapidly changing national office.” Additionally, Angie has been working with the Membership Committee, the Board work
group, and AMTA staff to generate new ways to encourage and promote membership in AMTA, even after all these years. She is also managing production aspects of special events at the annual conference. Angie’s graphic design skills and IT expertise are major assets for AMTA. Angie creatively completes many AMTA design projects, such as the preliminary and final conference programs. In some fundamental way, Angie is integrally involved in every office project. She’s either assisting with computer software, doing graphics or desktop publishing, processing the invoices or bills, or adding a page to our web site about the project. AMTA is privileged to have Angie as a member of our team.

♦ Tawna Grasty, BFA, Staff Assistant (part-time)
***[10 Year Veteran]***
Tawna came to AMTA with years of experience as a graphic designer and media assistant. She manages office reception functions, including answering the phones, sending out orders, responding to inquiries, as well as supervising our staff assistant. Two additional challenges, i.e., the increased usage of online purchasing with our database system and annual publications sales, have kept Tawna extra busy. She continues to initiate “Pop-Up” sales on the website. Tawna’s organizing skills are matched by her judgment and integrity. She is the consummate customer service representative and her judgment always excels. Additionally, she is assisting with numerous AMTA graphic design projects on a free-lance basis, including many of our newest e-Courses, books, and fliers. Each year Tawna assumes additional responsibilities at the annual conference, hosting the AMTA Village and Exhibits, freeing up Jane to attend to related committees and task force meetings.

♦ Jennifer McAfee, Staff Assistant (part-time) [2+ year]
Jenny has returned to the AMTA fold (August '15) after a year-long hiatus following her December '14 graduation (with a BA in Communications--Public Relations Concentration.) Her re-entry has proceeded so smoothly that one would think she had never left us! Jenny handles the phones, product orders, and the many daily administrative tasks with a contagious smile. As one of the first faces a visitor sees, and the first voice a caller hears, Jenny represents us extremely well! In addition, Jenny has been instrumental in compiling, “Music Therapy Matters Online.” She also uses music in her other professional venture as a dance studio owner--how fitting!

♦ Rebecca Preddie, Federal Programs Analyst/Scholarships & Grants Coordinator
[14 Years full-time of which 8 have been full-time GR]
We are fortunate to have Becky’s enthusiasm and willingness to take on multiple and varied responsibilities for our association. In her role as federal programs analyst, she has established herself and music therapy in the DC-based health, education, and disability communities, and has been a great help to Judy. She has done an excellent job in representing AMTA and becoming a leader within coalitions such as CCD and HPN, as well as with members of the administration and Congress. Her analysis of what is relevant for AMTA members is extremely helpful. This year has been especially challenging with the new administration and its impact on the programs and services for the populations we serve. On top of Becky’s federal policy work, she coordinates all AMTA scholarship and grant programs—20 in all. We love having Becky’s lovely daughter, Nia, in the office two days a
A big “thanks” to Becky for her continued service and for her competence handling of our many scholarships and grants.

♦ Judy Simpson, MT-BC, Director of Government Relations
[18 Year Veteran]
With twenty-eight active state task forces this year, Judy is as busy as is humanly possible! The year has been a hugely busy legislative season and it hasn't ended. You will see details and photos of impressive Hill Days, advocacy training and active legislative work in Judy’s report. Additionally, Judy’s leadership has always shone, whether it was when she served as a volunteer as Council Coordinator and as the Vice President or in her nearly eighteen years as a staff member. Following another year of escalating state regulatory initiatives with many nights of conference calls, Judy remains active presenting CMTEs and assisting states with Hill Days. She also again chaired the Americans for the Arts’ Health Task Force and authored the issue brief for Arts Advocacy Day. Her Reimbursement e-Course is a great resource for members and educators. One of our biggest challenges is to manage Judy’s workload and provide additional support. To ease a small piece of her pie, we hired Maria Hricko Fay two years ago as a part-time (roughly 40 hours per month) government relations specialist. Maria has been very helpful and yet the workload is growing. In addition, Rebecca Preddie assists with federal issues and Barb Else occasionally assists with research requests from legislators, but that’s only the “tip of the iceberg.” You will see the amount and depth of her work in the areas outlined in her mid-year report. AMTA is extremely fortunate to have Judy as a member of our team.

♦ Cindy Smith, Membership & Meetings Associate [35 hours per week]
[19 Year Veteran]
Cindy has functioned in the role of membership associate and accounts receivable staffer for nineteen years. She also handles accounts receivable, many membership issues, and assists with conference planning. Because of her efficiency and “can do” attitude, she is also our Meetings Associate, providing support to Al with an expanding number of conference planning tasks. Cindy’s conference planning and management skills are excellent. Cindy’s calm manner is an inspiration to all of us. She is always willing to help out and lend a hand and does so with such tact and diplomacy. We are thrilled to celebrate having Cindy on our team.

♦ Dianne Wawrzusin, MM, MT-BC, Administrative Services Coordinator
[11 Years in this position (service to AMTA dates back more than 29 years)]
Dianne’s responsibilities include the vast majority of office administrative functions, CFC coordinator, being the assistant to the Executive Director; and taking all the Board, Assembly, and Business minutes. She completes tasks with competence and enthusiasm, and has an exemplary work ethic. Dianne assists board members, regional officials, and me with whatever is needed. One of her most admired skills is assembling care packages for members who experienced illnesses or disasters or have something to celebrate. When she knows there are kids in the family she always includes some treat for them too! She also continues to provide additional staff assistant support as needed. We are fortunate that Dianne is flexible enough to meet our needs. She is an extremely knowledgeable professional about the
association and music therapy. Dianne has worked for the association in both part-time and full-time roles starting in 1988.

**Government Relations Specialist**
Maria Hricko Fay, LSW, LCAT, MT-BC and Fellow of the Association for Music and Imagery, joined the AMTA team in spring of 2015 in the part-time consultant position of Government Relations Specialist. Maria also serves on the Mid-Atlantic Region Executive Board as Government Relations Chair, working closely with AMTA and CBMT on the State Recognition Operational Plan, and being mindful of her dual roles. A Master’s Degree in Social Work is where Maria was introduced to the impact that social policy has on clients' access to services. Maria works closely with Judy Simpson, AMTA Director of Government Relations, and Dena Register and Kimberly Sena Moore, CBMT Regulatory Affairs staff. Her work includes responding to many government relations emails, arranging and participating in conference calls, assisting with and attending Hill Days and Advocacy Trainings, and representing the profession through a variety of state and national advocacy events.

**Information Specialist & Social Media Coordinator**
Kim Bell has worked as a consultant-information specialist for AMTA since 2006. For more than 10 years, she has responded to or referred AMTA emails to the appropriate staff person. She typically works an hour or more every day, including weekends, so that requests for information can be responded to quickly. Additionally, because of her expertise, she replies to more in-depth questions, especially related to IEP matters and technology. As stated earlier in my report, Kim’s responsibilities have been expanded to include the new AMTA Social Media Coordinator. In that role, she both monitors and creates social media content for AMTA. She is totally reliable and a joy to work with.

**Senior Consultant & Special Projects Coordinator**
Barb Else began working as a consultant doing special projects for AMTA in 2005. She has continued for 12 years to work effectively and efficiently off site, as well as working on-site annually for several weeks as needed. Her time increased in FY 2015 because of her leadership with “Music Therapy Research 2025.” As you will see from her report of her overall activity, she is spearheading the implantation of MTR 2025, the publishing partnership with Oxford University Press, the Wilson Trust Music Therapy Initiative; and working on strategic priorities, selected government relations inquiries, research queries, conference special events, and numerous disaster responses. She has donated many in-kind hours. She is an absolutely indispensable asset to AMTA and our profession. Her grasp of issues, analytical skills, and dedication are rare for any employee, let alone for a consultant. And the speed with which she completes assignments is laudable. We appreciate our long-term consulting relationship with Barb and all that she gives to AMTA.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF & CONSULTANTS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SERVICE AND COMMITMENT TO AMTA AND TO THE MUSIC THERAPY PROFESSION.

I KNOW THE BOARD JOINS ME IN APPLAUDING THE EFFICIENCY, RESOURCEFULNESS, PRODUCTIVITY, AND DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF.
• FUTURE STAFFING NEEDS TO CONSIDER

1) Contingency Fund for staffing needs on an as-needed basis. In prior years, we had several thousand dollars extra in the staff line to use for temporary staffing needs based on long-term staff absences, special projects, etc. This fund should be between $3,000-$5,000.

2) Consideration of a Music Therapy Policy Fellowship for a recent music therapy graduate to work full-time in the national office for 6-9 months learning government relations and professional practice policy issues. Stipend and housing/per diem to be determined.

V. ASSOCIATION FINANCES
(See report of AMTA Treasurer for detailed analyses)

- FY 2017 Year to Date Status
FY 2017 Budget included $1,722,500 in Revenue and $1,789,000, resulting in a deficit of ($66,500). We received an unrestricted donation for $50,000 from Ami & Angelo Belli in honor of Remo Belli. The Board may decide to restrict that donation. Regardless of whether the Board decides to restrict it or not, it should not be taken into consideration when analyzing the bottom line for FY 17, as it was a one-time unanticipated donation.

Per Treasurer Clair’s analysis of FY 17, on the positive side, with additional conference net revenue of $52,000, and additional dues and subscriptions income prospects looking good, we are doing better than the overall economy. On the negative side, however, publications sales are much less than anticipated and travel and lodging will be more than anticipated due to increased expenses for the mid-year meeting and special events at the Kennedy Center, as well as the face-to-face MLE subcommittee meeting expenses. All things considered, we should be in a position of ending the year with a deficit less than predicted. We are unable to predict how much less that will be at this juncture.

A detailed summary of FY 17 can be found in Treasurer Clair’s report.

Detailed budget notes for each and every line item, along with six years of year-end actual figures, are included in the Financial section of the Board Book. In addition, Budget Revenue and Expense Worksheets from 2010 - 2018 are included with the FY 17 February Year to Date and FY 18 Proposed Budget.

- FY 2018 Proposed Budget
The Financial Advisory Committee met in early April to review and discuss the proposed budget; the FAC unanimously endorsed the FY 18 Budget as proposed. The FY 18 Budget includes $1,753,000 in income and $1,819,000 in expenses with a deficit of ($66,000). It is basically the same budget as FY 17 with minor increases to both income and expenses, which is why there is a similar deficit. We all expressed dissatisfaction with recommending a deficit budget. However, we feel that it was the most conservative approach with the information
we had as of mid-year. We expect to review the FY 18 budget following the FY 17 audit review and the annual conference reconciliation of income and expenses.

Implementing our latest Financial Action Plan is designed to reduce deficit budgets and provide more financial stability in the long term. Please see Treasurer Clair’s updated FAP.

- AMTA (national and regional) & NMTR 990s
  The IRS 990 requirements and paperwork continue to grow in complexity. The questionnaires and data collection are time-consuming for Regional Presidents and Treasurers and national office staff alike. It is definitely taking more than twice as long as it used to. Because of the time lag of receiving regional 990s, completion of the group filing was delayed to 2017. Thanks to all the regional officials for their work on the Affiliate 990s, especially to the treasurers. And thanks to board members for reviewing and approving the latest AMTA 990.

- Investment Portfolio
  I am in regular contact with our M & T Wealth Management Division representative, Joseph Class, to review our portfolio; we met last summer. The bottom line is that the market is improving, but it is not as good as it was a few years back. Now that we pay fees for management, our return is less than we had in previous years. When Mary Boyle and the Investment subcommittee were managing our portfolio we did not pay fees for investment advice. In times like these when the interest rates are low, having to pay approximately $6,000 in annual management fees really cuts into the interest income. I will review the latest portfolio statement, annual interest income, and market trends at the mid-year meeting. (See Appendix D)

- Wilson Trust funds
  Wilson Trust funds are housed in cash reserves. We have been unable to invest Wilson Trust funds in any short-term vehicle to accrue interest because of the related risk and not wanting to tie up the money for a long period of time.

- Cash Flow Management
  AMTA has a line of credit with its bank for $125,000 to deal with possible cash flow shortages. The cash flow is generally the lowest in the summer months in between dues and conference collections. We have not activated the line of credit since 2003 and we do not anticipate needing it in FY 2018.

- Continuing Analysis of Ongoing & Future Financial Requirements
  Long-term financial planning is one of the Board’s fiduciary responsibilities but implementation of that has been difficult. However, the new Financial Action Plan includes some long-term plans for which we are refining implementation steps.

VI. NATIONAL MUSIC THERAPY REGISTRY

The number of NMTR registrants continues on a predictable and gradual downward path. As of May 1, 2017, there are 225 registrants. Last year at the same time there were 244
registrants or 8% more. As of May 1st, the member to non-member ratio is 42% members and 58% non-members.

The rate of decline has decreased to about 8% annually. It is likely that the majority plan to remain on the registry until it ends, in less than three years, in 2020. The question remains whether there is anything else we can do with or for this group of music therapists.

Acting as the Deputy Director and Executive Director of NMTR, Jane Creagan and I, convened an NMTR Board meeting in March of this year. The new board consists of:

- President: Elaine Abbott, PhD, MT-BC
- Secretary: Nancy Perkins, MA, CMT
- Treasurer: Caryl Beth Thomas, MA, LMHC, ACMT.

Please see Jane Creagan’s reports for additional details.

Determining 1) if there are any ways for AMTA to meet the needs of the NMTR certificants and 2) how to replace the $33,000 in income, is under consideration as part of the Financial Action Plan.

VII. FUTURE PRIORITIES FOR JUNE 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2017

A. Targeted Priorities

- Determine procedures for 2018-2019 elections; execute election according to plan
- Follow-up with NIH & Kennedy Center’s “Music and the Mind” Initiative; follow-up with Renée Fleming, Kennedy Center staff, and other contacts
- Follow-up with Succession Planning
- Prepare for Annual Audit for FY 17
- Compile data for FY 17 IRS form 990s (AMTA’s and Regions’); provide support and technical assistance to Regions for completion of 990s
- Hire new part-time CPA to replace Char Patterson upon her retirement in September, 2017
- Plan strategy and action plan for AMTA national office lease renewal to begin in September, 2017 as lease expires on 12/31/18
- Evaluate and monitor implementation and improvements for Website and ongoing generation of new content and enhanced navigation
- Develop overall AMTA Emergency Contingency Plan and meet with Executive Committee to review; develop on-going plan for annual review of Contingency plan
- Continue overseeing OUP Publishing; begin contract renewal negotiations; and monitor process for new journal editors
✓ Work with Staff to finalize job descriptions and draft contingency plans for each position

✓ Plan for staff position transition in 2018

✓ Work with Treasurer and the Board to implement Financial Action Plan—Immediate and Long-Term Plans to include non-dues and non-restricted income

✓ Manage MTR 2025 follow-up and implementation

✓ Consider revisions for FY 2018 Budget in second quarter of 2018

✓ Continue to advocate for increasing access to music therapy in the military, provide technical assistance to newly developed MT programs, and assist NEA with the development of programs and positions

✓ Manage and develop marketing plan to promote E-Courses

✓ Establish next set (and final) priorities for Wilson Trust Music Therapy Initiative

✓ Monitor ‘certification’ efforts for artists in healthcare and progress of NOAH; participate in NOAH’s inaugural conference in September

✓ Coordinate staffing of Strategic Priorities and Workgroups

✓ Oversee planning of future conferences; consider World Congress hosting in 2023

✓ Monitor Membership Growth

✓ Convene annual meeting (via conference call) of the National Music Therapy Registry; continually educate about NMTR closing as of January 1, 2020

B.  On-going Priorities

✓ Further develop alliances

✓ Pursue relationships with potential partners

✓ Expand Artist relations

✓ Expand medical partnerships and explore new ones

✓ Oversee Scholarship and Grant programs

✓ Manage cash-flow
✓ Oversee investments
✓ Oversee Clinical Training, Education, and Ethics
✓ Oversee future Conference Planning and Site Selections
✓ Oversee Government Relations Activities
✓ Oversee Fund-Raising Plans and Related Activities

End of Executive Director’s Mid-Year Report 2017
APPENDIX A

Remarks to AATA’s Board 2-24-17
Andi Farbman
(please do not distribute)

• **Context—We are living in stressful times**
  - American Psychological Association produces an annual report on “Stress in America” based on Harris poll data from August of last year. Half of Respondents noted that they were stressed over the election and this cross cuts ages and racial and ethnic lines. Significant that 60% of adults with disabilities reported stress while 48% of adults without disabilities reported stress.
  - In a follow-up study, 2/3 of Americans, Dems & Repubs, are stressed over the future of our country. Between Aug and Jan, there was the first significant increase in stress levels in the 10 years they’ve been collecting data.

• **Context**--By definition, the situation AATA finds itself in is either a dream or a nightmare, depending on your perspective but I think we can all agree that it’s **divisive and people feel the need to choose sides**. So, it either feels like your kids who try to split us as parents or, on a more serious note, it feels like you’re in the midst of dealing with someone who has a Borderline personality disorder.

  Expect to feel like you’re supposed to choose sides and know that you are feeling split for a reason.

  Realize that members want to be heard and sometimes the act of hearing, not necessarily taking action, may be all that is needed.

**Five Guiding Principles**

1. **OPERATE WITH TRUST** – it’s times like this when you know what your organization is made of. Trust your leaders, your staff, your Board colleagues, and your members. Board needs to model and engender trusting behavior in the midst of accusations and suspicions.

2. **BE ABOUT YOUR FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES AND LET YOUR MISSION GROUND YOU**
   AMTA & AATA are both 501 (c) 3 organizations, which is not common for our sister associations, most of whom are (c) 6. Govt has entrusted us with this prized non-profit status because we are supposed to be protectors of what’s good for the public. Contrary to what some might think, we are not constituted to ensure that they have jobs and high salaries. We are not unions.
The way that AMTA fulfills that promise is to focus on access to quality MT services for those who can benefit from MT. Therefore, the focus is on clients and families; but in order to have increased access, you have to have more MTs in the workplace and quality MT services implies proper training, credentialing, and salary levels. This is not just a “spin” or a subtle difference, the focus on client service is important and can provide a lens through which to examine situations like you’re in now.

Also, the IRS is very serious about (c) 3s doing what they were originally constituted to do so it’s not unheard of for our types of organizations to lose their (c) 3 if they stray from their missions.

The one thing we know that we cannot do as an organization is to work on political campaigns, select candidates or generally be partisan. Our members get confused by this because they think that they are being good citizens if they work on campaigns for those who are judged to be sympathetic to our issues and they see their colleagues doing this. We always point out that if the OTs or SLPs are working for a candidate, it’s through their PAC or political action committee, not through their professional organization.

3. **BE UNITED & TAKE THE HIGH ROAD**
   The best thing to do when members or others are trying to split you is to be united. This might sound simplistic or like I’m suggesting that there is no room for a variety of differing opinions. This is not what I’m saying. The Board should have lively discussions and debates and be able to tolerate differing opinions. However, ultimately you have to decide on a course of action and once you do, everyone must be on board and united. You can’t have a board vote, decide on a course of action, and then have board members caucus in the bathroom on a different strategy or communicate to members something like, “Well the board decided to do xyz but I am not in agreement with that position.” You are each ambassadors of the Board and the org and once a decision is made, you must represent that position.

   High Road –sometimes it’s lonely on the high road and the air is thin! Perfectly fine and even healthy for the board to moan and groan, but in public discourse and in writing, the High Road is the only way to go. If you sink to the level of some of the discourse and accusations being thrown at you and go on the record acting in a similar fashion, then your opponents will have succeeded and they’ll have something else to focus on other than the issue. You do not want to give them that advantage.

4. **WHEN TO KNOW THAT THE TRAIN PULLED OUT OF THE STATION**
   In a way, AATA doesn’t really have a choice. If you were discussing how to proceed last September before Trump and Pence were elected, then you could speculate about different paths.
As I see it, you do not have that choice. You are playing catch-up. Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to decide how to exploit (in the positive sense) the opportunity that Mrs. Pence’s choice to promote art therapy affords you based on your mission, based on clients’ needs, and based on the fact that she’s going ahead with the promotion of art therapy with or without AATA. Do you want to be the ones advising her? If not, AATA who will advise her? What are the goals and boundaries of such a partnership?

5. **ACTIVELY SHAPE THE MESSAGE**

Forget about controlling the message. Don’t even get me started about Social Media and the complications and angst that each of those venues exacerbates. Going back to the Harris poll on stress in America, not surprisingly, respondents said that social media greatly contributes to their stress.

AMTA has been in what seemed like “perfect press situations” in terms of working with the reporters (either print or television), reviewing and editing drafts, etc. And in the final analysis, even when the circumstances have been ideal, a copy editor or a video editor ruined the whole thing at the end of the process.

Once you sort out how you want to proceed and what your boundaries are, you may need to allocate a chunk of money to work with a competent PR firm that can open doors to carry your message. You may not be used to spending money to do this and in many circumstances money devoted to PR is like flushing it down the toilet but I think in this instance it’s worth working with a trusted firm to hone your message, open some doors, and try to advance art therapy to the next level.

Recap—5 principles
Questions???
APPENDIX B
NIH WORKSHOP AGENDA

Music & the Brain: Research Across the Lifespan
NIH/Kennedy Center Initiative
January 26th and 27th, 2017

Thursday, January 26th

8:00 – 8:20 Opening remarks: Francis Collins, Renée Fleming, and Deborah Rutter

8:20 – 8:30 Introductory remarks: Bob Finkelstein and Emmeline Edwards

8:30 – 9:30 Plenary Lectures:
Making Sense of Sound for Communication and Brain Health -- Nina Kraus
Advancing the Science of Music Therapy in Healthcare -- Sheri Robb

Session 1: “Building”: Music and the Child’s Brain

9:30 – 10:15 Overview: John Iversen

10:15 – 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:15 Panel Discussion: Enhancing Brain Development During Childhood
Panelists: Steven Holochwost (Moderator), John Iversen, Nina Kraus, Psyche Loui, Laurel Trainor

11:15 – 11:40 Q&A / Participant Discussion

Panelists: Nim Tottenham (Moderator), Christian Gold, Isabel Peretz, Sheri Robb, Laurel Trainor

12:25 – 12:50 Q&A / Participant Discussion

12:50 – 1:50 Lunch

Session 2: “Engaging”: Music and the Adult Brain

1:50 – 2:35 Overview: Robert Zatorre

2:35 – 3:20 Panel Discussion: Enhancing Brain Function during Adulthood
Panelists: Aniruddh Patel (Moderator), Charles Limb, Josh McDermott, Xiaojin Wang, Robert Zatorre

3:20 – 3:45 Q&A / Participant Discussion

3:45 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 4:45 Panel Discussion: Music and Music Therapy: Chronic Pain, Anxiety, and Depression
Panelists: Joke Bradt (Moderator), Kevin LaBar, Deforia Lane, Psyche Loui, Ed Roth
Music & the Brain: Research Across the Lifespan  
NIH/Kennedy Center Initiative  
January 26th and 27th, 2017  

Thursday, January 26th cont.

4:45 – 5:10  Q&A / Participant Discussion

Friday, January 27th

Session 3: “Sustaining”: Music and the Aging Brain

8:30 – 9:15  Overview: Michael Thaut

9:15 – 10:00  Panel Discussion: Maintaining Brain Function in Older Individuals  
Panelists: Charles Limb (Moderator), Brenda Hanna-Pladdy, Julene Johnson, Nina Kraus, Michael Thaut

10:00 – 10:25  Q&A / Participant Discussion

10:25 – 10:40  Break

Panelists: Julene Johnson (Moderator), Gay Hanna, Aniruddh Patel, Gottfried Schlaug, Elizabeth Stegemoller, Concetta Tomaiño

11:25 – 11:50  Q&A / Participant Discussion

Session 4: Wrap Up, Next Steps, Looking Forward

11:50 – 1:00  Working lunch

11:50 – 12:25  Meeting Wrap-up: Gottfried Schlaug

12:25 – 1:00  Group discussion of recommendations

1:00 – 1:10  Next steps: Emmeline Edwards and Bob Finkelstein

1:10 – 1:30  Concluding Remarks / Looking Forward: Francis Collins, Renée Fleming, and Deborah Rutter
APPENDIX C  
MUSIC THERAPY AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

Celebrate Music Therapy at the Kennedy Center  
with Renée Fleming, Ben Folds, & Dr. Francis Collins, Director of NIH

Breakthroughs with Music Therapy: Recovery, Resilience & Quality of Life
Dr. Sheri Robb, MT-BC, Curator

OPENING
Opening montage from Music Got Me Here, a film by Susan Koch; Dr. Sheri Robb, MT-BC, Indiana University School of Nursing; Ben Folds, Singer-Songwriter.

RECOVERY (Acquired Brain Injury)
Forest Allen (client); Tom Sweitzer, MA, MT-BC, Co-Founder & Director, A Place to Be;  
Dr. Wendy Magnus, Professor, Temple University.

RESILIENCE (Cancer Care)
Dr. Deborah Lane, MT-BC, University Hospitals  
Cleveland Medical Center; Dr. Sheri Robb, MT-BC, Indiana School of Nursing.

QUALITY OF LIFE (Autism Spectrum Disorder)
Dr. Elythe LaGasse, MT-BC, Colorado State University;  
CJ Shahan, MT-BC, Neurologic Music Therapist, Founder & Director, Appalachian Music Therapy Services;  
Jordon Cochran (parent).

FINALE & CODA

“Music and the Mind” First Public Initiative of Kennedy Center and NIH’s Sound Health Partnership

On Saturday, June 3rd from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm, “Breakthroughs with Music Therapy: Recovery, Resilience & Quality of Life,” will feature poignant stories and cutting-edge research focusing on three areas of Music Therapy practice as part of the Kennedy Center-NIH partnership, “Music and the Mind.” Join the AMTA Board of Directors for this historic event. Bring your administrators, colleagues, and other stakeholders. Tickets are going fast at the Kennedy Center box office. Other Saturday workshops include music and child development (Dr. Nina Kraus, 11:00–12:30 pm), creative aging (Dr. Ani Patel, 5:00–6:30 pm), and jazz, creativity and the brain (Dr. Charles Limb, 7:30–9:00 pm). These $20 ticketed events in the Family Theater are open to the general public. Don’t miss the Friday night concert (June 2nd) with the National Symphony Orchestra, led by conductor Edwin Outwater, alongside renowned neuroscientists Dr. Daniel Levitin and Dr. Charles Limb, and singer-songwriter, Ben Folds.
# APPENDIX D
## AMTA INVESTMENTS

**Selected Period Performance**  
**AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOC.**  
**Account 1041271**  
**Period Ending: 04/30/2017**

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* Portfolio Inception: 12/01/2010  
* Data is on a trade date basis and includes income and accruals  
* Returns greater than one year are annualized  
* Unless otherwise noted, returns are gross of management fees
### Portfolio Valuation

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Page 3
In the past seven months, as part-time special projects consultant to AMTA, I’ve provided support at an average level of .6 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) with 676 consulting hours plus 45 pro bono hours valued at $2,025 (using a reduced rate). Relative to last year around this time, my consulting effort is just slightly higher (2% or 102 hrs.). The increase is due mostly to the amount of additional time invested in business management functions for AMTA’s journals and effort surrounding the research workshop held at NIH in late January. Pro bono hours are comparable relative to last year at the same time.

Brief updates are provided on special projects and activities assigned to my consulting workload. There is a tracking process in place to monitor the status of lower priority tasks.

I. Priority Projects
   - Journals and Publications
     - Editors In Chief (EICs) search committee
     - Journals production
     - Oxford University Press Publishing Partner
   - Research
     - Strategic Priority on Research
     - Research Committee
     - Research support
   - Military and Veterans
     - National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)--Creative Forces support
     - VA lecture and staff liaison to VA CATS network
     - Americans for the Arts (AFTA)--Military Summit support
   - Social Media Guidance Statement (draft)
   - World Congress 2017
   - NIH Workshop (January) and related Kennedy Center event (June)

II. Brief Updates on Special Projects
   - AMTA Wilson Trust Music Therapy Project
   - Government Relations and Advocacy Support
   - Disaster Response and Coordination with Deb B. Williams, Regional Pres. Rep.
   - Staff Liaison for Autism Priority Task Force
   - 2016 Conference and 2017 Conference Planning
   - Other: Annual Report

Travel for AMTA: Over the past seven months, I participated in four business trips on behalf of AMTA.
- In November 2016, just prior to the annual conference I attended and participated in the annual two-day publisher’s conference hosted by Oxford University Press for U.S. journal editors and societies. Jennifer Jones

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2 Pro bono hours generally reflect travel time, disaster services support, some state government relations activity, and serving as an AMTA representative at some smaller meetings. April hours are projected for April 16-30.
and Sheri Robb attended with me representing AMTA’s journals. Sheri Robb contributed to a panel on the topic of peer reviewer recruitment, training, and retention.

- I attended and provided staff support at the November 2016 Annual Conference in Sandusky, Ohio.
- I was on-site in the AMTA office in late January, supporting and attending the NIH workshop on music and the brain.
- In late March I drove to the University of Iowa to support the Iowa Task Force meeting and attend the 40th anniversary celebrations of the University of Iowa music therapy program hosted by the faculty and students.

Any action items are highlighted in shaded boxed areas. Similar to recent past reports, I’ve included interludes throughout this report to reference and inspire the spirit of the 2017 conference theme, *A Mindful Approach to Music Therapy*.

*A Mindful Approach to Music Therapy*

Interlude 1

**Musical Minds: Imagining and Listening to Music**

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_FkdDX--IaU
I. Priority Projects

✧ Journals and Publications

*EIC Search Committee.* At the 2016 annual conference, the Board of Directors provided approval to proceed with recruitment of Editors-in-Chief (EICs) for the *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives.* The new EICs, once identified, will assume their positions following an overlapping orientation period and when the current EICs’ terms of service end in 2018. Co-chairs, Michele Forinash and Mary Adamek were nominated and approved to lead the EIC Search Committee. Other members of the committee include Andrea Dalton, Melita Belgrave, and Jennifer Jones. I serve as AMTA liaison supporting the process in a project management role. Andrea Dalton serves on the committee in the capacity of an individual in practice who is a consumer of music therapy research and journal publications. She participates in a small monthly journal club with colleagues. Melita and Belgrave provide the faculty perspective and Jennifer Jones provides a faculty and Associate Editor’s perspective. Combined, these perspectives align with MTR2025 recommendations for clinician involvement in research and scholarly activity.

The position descriptions were updated and reviewed with input from the current EICs to reflect the positive changes and growth of the journals. The announcement for the EIC positions was released on March 31 (http://www.musictherapy.org/eic_positions_sought/). The announcement was submitted to Latest News, Music Therapy Matters, the AMTA Facebook page and companion social media channels, and released to the Editorial Board members for each journal. The next steps include acceptance and review of applications in May followed by interviews in May and June (depending on the number of applicants). A recommendation to the Board will follow thereafter from the search committee in June or early July. It is hoped the EICs will be identified and ready to begin orientation shortly after the annual conference.

*Journals production*

Effort and activity on AMTA’s peer reviewed journals continues to be active and growing. I allocate two days per month on journal support and operations. My level of effort has waxed and waned over the past seven months. Since the last Board report I supported the journals’ transition to a new platform with Oxford University Press in January and February. The platform upgrade to the OUP Academic Platform, based on the Silverchair Information Systems, represents a significant infrastructure advance for the journals. My efforts supported a presentation on the topic by OUP representatives at the annual conference in Ohio. I also conducted spot checks and quality monitoring between November and February working closely with Angie Elkins, the EICs, and the OUP contacts. Under the new platform, electronic Table of Contents (eTOC) alerts will flow to members automatically as a member benefit following the launch of the new platform and via an update of the member email database to OUP in 2nd quarter when membership hits its annual peak levels.

In early November, I attended and participated in OUP’s two-day seminar for Editors and Societies along with Drs. Robb and Jones. Dr. Robb spoke eloquently on a panel on the topic of peer reviewer recruitment and retention. In the last quarter of the year I helped coordinate the interview and recruitment process of two new Associate Editors for JMT. Helen Shoemark joined MTP as an Associate Editor for manuscript peer review. She will help share the peer review process duties with Associate Editor, Felicity Baker, under the leadership of EIC, Sheri Robb. Andrew Knight also joined JMT as Associate Editor, Book Reviews.

I facilitate periodic production and technical calls as well as trouble shoot and track systems or customer questions. I serve as a resource to assist and respond to questions for the journals. Finally, I helped coordinate the AMTA/OUP journal marketing special campaigns in cooperation with the marketing manager at OUP. The virtual issues have shifted to the new Associate Editors-Communications as part of their duties. I now serve in a project manager and advisory role.
I support the Associate Editors-Communications (Sena Moore and Potvin) in production of their blogs and serve as a reader for content. The current social media channels for research include:

- JMT Instagram (https://www.instagram.com/AMTA_JMT/)
- JMT Twitter (https://twitter.com/AMTA_JMT)
- MT Twitter account (https://twitter.com/AMTA_MTP)
- JMT and MTP joint facebook page: (https://www.facebook.com/AMTAresearch/)
- You are invited to follow, like, and share updates posted to the JMT and MTP Twitter, Instagram, blog, and Facebook accounts, and encouraged to follow and use the hashtags #mtresearch, #AMTA_JMT, and #AMTA_MTP

I am grateful for the leadership of AMTA’s journal Editors, Drs. Robb and Meadows, the Associate Editors, as well as the OUP production team. [See Editors’ Journal reports and OUP Publisher’s report presented on site at the AMTA Annual Board meeting.]

Oxford University Press Publishing Partner AMTA’s partnership with Oxford University Press (OUP) is approaching the four-year point in December of 2018. Andi Farbman is the lead on contract renewal. I support background research in that endeavor. Finally, OUP team members attended annual conference and were active with a booth in the exhibit hall, attended Editorial Board meetings, and made a major presentation on the new platform during the State of the Association address and at the Board meeting.

Strategic Priority on Research, MTR2025. Implementation of Phase I recommendations of MTR2025 are in progress. See Appendix A. The advisory team members (Joke Bradt, Klarissa Carlsson, Nicole Hahna, and Ed Kahler) convened and provided numerous suggestions for addressing various recommendations. The assistance and support for Phase I recommendations extends also to the EICs, Research Committee Chair (Cindy Colwell) and its members, and the Fultz and Clinician Based Grant review team.

The 2016 annual conference tackled the recommendation tied to increasing involvement of clinicians in research. I hosted a well-attended panel session with Deanna Hanson-Abromeit (academic/researcher), Clarissa Karlsson (clinician/researcher), and Sam Rodgers Melnick (clinician/researcher) to discuss their perspectives on research involvement from the perspectives of two working clinicians involved in research and a faculty member involved in teaching research and conducting applied research. This recommendation continues and is complemented by MTR2025 puzzlers offered throughout the year and including puzzles for undergraduate research students and faculty. Three puzzlers released since the last Board report plus an article included on Music Therapy Matters on Tips & Hacks to bring research alive in one’s MT practice are available online at https://www.musictherapy.org/members/music_therapy_matters/ The EICs for the journals are considering processes to grow and train peer reviewers, including involvement of practicing clinicians. I’ve provided briefings and online orientations to the publication process of MT research for practicing clinicians and a virtual journal club, or a journal club that meets online to review and discuss scholarly MT literature.

The Fultz and Clinician Based Grant awards now ask applicants to note how/if their proposal ties to MTR2025. Likewise, CMTE proposals for annual conference also are tied to MTR2025 -in some form or fashion - to involve clinicians, raise awareness, and continue the dialogue on MTR2025. This year, at annual conference, the poster session will include a scavenger hunt (with a proposal for CMTE credits) to involve clinicians more intimately in the process of research. The student representation to the Research Committee, Savannah Jaska, in cooperation with Cindy Colwell, will assist me in building the hunt.

To tackle the policy-related recommendations in Phase I of MTR2025, a short series of MTR2025 video and audio blogs is being created. Some of these will post on the journals’ webpage on the AMTA website and all will be openly available online.
available. **Tony Meadows** and **Kimberly Sena Moore**, are in the process of editing a policy-focused special focus area of MTP. Copies of MTR2025 symposium proceedings are made available for major events in government relations such as Arts Advocacy Day, Hill Days, legislator and administrator visits, and the upcoming Kennedy Center event. Board, Assembly, and general members of AMTA are encouraged to use the proceedings for/with their policy, teaching, and advocacy work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Are elements of the MTR2025 proceedings included in your research, professional development plans, journal clubs, CMTE activity, and/or teaching syllabi?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If so, let <strong>Barb Else</strong> (me) or any member of the MTR2025 Advisory Team know. You can email <a href="mailto:MTRResearch2025@musictherapy.org">MTRResearch2025@musictherapy.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am exploring, with feedback from **Sheri Robb** and in cooperation with the **Cindy Colwell** and the Research Committee, logistics for coordinating a “Speed Research Mentoring” session at conference for upper level undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students. This is similar to speed dating formats, i.e., 10-15 minute focused discussions with leading senior scholars on the student’s research line.

The final recommendation in Phase I that is yet to be tackled in a formal way is consumer involvement in research. This topic was raised by the ASD workgroup of MTR2025 and is being referred to the ASD Workgroup for consideration and follow up recommendations. The first formal recognition of consumer involvement in research will be inclusion of several consumers as part of the Kennedy Center event and special session on music therapy in practice and research.

**Research Committee.** I serve as a staff liaison to the research committee. I work with the Chair, **Cindy Colwell** for any items that require coordination outside the committee. This year, Cindy is managing the Research Poster Session submissions using an online tool. I pretested the draft tool with Cindy. Several conference planning items require coordination with Cindy. One is noted, above, for the annual conference poster session and tied to MTR2025.

**Research support.** Once a week or more, member requests or external requests for research information, referrals, or consulting arrive at my desk. Most of these are referred from the office staff, government relations, or **Kim Bell** who handles the info@musictherapy.org emails. There is usually an uptick in requests that corresponds to academic calendars, including honors high school students doing special projects. These are good opportunities to serve as an ambassador for the profession and refer, as needed, to MTs around the country.

**Military and Veterans**

**NEA Creative Forces**

I provided support to the leads of the NEA Creative Forces initiative regarding their recent expansion to increase music therapists and art therapists serving military populations. Under their expanded program, this year, creative arts therapists are being added to several VA hospitals through a memorandum of understanding. Funding for the positions is provided through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). My role included advising the leads on recruitment of MT-BCs, providing suggestions and comments to their position description, assisting with a Q&A on open positions, coordinating announcements at the SER conference with **Lori Gooding**, and navigating concerns with **Judy Simpson** regarding interstate practice for a pilot program using secure telecommunications systems and taking place on the VA facility. Recruitment has been slow according to the lead at NEA. It appears qualified MT-BCs with the experience and expertise are reluctant to take on a full-time position and sacrifice their existing caseload and business practice knowing the funding is temporary and there are no guarantees for position sustainability. The positions represent a tremendous opportunity, however. They permit exploration of permanent federal government GS positions; NEA is committed to growing sustainability. Strategies and approaches to mitigate the concerns and
successfully fill the positions with MT-BCs were offered and included a suggestion to recruit a post-doctoral MT-BC, since there is high interest in research and program evaluation as a part of the program.

VA lecture and staff liaison to VA CATS network. In April, I provided a lecture presentation at the Minneapolis VA hospital as part of their series on Integrated Health. A follow-on request to speak at Grand Rounds ensued. This facility is interested in the integration of music therapy as part of their integrated and patient-centered health program, including exploring the possibility of an intern or post-doctoral position, given an approved funding mechanism.

I also attend (via teleconference/webinar) the VA CATs network calls on a variety of topics of interest to the therapists. I respond to questions and offer clarification, as needed during these calls on behalf of AMTA. Following a presentation on these calls by the Office of Cultural Transformation, I reached out to our contact to try and trigger a face to face meeting to discuss the integration and positioning of MT-BCs in the VA. Lacking an insider perspective, access is limited to key contacts at the national level.

Opportunities to encourage membership among MTs in the VA system are promoted early and often. Therapists interested in a career with the VA need to be monitoring the jobs postings and making contacts with area VA facilities. There is a steady trickle of MTs retiring from GS positions and there is a risk of losing these positions to other CATs; labor substitution is also a risk.

AFTA Military Summit Support

I supported arranging for representation at the military summit meeting held in Florida. The 4th National Summit: Reintegration & Resilience convened in Tampa during the first week of February was sponsored by Americans for the Arts. The summit drew military and civilian leaders together in sessions and dialogue. The meeting organizers said their aim was to define the “blueprint for collective arts and military action through 2020”; and, in conjunction with the summit, a 2-day Workshop and Practitioner Exchange was held. The summit was paired with a performing arts festival through Art2Action and the University of South Florida. Attending on behalf of AMTA was Lori Gooding, Sharon Graham, and Erin Todd. Briefings were held in advance of the summit with these individuals. Monitoring the activity of these groups and meetings is important to clarify terminology, properly represent the profession, and advocate on behalf of members.

Social Media Guidance Statement

At the 2016 annual meeting of the Board of Directors, the Board approved a motion to develop an advisory statement on social media for AMTA. The statement was researched and drafted. Research included a review of the literature and an examination of social media guidance and policies among related health professions, nursing, and at major health care systems. The draft was reviewed by the Technology Committee in March of this year and is currently under review by the Ethics Board through the Co-Chairs. It is anticipated that the edited and reviewed draft statement will be available for Board consideration at the midyear meeting. There have been requests for an official statement of policy from AMTA members and those members were advised that a guidance statement is under development. Members were reminded that a guidance statement is not policy. If a guidance statement moves forward, it is hoped it will serve as a springboard for a future policy, should the Assembly choose to adopt a social media policy.

World Congress 2017

AMTA is partnering with Oxford University Press to sponsor a booth/table at the July, 2017 World Congress of the World Federation of Music Therapy in Japan. Preparations include a virtual issue of AMTA journal articles to align with broad themes of the conference. Two AMTA members, Megumi Azekawa and Yumiko Sato are assisting with translation of article titles and abstracts. We are exploring the use of a small flash drive in the shape of a co-branded business card and loaded with basic information on AMTA as a possible booth informational giveaway resource that can be transported easily. Foreign language banner ads will be featured on the journals webpages during the World Congress season.
NIH Workshop and related Kennedy Center Event
A partnership was formed in 2016 between the NIH and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to expand on the Sound Health initiative that NIH enjoys with the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO). In late January, a two-day workshop was hosted by the NIH and the Director, Dr. Collins with Renée Fleming, artist Ambassador to the Kennedy Center. Scholars and researchers, including MTs noted in Andi Farbman’s report discussed the evidence regarding how music is processed in the brain and used as therapy. I have been supporting the events, background research and briefings, and production planning with Andi Farbman and the AMTA staff including Judy Simpson, Al Bumanis, and Dianne Wawrzusin. The outcomes and post event networking and byproducts may be significant.

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A Mindful Approach to Music Therapy
Interlude 2

Kabat-Zinn’s Definition of Mindfulness:

“Mindfulness means paying attention in a particular way; On purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally.”

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II. Brief Updates on Special Projects

AMTA Wilson Trust Music Therapy Project (WTMTP)
The WTMTP is a legacy gift from the Eleanor and Raymond Wilson Charitable Trust. AMTA secured the award to advance access to quality music therapy services to those in need in the Puget Sound Region of Washington State. This region is defined as the area surrounding Puget Sound, and includes Seattle, Tacoma and Olympia as well as many smaller cities, suburbs, and rural areas. I manage the business aspects of the WTMTP and consult on guidance and direction with the advisory team consisting of Jodi Winnwalker, Ronna Kaplan, Andi Farbman, and Piper Laird. Patti Catalano serves as Regional Project Manager, working locally and maintaining contacts with service providers/agencies, music therapists, and Seattle Pacific University (SPU).

Following the site visits of August 2016, Patti has been conducting follow up and we are studying the final round of program options and recommendations with Andi Farbman. An update on the Wilson Project will be provided at the midyear meeting to outline the priority areas/needs that emerged during the summer site visits.

Other Government Relations and Advocacy Support
I provided written comment on behalf of AMTA to Federal Register requests for comment on one occasion this past winter. I provided general support and suggestions to the Minnesota Task Force during that state’s legislative session. I serve as an occasional team member for facilitating Task Force calls, as needed. In situations where lobbyist activity
in opposition to most forms of state recognition may possibly cross over to other states active in music therapy recognition and licensure, I notify the national advisory team, **Judy Simpson, Dena Register, Kimberly Sena Moore, and Maria Faye**, to coordinate a response and strategy for success. I prepared research summary content for Hill Days, Task Force teams, and Arts Advocacy Day. My name was submitted by **Rebecca Preddie** to serve on a federal advisory panel on research and disabilities. I participate and/or coordinate calls that intersect research, policy, and advocacy, working with **Judy Simpson, Rebecca Preddie, and Andi Farbman**.

**Disaster Response and Coordination with Deb Benkovitz Williams, Regional President Representative**
I support and coordinate with **Deb Benkovitz Williams** disaster response activities and communications for disaster events affecting music therapy professionals and students. Deb and I have regular contact; Deb serves as the liaison to the Regional Presidents. This allows me to continue to keep an eye on events and triage event priority. This summer I shall speak on a Spotlight Panel at the World Congress on disaster response and recovery. The international panel is coordinated by **Gene Ann Behrens** and will have representation from the U.S., Chile, Japan, and Wales. Over the past seven months, I’ve provided disaster-related virtual trainings or briefings online and supported individuals and small teams in several locations.

Since last November, the impact of the dramatic shift in style, policy position, and attitude of the current White House administration has been a source of atypical stress and trauma among AMTA members, including international members residing in the US, new citizen members, and students. While this is not a “disaster” in the formal definition of a disaster, there is a good-sized cohort in the membership who is reacting to this shift to the extent that it is disruptive to their functioning. In the spirit of self-care for professionals, I’ve referred numerous individuals for supervision and follow up, and to additional resources. This trend is settling down and a more even keel, and strategies to cope with the vagaries and vicissitudes of the current administration appear to be growing; however, please note that the government relations team at AMTA is working exceedingly hard on behalf of the membership to triage and prioritize policy issues that merit attention. This work is critical to coping. I am grateful for everyone’s contributions in this regard as this is a means of dealing with the traumatic stress some members experience and for which action is required to meet AMTA’s mission.

**AMTA Staff Liaison for Autism Priority Task Force**
I serve as staff liaison for work on ASD as a strategic priority. The steering committee has new Co-chairs, **Jennifer Whipple** and **Todd Schwartzberg**. This team is actively reviewing the operational plan objectives in their charge and preparing a brief project plan and timeline. They are assembling a support/advisory team. Finally, they are reviewing recommendations for few sample MTP articles on ASD slated for Spanish Translation of abstracts and to align with a) the FAQ sheet translated into Spanish by the workgroup under the previous Co-chairs and b) MTP’s test of Spanish translation abstracts on ASD. Please see their initial report.

**2016 Annual Conference and 2017 Conference Planning**
I contributed to the 2016 Annual Conference held in Sandusky, OH. In addition to participation at the Board meeting, Regional Presidents meeting, and Research Committee meeting, I served in a support role for several large sessions. I assisted **Angie Elkins** who took on production coordinator for “large sessions” as part of the national office conference staff. I served as facilitator and production lead for the memorial (Time of Remembrance). I spoke at Passages on the topic of research and I organized and hosted a panel on research related to MTR2025 to focus on a Phase I recommendation and objective. I assisted **Al Bumanis** and **Cindy Smith** with evening conference support and staff float, I assisted the videographer, and supported the government relations reception and team. I also participated in meetings of the journals team with Oxford University Press representatives and supported coordination of the Oxford publications booth in the Exhibit Hall.

I’ve been active in planning for the 2017 annual conference and have focused on programming and integration of MTR2025 aims and the strategic priority on research. This involves providing input to the conference planners on how MTR2025 can be integrated into the conference and reviewing proposals where MTR2025 objectives are relevant (noted in MTR2025 segment earlier). As noted previously, a special research scavenger hunt is planned for the Research Poster Session. In addition, I will contribute to large session production, support the Bitcon lecture series, committee meetings, and journals and publications activity. I shall be speaking at a segment of a preconference institute on pediatrics and pain on the topic of caregiver stress, secondary trauma, and supervision.
Other –

Annual Report – I drafted the content for the 2016 Annual Report and prepared the summary of financials. Like the previous five years, the report is formatted as an online brochure, in summary style with graphics and images layout prepared by Tawna Grasty.

Other publications – I provide project management and coordination support for book proposals and draft manuscripts that come to AMTA. In the past seven months, that has involved three manuscripts. One is in copy editing and one is in proposal review. One involved copyright issues and was referred to the author who withdrew the manuscript. I also am contributing to a portion of an AMTA book chapter on music therapy and military populations.

A Mindful Approach to Music Therapy

Interlude 3
Mindfulness is a State of Being Aware

Take the Awareness Test (1:08 min.)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ahg6qcgoay4

Appendix Follows on Next Page
Appendix A: MTR2025 Recommendations Phase I
Appendix A
American Music Therapy Association
MTR2025 Phase I Implementation

[Refer to MTR2025 Proceedings: http://www.musictherapy.org/assets/1/7/MTR2025proceedings.pdf]

MTR 2025 is an initiative geared towards stimulating conversation about building research capacity and growing the production and usage of high quality research in music therapy. Phase I of the implementation plan proposes a focus on a short list of recommendations that support building research capacity among the membership, push for the appropriate involvement of consumers in research, and address several critical practices in research planning, documentation, and manuscript preparation to effectively reach and influence policy and decision makers. Four of the cross-cutting themes noted in the conclusions of the 2015 MTR2025 Proceedings, below, tie to several recommendations in the first cluster of Phase I implementation.

MTR2025 themes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consumer Impact</th>
<th>The critical importance of consumers’ voices in music therapy research, planning, and implementation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinician Involvement</td>
<td>The essential role of the practicing music therapist in accessing and using published research, and in participating in research as clinician-scholars and as part of team science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diverse Methodologies</td>
<td>The value of embracing diverse, complex, and integrated research methodologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory</td>
<td>The need to further develop, integrate, describe, and link theory and theoretical models in music therapy research with well articulated and defined music therapy interventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Capacity Building</td>
<td>The need to grow research capacity among music therapists with attention to both research infrastructure as well as education, training, and continuing education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Analyses</td>
<td>The importance of including, where appropriate, cost and economic analyses as part of music therapy research including building research partnerships with individuals skilled in cost analyses and economic research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding Partnerships</td>
<td>The value of expanding and growing collaborations, partnerships, and networks (including interdisciplinary team science) for efficient and productive work in important lines of research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phase I Recommendations

The recommendations in Phase I are selected from MTR2025 Symposium and coded by workgroup and recommendation number as noted in published proceedings.

Key:

- CP-ASD: Clinical Practice workgroup on Autism Spectrum Disorder
- CP-ABI: Clinical Practice workgroup on Acquired Brain Injury
- CP-Alz: Clinical Practice workgroup on Dementia, Alzheimer’s, & Aging
- BRC-R: Building Research Capacity, Research Infrastructure
- BRC-Ed: Building Research Capacity, Education & Training
- P: Policy Workgroup

[CP-ASD3; P8] Provide guidance to MT scholars for improving consumer involvement in MT research.

This recommendation is linked to the key theme: Consumer Impact

- Audience: Researchers/Clinicians with action group and some consumer involvement.
- Example actions - panel at conference, podcast panel discussion, published article MTP, blog posting, brief message to professionals series
Increase meaningful engagement of clinicians in research, including as PIs and as a part of team science.

- **Audience:** Educators & Clinicians
- **Ex. Actions:** panel at conference and/or podcast panel discussion, published article MTP, blog posting, brief message to professionals series on AMTA website>research tab

**P1** Reinforce guidance on defining and describe the intervention using accepted standards of specification in published research and as part of research planning. When planning a research study, the music therapy intervention needs to be identified and specified by intervention and not just by the term “music therapy.”

- **Audience:** Researchers, Educators, & Clinicians
- **Ex. Action:** reissue article by Robb et al., brief message to professionals series

**P2** Encourage studies that focus on specific populations for specific interventions or control for mixed populations in applied studies.

- **Audience:** Researchers, Educators, & Clinicians
- **Ex. Action:** Brief message to professionals series from Dir. Govt. Relations; create assessment criteria & consult with Journals’ Editorial team and Research Committee input.

**P3** List ICD-10 Dx of research participants to better link benefit (outcomes) of intervention to diagnosis.

- **Audience:** Researchers, Educators, & Clinicians
- **Ex. Action:** Add to Instructions to Authors (ITA) in Journals and brief Editorial Boards; Brief message to professionals series from Dir. Govt. Relations

**P6** Recommend the creation and addition of a policy section to *Music Therapy Perspectives*.

- **Audience:** Researchers, Educators, & Clinicians
- **Ex. Action:** Consult with EIC of MTP to create section on policy for appropriate submitted or commissioned articles

**BRC-Ed6** Create mechanisms to disseminate information on available grants, mentorships, fellowships, and post-doc opportunities. (and monitor)

- **Audience:** Nat.Office, Researchers, & Educators,
HIGHLIGHTS:

• **Membership Services**
  Membership Total—3,342 as of May 1, 2017
  Overall membership increase compared to May 2016—1%
  4% increase in Professional membership category
  9% decrease Graduate student member category

• **Member drives**
  Extensive membership promotion in 2017
  Membership Committee reported calling drives in 6 of 7 regions in 2017
  Board member video project—we would LOVE more submissions for 2017
  Most membership drives focus on potential professional members, with students 2nd target group

• **Products & Publications**
  *Music Therapy Matters Monthly*—second year of this monthly e-newsletter
  AMTA conference marketing materials, online registration module in development
  New products being explored

• **Financial Systems**
  FY 2017 will end June 30, 2017—audit scheduled September 2017

• **Information Systems**
  Journals published through partnership with Oxford University Press
  AMTA presence in social media continues to increase
  Kim Bell hired as Social Media Coordinator

• **Website statistics**
  AMTA website exceeds 3.6 million visitors
  Major additions to content and user interface/organization—daily updates

• **NMTR**
  225 registrants as of May 1, 2017
  Steady decline is as expected—over 89% decrease since 1998
  NMTR will soon sunset—newsletter created to remind designants
Membership Services

*AMTA Membership numbers* - The total AMTA membership as of May 1, 2017 was 3,342. The following table and graph show the month-to-month growth of the membership thus far in 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Type</th>
<th>1/1/2017</th>
<th>2/1/2017</th>
<th>3/1/2017</th>
<th>4/1/2017</th>
<th>5/1/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>1153</td>
<td>1602</td>
<td>1864</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad Student</td>
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<td>245</td>
<td>338</td>
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<td>395</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliate</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inactive</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorary Life</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Members</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>2740</td>
<td>3139</td>
<td>3342</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparing to May 1st of last year, we have an overall increase of 22 members or 1%. One can see the comparison by member category for the past 5 years in the following bar graph.
The following chart shows membership totals and member category totals going back to AMTA’s inception. It is interesting to track changes in membership totals, many of which seem to correspond with changes in the overall U.S. economy over the past two decades.

| YEARLY COMPARISON AT MID-YEAR MEETING |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                           | Professional | Associate | Student | Grad Student | Affiliate | Retired | Inactive | Life | Honorary Life | Patron | TOTAL |
| 5/1/1998                  | 2474         | 40        | 825     | 80            | 18        | 6       | 12       | 4    | 21            | 15     | 3495   |
| 5/1/1999                  | 2487         | 39        | 866     | 88            | 17        | 7       | 17       | 4    | 21            | 17     | 3563   |
| 5/1/2000                  | 2401         | 38        | 854     | 106           | 18        | 15      | 8        | 4    | 21            | 15     | 3480   |
| 5/1/2001                  | 2260         | 37        | 783     | 92            | 25        | 20      | 9        | 4    | 22            | 12     | 3264   |
| 5/1/2002                  | 2335         | 35        | 736     | 105           | 29        | 22      | 9        | 4    | 22            | 9      | 3306   |
| 5/1/2003                  | 2281         | 37        | 748     | 139           | 21        | 17      | 7        | 4    | 23            | 8      | 3285   |
| 5/1/2004                  | 2364         | 26        | 807     | 166           | 28        | 25      | 7        | 4    | 25            | 11     | 3463   |
| 5/1/2005                  | 2220         | 20        | 740     | 188           | 21        | 18      | 9        | 4    | 27            | 4      | 3251   |
| 5/1/2006                  | 2271         | 28        | 807     | 200           | 37        | 23      | 11       | 4    | 28            | 9      | 3218   |
| 5/1/2007                  | 2102         | 22        | 633     | 180           | 24        | 26      | 8        | 4    | 30            | 6      | 3035   |
| 5/1/2008                  | 2014         | 23        | 596     | 220           | 35        | 31      | 16       | 3    | 30            | 6      | 2974   |
| 5/1/2009                  | 2177         | 26        | 649     | 220           | 36        | 30      | 9        | 2    | 33            | 5      | 3187   |
| 5/1/2010                  | 2131         | 25        | 626     | 230           | 23        | 29      | 12       | 2    | 35            | 4      | 3117   |
| 5/1/2011                  | 1893         | 21        | 790     | 274           | 24        | 51      | 12       | 2    | 34            | 3      | 3104   |
| 5/1/2012                  | 1855         | 20        | 888     | 388           | 21        | 51      | 5        | 2    | 36            | 3      | 3269   |
| 5/1/2013                  | 1824         | 21        | 962     | 436           | 25        | 49      | 2        | 2    | 36            | 4      | 3361   |
| 5/1/2014                  | 1904         | 15        | 815     | 418           | 19        | 49      | 4        | 2    | 37            | 3      | 3266   |
| 5/1/2015                  | 1866         | 17        | 881     | 406           | 23        | 45      | 5        | 2    | 38            | 2      | 3285   |
| 5/1/2016                  | 1921         | 15        | 899     | 364           | 16        | 59      | 5        | 2    | 38            | 1      | 3320   |
| 5/1/2017                  | 1998         | 18        | 815     | 395           | 13        | 56      | 5        | 2    | 39            | 1      | 3342   |

We can also look at mid-year membership totals as a line graph going back to AMTA’s inception.
Keep in mind that the above charts compare May 1st numbers each year. Membership numbers fluctuate greatly from month to month, especially in the first half of the year, but thanks to the regional and annual conference member benefit discount incentives, we now continue to have people join AMTA through the last quarter of the year. Holding firm to member discount policies plays a part in driving renewal efforts. In some years, a large group of people join before April 30th, for example, and in other years they might wait until after May 1st due to the timing of regional conferences or other events. So when considering the impact of dues cost on the total number of members, a better guide would be to analyze year-end numbers, keeping in mind that many factors converge to impact the total number of members in a given year. These factors include, but are not limited to, general well-being, comfort with the economy, location of annual conference, affordability of conference travel, regional/national conference member vs. non-member registration rates, changes in job or family, personal expenses and commitments, volunteer or leadership status, perception of the value of AMTA’s member services, the need for continuing education credits, state recognition activities, etc.

### YEARLY COMPARISON AT YEAR END

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Professional</th>
<th>Associate</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Grad Student</th>
<th>Affiliate</th>
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<th>Inactive</th>
<th>Life</th>
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Overall membership numbers continue to slowly increase and the December 31, 2016 year-end number is the highest overall year-end number ever. This includes 1999 (the year AMTA hosted the World Congress of Music Therapy) and in the history of AMTAs predecessors. The graduate student membership category has increased by 80% since 1998, while the Professional membership number has increased much more slowly. It is possible that many professional music therapists are staying in or returning to the Graduate Student category as they work on Master’s and Doctoral degrees. We continue to make a concentrated effort to increase the market share of Professional members due to the large pool of current MT-BCs who are not members of any kind.

It is also interesting to note that since the inception of AMTA, Professional dues have only been raised 6 times. Those years were: 2000, 2001, 2005, 2008, 2011, and 2015. Decreases in total membership numbers do not necessarily correspond with increases in professional dues cost, and where they do, those numbers generally rebound within the following 1-2 years. Student and Graduate Student membership dues rates have increased even less frequently.

**Professional Dues Rate Each Year**

- 1998 $170
- 1999 $170
- 2000 $180
- 2001 $190
- 2002 $190
- 2003 $190
- 2004 $190
- 2005 $200
- 2006 $200
- 2007 $200
- 2008 $220
- 2009 $220
- 2010 $220
- 2011 $235
- 2012 $235
- 2013 $235
- 2014 $235
- 2015 $250
- 2016 $250
- 2017 $250
- 2018 $250

The largest dips in membership tend to occur the year or two after a nationwide financial event; for example, the 2008 recession is followed by a low point in 2010. Excluding the year of the World Congress (1999), the change in member numbers at year-end, from the highest recorded point to the lowest, over the past 19 complete years is 493 (3,611 in 2007 and 4,104 in 2016). Year-end 2016 has both the highest overall membership number total and the highest dues rate to date.
Many other factors affect membership numbers, such as conference location or special events like AMTA hosting the World Congress in 1999. The World Congress year was one of the high points for overall membership in AMTA. Many international attendees joined AMTA in 1999 and 2000 in order to take advantage of the AMTA member discount for World Congress registration. However after the event, most did not renew AMTA membership (when they were not planning to attend the World Congress), possibly continuing as members of their own country’s music therapy association or practice.

Conference Locations each Year

- 1998 Cleveland, OH
- 1999 Washington, D.C.
- 2000 St. Louis, MO
- 2001 Pasadena, CA
- 2002 Atlanta, GA
- 2003 Minneapolis, MN
- 2004 Austin, TX
- 2005 Orlando, FL
- 2006 Kansas City, KS
- 2007 Louisville, KY
- 2008 St. Louis, MO
- 2009 San Diego, CA
- 2010 Cleveland, OH
- 2011 Atlanta, GA
- 2012 St. Charles, IL
- 2013 Jacksonville, FL
- 2014 Louisville, KY
- 2015 Kansas City, MO
- 2016 Sandusky, OH
- 2017 St. Louis, MO
Conference location and attendance has a significant effect on membership numbers each year – especially for regional totals. A benefit of membership is a registration discount for the conference in the year in which the conference is held. Prior to 2011, members joining for only the following calendar year were offered the conference discount in the current year, even if they were not currently members, but what we found was that people joined every other year and then used the conference discount twice for a single year of membership (i.e., registering late one year and then early the next). This policy changed when we upgraded our website and member database, in part, because of software limitations (typically, online membership systems are not designed to offer member benefits and discounts to non-members and provide no way to give a single member benefit to non-members using the system), but also because of this tendency to claim the conference benefit more than once for a single year of membership, which was never the intention of the benefit. It may not be a direct correlation, but we have noticed membership increases since this policy was enforced more stringently.

**Regional Members** - A comparison of members in each region over a five-year period can be seen in the following graph. The following chart below shows regional member numbers as well as the annual conference location, compared on May 1 each year.
Another phenomenon we tend to see is an increase in membership in the region where the national conference is held either in the year of the conference or the year after, depending on the conference policy at the time. Some individuals do not join AMTA every year, but rather alternate years or join only in years when they intend to attend the annual conference. Thus, we see a “bump” in regional numbers around years when conference was held in that region. Non-member vs. member-discounted costs of regional conference registration also impact the number of members in a given region each year.

A breakdown of regional membership percentages as of May 1st appears in the following graph.

![Breakdown of Regional Membership Graph](image)

**Regional lists** – Regions are provided with free-of-charge membership lists in quarterly reports; periodically as requested (weekly and even daily) in the months leading up to regional conference to help with regional conference registration processes (in order to base the discounted regional conference fee on member or non-member status). Regional officials can also confirm current member status in the AMTA online directory, but are reminded that some choose to opt-out of appearing in the online directory so they should double check with the AMTA office if a person says they have joined AMTA but does not appear in the online directory. Lists are used for membership promotion in connection with conference and for regional membership promotion activities. Regional lists of non-members are provided to the Membership Committee representatives for calling lists during membership calling campaigns which is a task of the AMTA Membership Committee. A conservative estimate suggests that over 75 of these lists were provided without cost to the regions first two quarters of 2017 so far. Regional lists requested outside of these activities are provided at a per record fee through the Mailing Label Request form, which can be found online in the Member Toolkit (“Purchasing AMTA mailing lists”) and in the public “Advertising with AMTA” areas of the website. AMTA members can purchase at a substantial, per-record discount, and AMTA regions may purchase at an even-further discounted cost. Those requesting lists for research projects can also purchase email addresses (email addresses are not provided for commercial contact). These requests must be made according to the Label Request Policy; the survey and IRB approval must first be approved by the AMTA Executive Director.
Types of Membership

Professional members continue to comprise the largest part of AMTA, with 60% of the membership as of May 1, 2017. The remaining membership category percentages can be seen in the graph below.

Professional Members - The following chart and graph show the breakdown of credentials/designations as well as growth for the category of Professional membership in AMTA as of May 1, 2017. Members are instructed to notify the AMTA national office when they become Board Certified. When that happens, someone in the AMTA office verifies MT-BC status with CBMT before adding it to the member’s individual record. We do this immediately upon request. However, many members do not contact us for this purpose, so we periodically audit our database against CBMT records in order to provide the most current information we are able. We are grateful to CBMT for their assistance with these projects.

<table>
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<th>2/1/2017</th>
<th>3/1/2017</th>
<th>4/1/2017</th>
<th>5/1/2017</th>
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</thead>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dual (RMT &amp; ACMT)</td>
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Membership Drives

2017 Membership Promotion – Our first membership invitation for 2017 was emailed in November of 2016 to over 14,000 individuals in the AMTA database. This was a membership newsletter, highlighting benefits of membership and successes that membership supports with a direct link to join and pay for membership online. Monthly follow-up invitations with additional and varied highlighted information were sent to those who had not yet joined over the next several months.

In December 2016 for the first time, we were able to use CBMT’s current MT-BC list for membership invitations (many thanks to CBMT for providing a certificant list for this purpose!). This was a one-time use agreement and we used a third party mass mail tool, MailChimp, to send a membership invitation to this group of music therapists. This is significant because this is the first time we have been able to contact the larger list of 7000+ current MT-BCs, not just those who happen to be in our database, and we are reaching the entire pool of potential Professional members who are board certified.

Membership promotional efforts were included in many forums and publications. A list of many of these efforts follows; however, this is not a comprehensive list as membership promotion is weaved into almost everything we do in the AMTA office, whether it is conference promotion, state recognition, sharing reimbursement tips, government relations advocacy work, communications with current members, calls for assistance to the national office, etc. AMTA membership benefits are almost always mentioned in some way and non-members are reminded that this information results from the members who support AMTA’s mission with their dues. Members are thanked for their ongoing support.

- Monthly emailed invitations to non-renewing former members with new highlighted benefits.
• **New Membership in AMTA section of AMTA website** created with its own drop-down menu items under “About Music Therapy and AMTA.” New membership content placed in the pages of this section to direct people to membership specifics more quickly and easily.

• **Membership ads** on Oxford website/Music therapy journal pages

• **New content** placed on home page every few weeks with 2017 renewal information

• “**Membership Monday**” content posted to social media every Monday since January 1, 2017.

• December 2016: 6 new "Why Should I Join AMTA?" videos produced and posted on AMTA's YouTube Channel. One highlighted each week through social media for "Membership Monday"

• “**What Does AMTA Do for Me?**” infographic placed on homepage of website. How AMTA supports people in each stage of their professional development.

• **Invitations to organizational members** (potential Patron, Affiliate, Educational Affiliate members)

• Oxford University Press benefit: **AMTA members get 25% off** purchases on OUP publications.

• “**Membership Monday**” content featured in Music Therapy Matters Monthly e-newsletter.

• **#WeAreAMTA social media campaign** - Membership Committee’s hashtag continues to be used by AMTA officials and members alike.

• Combination **2017 Membership/Conference ads** submitted for regional conference programs.

• **Further advertising new member benefits** placed on website including, but not limited to: AMTA-pro podcasts, new ASD resources, MLE updates, monthly newsletter issues, reinforcements for AMTA’s non-discrimination policy, information on travel with musical instruments and TSA requirements, comparison document for changes in Professional Competencies, CPT code information, new videos from AMTA Tech Stop (resources from the Technology Committee), new e-courses, **Self-Care for Music Therapists** e-course offered **FREE** to 2017 AMTA members along with 3 CMTE credits upon conclusion, Music Therapy Research 2025, Music Therapy and ASD strategic priority updates, and member only resources within the newly added “Guidance for Music Listening Programs” section of the website (created in response to Music and Memory as well as other like groups). All of these, advertised as a benefit of membership in AMTA and a new resource members may enjoy if they join. A quick and easy way to identify the newest AMTA member benefits as well as those you may not be aware of, is by looking in the AMTA Member Toolkit.

An extensive list of membership benefits is also found on the AMTA website under the new membership section: About Music Therapy and AMTA>Membership in AMTA.

**Calling Campaigns** – We are pleased to report that six of seven AMTA regions have contacted the office for non-member lists to perform regional calling drives during the first two quarters of 2017: Many thanks to membership committee representatives from **Great Lakes Region, Midwestern Region, New England Region, Southeastern Region, Southwestern Region, and Western Region** for their hard work and dedication to this responsibility of the Membership Committee.

During member calling drives, AMTA Membership Committee representatives speak with non-renewing members and ask why individuals have chosen not to renew this year. Always, the major goal of a calling drive (or any other drive where a personal connection/conversation with a non-member is sought) is to speak directly with an individual and understand the individual’s concerns, reasons, or barriers to becoming a member. Once a conversation begins, callers can help resolve those concerns and support the music therapists with whom they are speaking. So, in essence, a calling drive is as much a networking exercise as a membership endeavor. Some ways in which concerns are resolved are:

• listening to and validating individuals’ concerns

• making contact with and reminding individuals that they are known and important
• sharing information; (though it may have been published, not everyone remembers every item in the long list of member benefits and a helpful reminder in the moment it is needed is often more valuable and longer lasting than referring to a posted list)
• sharing local information and networking with other professionals in a geographic area who can provide support for challenges that are specific to that person or area
• sharing with the individual where, how, and to whom they can communicate a concern
• sharing how to contact a board member, national office member, assembly member, committee chair, or other person poised to be able to help with a concern
• educating individuals about member benefits they may not be aware of or may not be using
• educating individuals about the value of membership and its importance to the music therapy profession
• educating individuals about AMTA’s advocacy for music therapy profession
• educating individuals about important changes in the music therapy profession

These personal conversations tend to be the most helpful in understanding why people may not be joining AMTA. They aid in making individuals aware of available information and in helping people feel comfortable sharing feelings and experiences. Because professional members tend to know more detailed information affecting music therapists, calling drives are best performed by a group of knowledgeable, enthusiastic, professional member volunteers who view this as a valuable networking exercise for themselves as well as a service to other music therapists.

Overwhelmingly, the most common response to the question about why people don’t join AMTA in a given year is a financial one – concern continues to be communicated about the economic and political climates, which causes people to carefully consider purchases. Many music therapists share that they feel being a member of free, online communities may provide them the networking opportunities they desire, but do not require payment. In some instances, others get member-only benefits and information, which AMTA provides or creates, from well-meaning members who post them without permission on public sites. The fact remains that many of the resources and information shared in these online communities – whether or not it is member-restricted – are available because of the work done by AMTA members, volunteers, officials, and staff; and membership dues support that work.

What we most often hear from individual music therapists through formal and informal surveys conducted by the national office and membership committee is, “I want to join. I just can’t afford it right now.” Ability to pay dues, and not necessarily perceived value or dissatisfaction about the organization and its work, is the single-most reported reason people do not join AMTA. This has been the case since membership calling drives were first performed in 1998. Budgeting for membership in a professional society is a choice most professional individuals must make regardless of their field of study. Even when music therapists choose not to become members, they benefit from the work other members support with their membership dues. With over 7,250 MT-BC/RMT/CMT/ACMTs in the United States (reported in the 2016 Workforce Analysis), that means only around 28% (33% if Grad student members are included) of eligible music therapists are currently supporting the work AMTA does for the music therapy profession through Professional membership dues.

Regardless, when performing membership drives, our position has always been to give members options for ways in which they can join (online payments, installment plan, scholarships, inactive or retired status, regional contacts for assistance where available, etc.) When it’s clear they cannot join, we remind them of the benefits they’re missing and that we hope to see them back among our AMTA family next year. AMTA’s work advances the entire profession. The ultimate goal of membership contacts is to make a positive professional connection even if the person feels he or she cannot join this year.
**Board of Directors’ Professional Member Workgroup** – The Board of Directors also takes an active hand in working to increase membership. A workgroup, part of the Financial Action Plan, was convened to work alongside the membership committee with the goal of increasing Professional membership in AMTA. This workgroup is exploring additional ways Board members can support the goal of increasing Professional members. This workgroup includes Amy Furman, Deborah Benkovitz, Kristen O’Grady, Tracy Richardson, and Angie Elkins (ad hoc). Several conference calls have taken place so far to discuss projects and make plans.

**Other Board of Directors’ Efforts** -- Two years ago, we unveiled a popular promotion effort by AMTA Board of Directors: videos from individual Board members were submitted and edited into our “Why Should I Join AMTA?” series. We also received several great videos from others – everyone from regional officials to local conference committees and others. These videos are still featured on the AMTA website and in social media posts and are highlighted often. Thanks to these individuals, for a varied and thoughtful list of ways AMTA membership benefits all music therapists in different areas of their professional lives.

So far, 18 videos have been produced but there is still room for more! If you have not submitted a video yet, we could use your input for membership promotion in 2017 and 2018 – and if you have submitted a video, but have thoughts about new or different reasons to join, feel free to submit another! Please record your video on your computer, phone, or device and send the raw file to Angie Elkins, who will be happy to edit it into more videos for inclusion in this project.

**Payment Plans** – Since AMTA’s inception, we have always offered the option of setting up a payment plan for members who wish to join, but cannot afford to pay the entire membership fee in one lump sum. In the past, this was done by personal request: a phone call or email to the AMTA national office. But in January of 2013, the ability to select an “installment plan” when paying online without requiring a personal request to the AMTA office was instituted. The ability to pay for Professional membership in either 4 or 6 installments online has been made available from 2013-current for a limited period in the beginning of the membership year, from January through March 31. This time limit is required, on the advice of AMTA accountants, to ensure membership can be paid in full by conference registration deadlines and elections in the second half of the year in which the election will be held. A nominal fee is added to the cost of membership for each of the number of transactions requested, which accommodates for, but does not fully cover, additional processing time and additional credit card fees incurred by multiple payments for a single purchase.

After March 31, we are still willing to arrange payment plans outside of this opportunity for those who truly feel they have a need. These can also be arranged but must be done through a phone call to the AMTA office. Cindy Smith, Membership Associate, works with those paying membership in installments to create an arrangement that is workable for both parties.

**Overall, the cost in staff time and resources to manage those paying in installments through the online system is significant.** Though the system appears automated for members, it is not for staff processing payments on the backend. Despite our best efforts, records must be accessed and adjusted individually to make this process properly operational, making it quite labor-intensive. Many transactions need further individual attention, when directions for signing up for installments are not properly followed or when credit cards are declined on the second or third installment, for example. All our transactions process through a PayPal portal and it is easy for buyers to dispute a payment in PayPal even when they initiated the payment. The PayPal dispute process is heavily weighted toward the purchaser and when there are disputes (especially about membership or donations to any organization), the dispute is usually resolved in the advantage of the purchaser. Sellers have little recourse even when documents are submitted showing an individual’s intent to purchase. Sometimes, even when the individual realizes they made a mistake and
decides they do not want to dispute the charge, the process is already in motion and PayPal still refunds the money to the buyer after the buyer asks them to stop the dispute process. We then have to contact the individual to arrange a different form of payment. Even under the best of circumstances, an installment plan for membership dues is a labor intensive process, requiring many additional staff hours, which amounts, in many cases, to a greater cost than the nominal service fee covers.

- 104 people took advantage of the installment option in 2013. 11 still owe on this agreement.
- In 2014, 127 individuals took advantage of the installment option. 16 still owe on this agreement.
- In 2015, 116 individuals took advantage of the installment option. 16 still owe on this agreement (a total of $3,158.62 uncollected).
- In 2016, 123 individuals took advantage of the installment option. 19 still owe on this agreement (a total of $2,773.40 uncollected).
- In 2017, 117 individuals have taken advantage of the installment option so far.

We continue to contact previous years’ members to try and secure payments as agreed, and we are able to do so in some cases, but this also amounts to additional staff time. Further, since a payment for membership is not for goods or services, we cannot legally collect on unpaid membership dues when an individual chooses not to complete all the agreed-upon payments. Our policy requires individuals to completely finish paying all installments in a given year or they will not be eligible to pay in installments in future years, but this is difficult to police since the installment plan was requested to be member-initiated online without prior approval as it was in the past. The only way to enforce this is to refund payment after it has been made, which is also labor intensive and problematic in financial reporting.

Per the advice of AMTA accountants and agreement of AMTA officials, members who do not complete all payments by the agreed-upon deadline will not be considered current members for the purposes of voting in that year’s election. We rely on reminders posted on social media in May to remind non-members of this policy, since we do not have a direct line of communication by virtue of their non-member status.

With regard to the effectiveness of installment plans in promoting new members, most of the individuals paying in installments have been members at some time in the past 5 years. It is not clear whether they would not have become members without the installment option. We don’t necessarily see many first-time-ever AMTA members paying in installments. We do hear reports that the option provides a convenience for those who would be returning members anyway, so it is unclear whether the option of an installment plan for Professional membership really translates into more Professional members. It is more likely that the option of an online installment plan for Professional membership is a service that has probably increased good will, but not necessarily increased Professional membership. At best, we hope this contributes to a culture of membership in which people are members consistently each year and find the way to join that works for them, not just to use member benefits or attend the conference less expensively, but to support AMTA and the music therapy profession as a consistent member.

Conference Membership Push - This year, the 2017 conference again will have special intensive trainings as well as special sessions and programs of interest to students. Special sessions are planned for researchers, students, educators, interns and practicing music therapists. We tend to view the conference as the last “membership drive” of the year.
While the bulk of Professional members join in the first two quarters of the year, the Student member number, as a rule, continues to build throughout the entire year and a large portion of students also join later in the year, often as a way to take advantage of the discounts for conference registration(s). The annual conference policy offers a discount for conference registration *in the year that the individual is a member* as a benefit of membership. Thus, only student members in 2017 may claim the member discount for the 2017 conference (as a reminder, there is also a non-member, full-time student rate that students may take advantage of even if they are not members which is still heavily discounted). Members who choose to join for the 2018 calendar year will be able to enjoy a discounted fee for the 2018 conference. We expect and depend on conference promotion as a useful tool in promoting not only Professional, but also Student and Graduate Student membership and hope to see these numbers climb throughout the remainder of the year.

*Welcome to the Profession Packets* – This program is AMTA’s way of supporting new professionals by offering $200 in savings on membership, conference, and resource costs during their transition from student to professional. AMTA has distributed these packets to new professionals since 1998. Packets contain a welcome letter signed by the President and Executive Director of AMTA, sample public educational materials, and informational materials about services and benefits of membership in AMTA. A short newsletter is included, which contains tips for finding a job and other news pertinent to new professionals as well as four coupons for discounts on the first two years of professional membership. **Two membership coupons** (for two different years of membership), an **annual conference coupon**, and a coupon for a **product** from the Publications and Products Catalog. In this way, AMTA provides **additional support to graduating students** through their transition to professional music therapist by providing useful information and discounts for the first years of their professional expenses as well as a positive experience as a professional member. A request form and information is found on the AMTA website [http://www.musictherapy.org/careers/packets/](http://www.musictherapy.org/careers/packets/) and we make efforts each year to inform students of this option by asking educators and internship directors to share the information with their students, posting about it on social media feeds, asking AMTAS to communicate the benefit, and announcing it at AMTA conferences. As there is a brand new class of graduating student each year, we depend on others to help point students to this information each year.

*Member Appreciation “Pop-Up” Sales* – The “Pop-up” sales program offers time-limited, member-only discounts off the (already-discounted) member price of a selected publication(s). These have been running, occasionally and without a regular schedule (the nature of a pop-up sale) since 2014. Pop-up sales are announced to everyone on the AMTA website and through Facebook and Twitter and instruct members how they can get the selected book at the sale price and for how long. We hope this program not only increases interest in publications but also adds to the long list of member benefits already enjoyed by current members.

*Products and Publications*

*Music Therapy Matters Monthly* – This is our second year of providing *Music Therapy Matters Monthly*, electronically on a monthly basis. As with our inaugural issue in 2016, the January 2017 issue was again available for all to see; starting in February, however, this monthly brief became available to current members only. Emailed directly to current members around the middle of each month, this newsletter is filled with important, timely and brief information, as well as money-saving discounts! Individuals joining AMTA later in the year who missed some of the direct-to-your-inbox emails, can access full versions of each monthly issue on the AMTA website through a link in the Member Toolkit. The emailed version contains short, quick-to-read articles appropriate for an emailed newsletter, with links to longer versions of articles online when necessary. Be sure to check out issues you haven’t read yet for news and stories about association activities, music therapy recognition and advocacy throughout the country, upcoming events, tips and resources for job hunters or business owners, and more.
**AMTA Products and Donations** – AMTA products and publications are conveniently available for purchase online in the AMTA Bookstore. New products are added to the online store as they become available. **Current members of AMTA receive generous member discounts on each purchase.** Donations to AMTA’s funds: Disaster Relief, Center Stage, Research, Scholarship, General Donations, etc. – can also be made online in the AMTA Bookstore. We are currently exploring options for new products in 2017 before the annual conference.

**Conference Program and Marketing Materials** – The printed poster/preliminary program for the 2017 conference is currently being developed. We hope to have this printed and mailed in May. The most up-to-date information can be found on the AMTA website by clicking on the “Attend a Conference” button. More information from the local arrangements committee can be found here: [http://amtanationalconference.com/](http://amtanationalconference.com/)

**Finances**

Our financial records are maintained by several persons to assure security and accuracy of records and information. Cindy Smith and Angie Elkins perform daily maintenance of Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, respectively. We also complete other bookkeeping tasks with help from staff assistants and national office staff as necessary. All financial transactions are entered into our comprehensive accounting software package. An outside accountant, unaffiliated with AMTA, who is licensed and certified to practice in the state of Maryland, reviews all transactions monthly and publishes monthly statements and reports.

Additionally, AMTA retains a separate accounting firm for filing of required tax forms and the yearly financial audit. This firm's staff are members of the American Institute of CPAs and licensed to practice in the state of Maryland. Our fiscal year will end on June 30, 2017 and we conducted our annual comprehensive audit of all AMTA financial records in September, 2017. We continually update our Chart of Accounts to allow for detailed reporting of finances as well as keep current with software upgrades and updates. Once the audit report is finalized, AMTA’s financial information is provided to the public on the website under “What is AMTA?>AMTA Summarized Financial Information” as well as in the Treasurer’s report.

**Information Systems**

**Journal websites at Oxford University Press**– This is the fourth year both the *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives* are published by Oxford University Press (OUP) in partnership with AMTA. Each journal has its own website hosted in the Oxford environment where information about the journal, current issues, archived issues, information for authors, and more can be accessed.

Andi Farbman, Barbara Else, and Angie Elkins, along with the journal editors, have been working closely with OUP staff to continue to manage both the journal’s publication process as well as member access and have been addressing issues of concern as necessary. We have published the entire 2014, 2015 and 2016 volumes of the *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives*, as well as the first issues in 2017 under the OUP/AMTA partnership, and are excited to see the visibility of music therapy research increase. For more information about AMTA journals and OUP, as well as the recent updated platform on which the journals are presented, please see Barb Else’s report.

**AMTA Website** – Throughout the spring and summer of 2016, three pages of suggestions for content updates, improvements, and changes to the AMTA website were collected from AMTA staff, members,
non-members, consumers, other users, and those who communicate directly with the public. These suggestions were collected by staff member, Tawna Grasty, who most often speaks with members and non-members about their experience on the website, and she compiled them in order of priority. With the exception of a small number of additions which still require content to be provided, all of these have been addressed and updated in whatever way possible. We continue to evaluate new features and sections by asking for feedback and suggestions from varying groups of users. Major projects so far in 2017 involve converting all the pages of the website to show as secure content (previously, only select pages like the home page and pages connected to personal information or the online store/payments were secure), addressing issues with templates on member interactive pages of the website to bring compatibility to meet updates in browser technology, and responding to issues of access on the Oxford University Press website, which, while not a part of our website, does link to ours through member access.

We continue to make weekly, and often daily, improvements to an already large and information-laden website. Our goal is to make it more useful to, first and foremost, the public seeking information about music therapy who may get their only information about the music therapy profession from our website. Secondly, and equally important, we work to improve access to resources and member benefits for AMTA members.

“Latest News,” the right column of the AMTA website, has been more active than ever before, with updates and notices typically being posted weekly, if not more often. Members can log in and see member only posts like “Music Therapy Matters Monthly” there as well. Many new resources and sections have been added to the AMTA website recently.

- AMTA’s new Non-discrimination and Equal Opportunity Policy (Member Resources>Official Documents) as well as a home page video with AMTA President Geiger reading this new official document.
- Music Therapy Matters Monthly archives (Member Resources>Member Toolkit)
- New AMTA-pro podcasts in 2017
- New AMTA e-courses: Self-Care for Music Therapists and Personalized Music Listening and Music Therapy
- AMTA Tech Stop, from the AMTA Technology Committee (Quick Links>AMTA Tech Stop) – new videos added
- A Music Therapy-Informed Music Listening Section with Guidance for Music Listening Programs in response to Music and Memory and other similar programs, helpful as a reference for those concerned with the Alive Inside movie and like programs. (Home> About Music Therapy & AMTA>What is Music Therapy?>Music Therapy with Specific Populations)
- New sections under “Education & Careers>Education and Clinical Training Information” added with sections for potential students, potential schools and internship sites, MLE and ETAB news intended for non-members and the public recently added.
- New “Membership in AMTA” section updates added, separating all membership information from the “What is AMTA?” section, to be more easily identified/found.
- New website section for parents and consumers planned, ready to implement when content is provided.

In addition to these newer subsections and additions to the AMTA website, there are near-constant edits, updates, deletions, new versions of documents, and many other additions and changes made on a daily basis. The website requires a great deal of time and attention just to maintain in its current state. There are
many behind the scenes tasks that happen each day, from making updates to double checking and creating new content and all need to be fully edited and vetted before posting.

With the ever-increasing number of pages from committees, events, workgroups, news items, media sources, member benefits, etc., careful organization, evaluation of placement, and assignment of priority to information is required as, understandably, everything cannot fit on the main home page without overwhelming all viewers. It’s important to remember that the website is organized for multiple groups of users and while text placed on the homepage might seem easy to find, if all content were on the home page, it would be impossible to distinguish. The best home pages clearly and cleanly describe the purpose of the association and its mission, while offering a standard, logical navigation system to get to deeper information for those who desire it.

We first consider the website as viewed by consumers and we attempt to put information that is most valuable and pertinent to their needs in the most prominent locations. Members and music therapists (who understand the music therapy profession and are more familiar with the website) know to look for information on a specific topic or subject and will invest the time to click to that next page, while laypeople may not even know some topics exist and may leave the website without finding needed information. Therefore, use of the organized menu system is critical to get everyone -- members, non-members and consumers alike -- to the information they are trying to find. Quick Links help to get people to frequently-used pages easily, but the QuickLink list itself can even become overwhelming without careful evaluation.

The AMTA website and online member database are parts of the regular workflow of the AMTA office staff with significant time devoted to maintenance. Office staff use the database and website content management systems, and as new features come with regular new builds and updates to the software, they must adjust and modify. While it is wonderful to have continually-improved functionality and improvements made without incurring the extra cost of yearly upgrading or hiring programmers, the result is a continual need for staff education and training as features are added and changed. In addition, changes in the overall marketplace, like browser and operating system updates, impact the functionality of products. We continue to requested features and updates in both the AMTA website and member database that we feel are necessary – as they become necessary - and in the best interest of office workflow or the needs of our members. We also continually address issues of functionality as they arise.

While our website allows us to communicate more directly with members and the public, it also requires a substantial amount of maintenance and additional work. The online “Contact Us” feature is in addition to emails and calls that typically come into the office; we receive and respond to questions from the general public as well as members and music therapists through this feature. Because of the nature of web communication, there is typically a higher expectation of immediate response and we receive regular inquiries now from Contact Us submissions, Facebook messages, tweets, emails, and phone calls and make every attempt to answer all in a timely manner (within the next business day whenever possible). We are grateful to staff members Kim Bell, Tawna Grasty, and Jennifer McAfee, who handle the front line for many of the requests for information and more staff time is needed to handle the volume of inquiries. They also help walk people through features on the website each day. In order to continue this communication, there is a need for continual updates and new information added to keep the website current and relevant. Frequent updates also help to improve a website’s ranking on search engine results and give users a reason to come back and find out more. We work daily to find, identify, evaluate and produce new content to be added regularly and each staff member is involved in this process in one way or another.

Edits to the AMTA Website – There are many hundreds of pages on the AMTA website. As the website grows exponentially, it requires “a village” in order to keep up with updates, edits, additions and deletions. Many thanks to those AMTA staff members who have also taken on roles in updating and reviewing sections and pages of the website. Thanks also to sharp-eyed members who alert us when edits are
necessary. When updates and edits are noticed or needed, from committee pages to posted documents, a brief email can be directed to Angie Elkins at elkins@musictherapy.org. It is important that your request contain the URL of the page you are viewing. (*Due to the large number of pages on the website; it is often not possible to tell where the information needs to change without this information.*) Please also include the exact changes, including additions and deletions that need to be made. The request will be reviewed by AMTA staff and addressed at the next available opportunity.

**Committee Pages on the AMTA Website** – Each AMTA committee has a committee page on the website where they are able to post reports and information intended for AMTA members. In order to post new information, including committee reports and committee members, on committee pages, please send text to Angie Elkins (either email or word document is acceptable), along with a brief description of what needs to be added, removed or changed on the existing page and the committee page in question. Each committee is expected to submit a report for these pages twice yearly at minimum, but many committees provide additional committee information and resources. Additionally, the reports may need to be edited for the membership which make a simple repost of the report found in the mid-year or annual meeting board book not necessarily appropriate or complete. **Committee chairs should submit those reports separately in the format desired for the website posting after approval by their Council Coordinator.** More information is found in the *Handbook for Councils and Standing Committees.*

**Website Statistics** – The AMTA website has seen over 3.6 million sessions since its launch on July 20, 2011 with over 2 million unique visitors. Over 9 million page views were counted.

From January-April 2017, there have been 233,977 sessions, 149,856 unique users, and 578,519 page views. The average user views 2.47 pages in a session on the AMTA website and the average session duration is 2 minutes, 56 seconds. *The average visit duration of any site is 4 minutes and 6 seconds. The average visit duration for the traffic coming from Google Organic search is: 3 minutes 29 seconds. The average visit duration for direct traffic is: 4 minutes 6 seconds. – statistic reported by Web Analytics World.* The bounce rate (percentage of visits where a user leaves without interacting with the website in any way) is 55.32%. *(As a rule of thumb, a bounce rate in the range of 26 to 40 percent is excellent. 41 to 55 percent is roughly average. 56 to 70 percent is higher than average, but may not be cause for alarm depending on the website. – statistic reported by Rocket Fuel.)* We are also able to determine the most commonly reported operating system used to access the website (Windows 42%) and the most commonly used browser (Google Chrome – 52%). These numbers are relatively comparable (with typical internet usage ups and downs) to last year’s.

From April 1-30, 2017, the most recent full month, the following data were counted:
- Sessions – 60,163
- Unique Users – 40,986
- Page Views – 145,798
- Average Pages / Session - 2.42
- Average Session Duration – 2:59 minutes
- Bounce Rate – 55.81%
- % New Sessions – 58.09%

Of the Sessions counted above, new visitors to the site outnumbered returning visitors in April 2017.
- New Visitors 58.1% (34,980)
- Returning Visitors 41.9% (25,183)
We can also see the top countries from where visitors connected during the month of April 2017 (other countries also have visitors, but do not appear in the top ten number of visits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>% Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1027</td>
<td>1.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>1.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>1.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>0.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>0.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>0.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>0.51%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that our outreach to developing countries is also expanding through the Oxford Developing Countries Program that provides not-for-profit institutions in developing countries free or deeply discounted access to our journals and select online products. OUP participates in a number of free or heavily-reduced rate developing country access initiatives, including INASP, eIFL, and Research4Life, as well as our own Developing Countries Offer. This offer is available to established not-for-profit educational institutions from qualifying countries. Eligibility is based on the World Bank Rankings and the HDI (Human Development Index) alongside other metrics. Access is either free or deeply discounted. See Barb Else’s report on our OUP partnership for additional information.

**AMTA Social Media** – Communication and connection are the main goals of all social media platforms and the advantage for many is to be able to receive updates from many different sources with little effort. Social media is an incredibly powerful tool for communication, but can be a double-edged sword. Disadvantages of online groups include the need to monitor as public comments can often veer off-topic and off-mission, become too personally specific in a public forum, or be inflammatory. Spammers often invade social media and e-lists for their own purposes and well-intended group members may post messages perceived as spam by others. Many followers who would otherwise be members of AMTA may also feel they have a connection to the community and decide that following AMTA as well as other groups on social media is sufficient, opting to forego membership dues and full membership benefits. It is difficult to determine how much to share on the AMTA social media pages and what format of information is appropriate to each venue for this reason. We are continually monitoring and reevaluating. However, for reaching large groups of people in a timely fashion, the importance of using social media efficaciously and appropriately cannot be understated.

Both music therapists and supporters of music therapy alike follow AMTA’s updates on Facebook and Twitter. AMTA staff have been able to use these platforms to inform the public of numerous events and topics – especially timely ones: AMTA activities, internship openings, new products, publicity for music therapy and especially upcoming conference details.

- **Facebook** - The AMTA Facebook page now has over 13,513 followers
- **Twitter** - AMTA’s Twitter feed currently has over 3,936 followers

As many followers of the Facebook page and Twitter feed are not necessarily music therapists, it is also an excellent way to promote music therapy and inform the public of music therapy’s benefits. Through social media, we have been able to publish media alerts, connect with music therapy clients and consumers, communicate to potential hirers, share successes and awareness, and establish relationships with supporters of music therapy and we focus on these kinds of relationships.
The AMTA website has buttons on .html viewable pages, which allow viewers to “Print,” “Email,” and “Share.” “Print” formats the page appropriate for printing (without the menus and cover images) and is quite useful for printing pages – especially the official documents – as a citation for the url and date is placed on the document. The “Email” button allows users to send specific pages to directly to friends, while the “Share” button allows those pages to be shared through social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Gmail, Google+, LinkedIn, and Tumblr.

*YouTube* - The AMTA YouTube channel is a repository for videos used on the AMTA website. It is also used to post video clips from conference, public resources, and to encourage membership and conference attendance and involvement. As the YouTube channel is the place where we upload video clips and subsequently share them in one or more of the above platforms, we expect subscriptions to be minimal but analytics tell us that over 459 individuals have subscribed to the YouTube channel and with videos having been watched 86,175 times. AMTA’s video *Music Therapy and Medicine: Partnerships in Care* is now available in its entirety on the AMTA YouTube channel.

*RSS Feeds* – Even though blogs are becoming less and less prominent in and around the internet, we still employ two RSS feeds on our website so users may subscribe to get notifications when new items are added. Information from many different sources can be gathered via the RSS feeds and comes to users in one place through a variety of available feed readers or email clients. Though it is not appropriate for an entire website to be fed through an RSS feed, features organized into blogs can be easily subscribed to using RSS feeds. AMTA-pro, for example, has an RSS feed button on the main page behind the member area. Users can subscribe to AMTA-pro through a feed reader and through iTunes (because AMTA-pro has an audio component), which can be synced using a user name and password (that appear on the AMTA-pro page) to an iPod or smart phone and carried in a portable format. The “Latest News” column on the AMTA homepage, can also be subscribed to via RSS feed, after which, all new Latest News items can come to the reader via his or her desired feed reader. The RSS Feed subscribe button ( ) can be found at the extreme bottom right of the AMTA homepage.

As with all technology, maintaining social media outlets requires much time, maintenance, and frequent adjustment. Facebook and Twitter users direct-message AMTA and expect their questions responded to in this format as quickly as they would an email or a phone call (often, because of the immediate nature of the internet communications, the expectation is that the response should come even more quickly, in the middle of the night, or on weekends). Now, instead of posting a message in one place, it needs to be posted in four or five different places and each time in a format consistent with the platform. The work of simply communicating a single message to members in all the forms they may use, is now many times more than the number of messages. New platforms are being developed every day. More staff time and assistance is needed to ensure that the flow of information continues and improves, but AMTA has never before communicated more often and more directly with its members and the general public because of these efforts.

*New Social Media Coordinator* – ATMA welcomes Kimberly Bell, MT-BC in her expanded role as Social Media Coordinator to help with some of the additional workload social media has created for office staff. Kim currently serves as Information Specialist/Consultant for AMTA, a role she has held since 2006. In her expanded role, she is organizing and managing social media postings on behalf of the association. This part-time role includes providing guidance and logistics for social media campaigns as well as overseeing regular postings on AMTA’s social media channels. Kim is a New Orleans-based board certified music therapist with over 25 years’ clinical and supervisory experience working in medical pediatrics with emphasis on pediatric rehabilitation, critical care, and neonatal intensive care. We are grateful to have her support in this expanded role.
National Music Therapy Registry

The number of NMTR registrants continues to decline as planned upon its inception. As of May 1, 2017, there are 225 registrants. As music therapists who held designations become Board Certified and/or do not need the designation, retire, or move to other professions, they choose to let it expire. The table here shows registry numbers since January 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of NMTR Registrants 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMT/CMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMT/ACMT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMT, MT-BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NMTR numbers continue to decline slowly each year as expected. The Registry has decreased in number of registrants by approximately 89% (based on May comparisons) since its inception in 1998.

The NMTR will soon sunset on January 1, 2020 as planned. To remind designants to make plans for this coming event, a newsletter was created during the first quarter of 2017, which will be included with every communication from the National Music Therapy Registry. It includes relevant excerpts from the NMTR Bylaws as well as information on becoming Board Certified and states which require board certification for licensure or state recognition. See Jane Creagan’s report for additional information.

The breakdown of NMTR Registrants is shown in the following chart:
Of the 225 people on the Registry, 94 or 42% are current members of AMTA. NMTR members who are not members of AMTA have been targeted for membership invitations and contacts. They are also a part of the Board of Directors’ Financial Action Plan.

**Major Priorities for 2017**

- 2017 Conference marketing, online registration, final program, conference planning, opening session production support, conference app, etc.
- FY 2016 annual audit
- 2017 Workforce Study analysis and publication
- 2018 membership invitations and promotion; continued membership promotion/retention efforts for 2017
- Work with Membership Committee to follow-up results from regionally-based member drives in 2017
- Work with Professional Member Growth Workgroup to complete and follow-up regionally-based member drives in 2017
- Follow up office equipment upgrade/backups
- Continue to manage and implement improvements/refinements in database and website
- Continue to administer, maintain, and upgrade all onsite and offsite computer equipment
- Assist staff with workflow updates necessary in database and website and new tasks as added
- Assist staff in using website content management tool
- E-courses maintenance and reporting; sending out certificates; questions
- *Music Therapy ENews, Facebook, and Twitter* updates; assist staff with making updates
I am providing this summary of my work as Information Specialist and Social Media Coordinator for AMTA in anticipation of the upcoming AMTA Mid-Year Board Meeting. A summary of the types of emails and assistance given is also included. In the period October 1, 2016– April 30, 2017, I have provided approximately 300 hours of consultative work responding to emails from music therapists, students, other professionals, and members of the community at large about music therapy. The total number of responses for the period October 2016– April 2017 is 1,197. I continue to notice many emails from members requesting assistance with the AMTA website, primarily dealing with access to the Member Resources Area or with retrieving passwords and payment of dues during the beginning of the year. With the move to online Journal access, I’ve also seen an increase in emails for assistance from Members who are unclear of how to navigate the process from the AMTA Website through the Oxford Portal. I continue to see interest from potential music therapy students, many of whom inquire about equivalency and online program options. I continue to receive emails from non-traditional potential students who are considering making a change in their careers or professionals looking for educational options to add the music therapy credential.

My work during this period has also involved responding to questions and conducting interviews for students, who ranged from grade school through professional school, who were writing papers on or researching music therapy. Questions have also come from students and professionals in Counseling, Education, Art Therapy, Nursing, Speech Therapy, Special Education, Music Education, and various agency representatives seeking referrals for services and those wishing to place job openings on the Job Hotline.

Most of the answers were in response to written questions submitted via email; however, two were conducted via phone and one was conducted via Skype at the request of the students to meet a specific requirement. While most of these requests originate in the United States, I’ve also assisted persons in England, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Australia, Japan and, a first for me, Burundi.

During this time, I have also forwarded music therapy referral requests as needed, membership status questions and screen name/password requests to Cindy Smith and Angie Elkins for action. Most of these continue to involve members not understanding the login process for the website, creating duplicate profiles or being unsure of their membership status. I have also worked with Judy Simpson in an effort to appropriately respond to questions regarding reimbursement, funding, school-based music therapy services, and services for persons with Autism. I continue to provide approximately 45 hours of consultative work responding to requests regarding music therapy as a related service and handling IEP questions from music therapists, families, and educators, as well as questions regarding reimbursement and funding. Judy Simpson continues to be an invaluable resource in helping me with these inquiries. Barb Else continues to be a wonderful resource by
providing research and literature reviews on many occasions to supplement the information I provide to many inquiries.

March and April marked my first full months as AMTA’s new Social Media Coordinator. In addition to my Information Specialist duties, I am now providing approximately 8-10 hours per month of consultant work to organize and manage social media postings on behalf of the association and monitor AMTA’s and music therapy’s presence on various social media platforms, groups and message boards. This part-time role includes guidance and logistics for social media campaigns and regular postings on AMTA’s social media channels. To date I have devoted 21 hours to this project. Examples of my consultant work on this project include:

Postings to Facebook that in turn cross post to Twitter for AMTA’s involvement in legislative, advocacy and government relations committee representation at the National level. Alerting AMTA members via social media to the upcoming AMTA conference and pending important deadlines regarding proposal submission, registration and venue information. There are an average of 19.4 posts per month with posts trending upward from a low of 8 in December to a high of 29 in April.

- Providing information regarding AMTAs involvement in projects/special events such as the Kennedy Center-NIH Event.
- Planned posts targeted at our annual conference – reminders of approaching deadlines, registration, hotel, local information for planning.
- Posts to highlight the impact of music therapy as spotlighted in the media, for example, blog posts by outside experts like Dr. Daniel Levitin.
- Posts to feature the availability of new AMTA membership resources such as new AMTA Podcasts, and resources by other related professions to assist those who work with adolescents.
- Providing information and answering questions regarding AMTA, the website, and AMTA resource availability as issues arise in various social media forums.
- Responding to messages from members and the general public that are posted to the AMTA Facebook page.

Sample Post:

Other projects I assisted with during this reporting period include:
Provide feedback to Barbara Else and Angie Elkins regarding AMTA website issues as they arise.
Monitor items posted in Social Media and provide feedback to AMTA Staff
Assist AMTA Staff with various duties at National Conference
Assist Barbara Else as needed with other disasters that impact AMTA members (tornados and flooding affecting various areas of the country)
Offer feedback and ideas for *Music Therapy Matters*
Currently working with Tawna Grasty and Jennifer Peter to identify areas that potentially need improvement for the AMTA Website.

**MT-BC Referral Requests** – These requests have come from parents, grandparents, teachers, and other professionals who were seeking music therapy services for specific clients in a certain geographic location. Some examples of these emails include:

- A dear friend of my daughter's, who is 15 years old, suffered a stroke after having brain surgery to remove a tumor. He is left with a movement disorder/tremor and longs to be able to play the cello the way he once did. We are trying to find a resource that might be able to get him semi-back to where he was before he was sick.
- I work for Onward Behavioral Health. We are starting a new day program coming in March for addicted individuals and would like to incorporate some creative therapies with our clients. This would be a few hours a week at a fee for service rate. Can you suggest someone I could connect with in my local area?
- I am a speech pathologist working in Delafield, Wisconsin. I have been using Melodic Intonation Therapy with some of my patients to enhance fluency and improve prosody of speech. I feel these children could benefit from additional services through Music Therapy. They love to sing and the benefits of melody have assisted in their progress. Can you please contact me or send me information music therapists in this area?

**Potential Music Therapy Students** – These requests have come from high school students and college students seeking information about Music Therapy as a career. I continue to notice an increase in the number of emails from persons seeking information about music therapy as a potential second career along with inquiries regarding equivalency and online program options. Examples of these requests are as follows:

- I have been a Pre-K thru 8th grade music teacher for 17 years. I also have extensive experience as a church musician and music mentor for the church youth group. I would like to know what I would have to do to become certified as a music therapist. My mother in law is in a nursing home, and a music therapist comes to play the harp for her. The positive effect it has on her is comforting. I would like to be able to do this for others.
- Hi, I am currently an undergraduate student at University of California, Irvine working towards a B.M. in french horn performance as well as a B.A. in Psychology and Social Behavior. I came upon your website and found information on music therapy. I actually don't know much about this career and would love to get in touch with some music therapists in the Orange County, CA area that I can maybe shadow to experience it. I am very interested in working with children especially, because I have a lot of experience in that. And also, what are some musical skills that I would have to learn? Using the french horn for therapy seems a little loud…. haha. Thank you so much for your help as well as the great info provided on your website!
- I have a BM and MM and served 26 years in the Navy as a band conductor. Are there any certification programs I am eligible for? I am currently working as an addictions counselor.

**Research** – As stated previously, much of my time has been devoted to questions and conducting interviews for students who ranged from grade school through graduate professional school as well as professionals from various healthcare settings who were writing papers on or
researching music therapy. Some examples of the types of research questions that have been submitted thus far include:

- I am a graduate student and a Registered Nurse in an ICU. I am preparing a research proposal on music therapy on mechanically ventilated patients in the ICU. Many studies I have reviewed stated they used an assessment tool to choose a genre or style of music for the patients to listen to. I was wondering if there was a specific tool the music association uses or if you would be able to provide a standardized questionnaire frequently used? Any help would be greatly appreciated. As I would like to show the importance of Music therapists and music therapy in the critical care setting.
- I am a Graduate Researcher from Texas A&M. Can someone from your organization answer this question, or tell me where I might locate the answer?
- Of the music therapists certified through your organization, what is the number or percentage of music therapists working in public schools with student with disabilities?
- I am a NICU Nurse and Developmental Specialist. I read the book 'Music Therapy with Premature Infants’ and enjoyed it. Looking for more updated music selections for our NICU patients. The ones in the book are 20 years old. How do we choose what to use if we do not have testing equipment to determine appropriate music for preemies?

General Questions – These emails include other requests for information from MT-BCs and the general public. Examples include:

- Would you kindly refer me to some information sources or actual documents that support music therapy and education in a child with traumatic brain injury? My seven year old daughter has been seeing a board certified neurological music therapist for several years and is making remarkable progress! I have requested that her school district provide a music therapy evaluation to determine if it would be appropriate to introduce music therapy in the school environment, and on her IEP. My request for the evaluation was denied in spite of providing video evidence of her success, along with a current progress report and recommendations. I've initiated due process and will meet again with the school district, and a mediator, to "discuss" my request once again.
- I am considering writing a grant for music therapists in our senior centers. Can you tell me the average hourly wage for music therapists in Maryland that I could use in the application?
- I am doing research for my university about the career prospects for music therapists. I am looking for statistical and concrete evidence about employment prospects for people in this field. Other than the Occupational Outlook Handbook and AMTA, is there anywhere else you can direct me to find some hard data on this?

Vendor - These emails and requests are forwarded to the appropriate person at National Office. Examples are as follows:

- I am the office manager for the Child Life Department at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, I have 5 Music Therapists who need to pay their membership dues, in order for me to pay them with hospital funds CHOP requires that you become a CHOP, Please provide the following information: W9, Contact Person, Contact Phone Number, Contact Email
- I am an Instrument builder I build the KOTAMO (Koto, Tanpura, Monochord on one Sound box), which is a very helpful and many-faceted Instrument for music therapy. I would like to distribute it in the USA. Would you have any interest or could you forward my offer to interested parties? I would be glad to hear from you!
- I placed two orders with you and have received one of them. I was wondering if you would be able to tell me when the other will arrive. I am also hoping you would be able to provide an itemized receipt for each order individually so that I may reconcile my credit card transactions with our University accounting department.
Other Professional Organizations - These emails are typically forwarded to the appropriate person at National Office. The emails in this category often overlap into the emails in the research and general questions sections. Examples include:

- I am a volunteer for a nonprofit that is currently helping veterans with financial assistance but wants to start a program specifically for music therapy. She is looking for people to help her start a program she doesn't even have an idea of how to or who to work with. I am reaching out to your organization to see if you can help provide some guidance.
- I am looking for a PhD level researcher or music therapist to provide an evidence-based continuing education webinar for audiologists on music therapy for PTSD. This is a request from our members on Audiology Online, and we offer an honorarium for the presenter.
- I am a speech-language pathologist looking into information re: music therapy. I was browsing your website and was wondering if you could provide a resource that lists various instruments frequently used in music therapy as well as average prices for the instruments.

Member Services - These requests include requests from MT-BCs to locate the password to the Member’s Only Section of the www.musictherapy.org website, assistance with website content/resources, address changes, membership status clarification and other items that need clarification from National Office Staff. Some examples of these requests include:

- You used to have fact sheets about working with different populations. They were very helpful 1-2 page overviews of MT in each area. I have searched the site and cannot find them. Can you point me to where they are located on the website? The information would be better perceived coming from the National Organization rather than from my company. Can you help?
- I am a member. Do you currently provide the option to receive all journals online only, without receiving a paper copy? I'd rather read it online and save the paper.
- I was on the AMTA website in the member section, looking for what used to be called the "sourcebook", which had statistical data like the regional salary averages by population. Where can I find this information? Also, I am not a current member, but was a member in 2015. Many years ago this was a printed publication, so even if I wasn't a current member I still had access, even if it was a year old. Can I get access to last year's data since I was a member then, or is that not possible?
This report highlights the work of the Professional Program Committees: Academic Program Approval Committee and Association Internship Approval Committee. Due to my position as AMTA’s Director of Professional Programs, I serve as an ad hoc member of the Education and Training Advisory Board; the MLE Sub-committee, the Pro- Bono Work Group; and the Faculty Forum Planning Committee, actively participating in the work of these groups. My report includes descriptions of each group and its activities for this year. This report also includes information on the Annual Conference in St. Louis, AMTA publications’ advertising, and priorities for 2017.

I. **Special Task Forces**
   - Masters Level Entry Sub-Committee
   - Pro- Bono Work Group
   - Faculty forum Planning Committee

II. **Education and Training Advisory Board**
   - ETAB Member Changes
   - Update on current work

III. **Professional Programs-Education**
    - Committee Members
    - Re-Approval Renewals
    - Re-Approval Review Schedule
    - New Degree Program applications
    - AMTA Degree Program Statistics
    - Academic Program Changes
    - Requests for Degree Information and Degree Program Development
    - State Authorization Update
    - New Maintenance Fee

IV. **Professional Programs-Clinical Training**
    - Committee Structure
    - Intern Supervision E-Course
    - National Roster Internship Statistics
    - Committee Business

V. **National Music Therapy Registry**
    - New Board of Directors
    - Sunset of Registry

VI. **Advertising**
    - AMTA Publications

VII. **Annual Conference**
    - Sponsorship
    - Exhibits
    - Advertising

VIII. **Priorities for 2017**

IX. **Additional Tasks**
I. Special Task Forces

MLE Sub-Committee
The MLE Sub-committee of the AMTA Board of Directors is continuing to investigate a possible move to Master’s Level Entry. For the past four years, this sub-committee has engaged the membership in this investigation through discussion at town hall meetings and sessions at regional and national conferences, including educator/internship director forums. This feedback was organized into power point presentations, which are now on the AMTA website.

The MLE Sub-Committee gave presentations at all seven regional conferences this year. The title of the presentation, Sharing What We Have Learned: Report of the MLE Sub-Committee, focused on the analysis of the data from the Faculty and Internship Director/Supervisor surveys sent out last year. Sub-committee members submitted summaries of feedback from each region.

In June the MLE sub-committee will meet in Rochester for a retreat to outline the final report, which will be submitted to the AMTA Board of Directors.

Pro Bono Analytics
Last year MLE sub-committee members Amy Furman, Bryan Hunter, Angie Snell, Mary Ellen Wylie, and Jane Creagan began working with Adam Clark from Pro Bono. Adam introduced our work group to a 7 step decision analysis method, a tool to help organizations making complex decisions through examining the benefits and costs of the alternatives, and consider solutions through an appropriate decision model. Each regional presentation included a description of the decision analysis model, with details about each step in the process. The team is working on a final report of their work. For more information, please see the report of MLE Sub-Committee Chair, Mary Ellen Wylie.

Faculty Forum Planning Committee
The faculty forum meeting at the conference last fall was a huge success. Over 130 faculty attended the meeting and those who attended were interested in meeting again this year using a similar format of a short introduction, break-out sessions, coming together for brief reports from each break-out session, and a final wrap-up.

The Faculty Forum Planning Committee had one conference call to review participant feedback, which will inform the plan for this year’s meeting at the annual conference, scheduled for Friday from 5:00-7:30pm. The planning committee will send a special announcement to all faculty over the summer with details for this year’s meeting.

II. Education and Training Advisory Board

Last fall at the annual conference, Cynthia Briggs completed her second four year term as a member and former chair of ETAB. ETAB expressed its gratitude to Cynthia for the vision and leadership that she brought to this board throughout her years of service. ETAB welcomes Annette Whitehead-Pleaux for her first term as an at-large member as of January 2017.

Since last fall, ETAB has been analyzing responses solicited from noted scholars worldwide as part of an in-depth and comprehensive study, surveying and synthesizing ideas on music therapy theory, to continue work on a new white paper on the topic of “Body of Knowledge.” These responses may also lead to possible identification of a core set of principles that are common to all areas, levels, and modes of music therapy practice. For more information, please see the report of ETAB Chair, Beth Schwartz.
There is continuing interest from colleges in establishing music therapy degree programs, and Program Directors continue to see enrollment grow in their programs. However, the sustained increase in enrollment has raised concerns among some faculty regarding the lack of availability of National Roster internship openings. The AIAC is asking internship directors in their regions to send information on openings in their programs. National Roster internship openings will be posted on the AMTA Facebook page. Faculty have been instructed to keep checking the page for updates.

Academic Program Approval Committee

Committee Members
Christine Leist and Kamile Geist are the current Co-Chairs of APAC. Marilyn Sandness continues to serve the APAC in an advisory role as Chair Emerita. Lisa Summer resigned as New England regional representative. Committee members expressed their gratitude for Lisa's contributions to APAC during her 13 years of service. A new appointment will be made this summer. APAC is making a request to the Board of Directors to add two more "at-large" members.

AMTA Academic Program Approval Renewal

The following AMTA degree programs were reviewed and re-approved during the period from October 2016-May 2017:

- Montclair State University  BA in Music Therapy, MA in Music with Concentration in Music Therapy, pending NASM re-accreditation
- Western Illinois State U.  BM in Music Therapy, pending NASM re-accreditation

Re-Approval Review Schedule for 2017 (8 programs)

- Anna Maria College Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency
- College of Wooster Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency (Cleveland Consortium)
- Converse College Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency
- Duquesne University Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency
- Molloy College Bachelor’s degree, Master’s Degree and Equivalency Master’s
- Seattle Pacific University Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency
- University of Louisville Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency
- University of Georgia Bachelor’s degree and Equivalency

New Degree Programs Approved

Bachelor's degree-Carroll University, Waukesha, WI
BM in Music Therapy, pending NASM accreditation

Master's Degree-Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA
MMT, pending NASM accreditation

New Degree Program Applications in Review

University of Indianapolis, IN  BS in Music Therapy

Education Statistics

(From the period January 1-May 1 for each year)
### Academic Program Changes
There are no new changes to report at this time.

### Requests for Degree Information and Degree Program Development
Since October 2016, the following universities have requested music therapy degree information and/or have taken further action where indicated:

**Great Lakes Region**
Marietta College, OH-Received $1 Million dollar gift to start a music therapy degree program
Link to article: [http://www.marietta.edu/article/music-therapy-program](http://www.marietta.edu/article/music-therapy-program)
Valparaiso University, IN

**Mid-Atlantic Region**
Washington Adventist University, MD-Working with a consultant to develop curriculum
Caldwell University, NJ
Rider University, NJ-**Degree program in development**
Rowan University, NJ-**Working with consultant on degree program, but on hold for now due to funding set back.**
Edinboro University, PA-**Doing a Faculty Search**

**New England Region**
Southern Connecticut State University, CT
Salve Regina University, RI

**Southeast Region**
University of Central Florida, FL
Western Carolina University, NC
Degree Program Development Updates

Edinboro University PA - March 2017
In December, APAC sent a formal request to Patrick Jones, with a copy to the Dean of the School of Music, for the immediate removal of the “pending AMTA Approval, until an application is submitted,” “effective spring 2016,” and to indicate on the website that the degree program is in development. APAC also asked for the status of the students who have declared a music therapy major. The University did comply with the request to indicate that the degree program is in development. The university is still doing a search for a Program Director.

Peabody Institute at John’s Hopkins University
There has been no further communication from Peabody since the letter AMTA sent last summer answering questions about NASM, reimbursement, funding sources for music therapy positions, and initiatives for music therapists to work with professional musicians. However, the “Center for Music and Medicine” is officially active. The link will take you to the article that announced the opening: https://peabodyinstitute.wordpress.com/healing-measures/

Discussion: Interest in New Degrees and Affiliations
Interest in music therapy degree programs from colleges and universities around the country continues to grow. I am continuing to provide statistics on AMTA-approved degree program enrollment, the number of music therapists in a given state, as well as lists of music therapists and their places of employment to give interested schools an idea of the availability of potential clinical sites for practica and internships.

Since January of this year, schools have contacted me expressing interest in affiliation with AMTA-approved schools. Jeremy Lane, Music Dept. chair at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, contacted Cynthia Colwell at the University of Kansas to inquire about setting up an affiliation agreement.

State Authorization Update
Last fall I reported that the negative impact of State Authorization has been somewhat mitigated by the fact that many states are joining and AMTA-approved degree programs are participating in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA). I created a chart to show how many states, and AMTA degree programs are members of SARA, as well as the number of National Roster Internship programs in those states. Since last fall more states and AMTA-degree programs have joined SARA so I have updated the chart. This chart was sent to all AMTA faculty as part of the spring memo. (See Appendix A)

Related Education Business
APAC has been reviewing its policies and procedure documents, as well as revising application materials for re-approval and new program reviews. APAC revised the timeline for review of new degree applications to 90 days, as they are finding that new applications can take more time. The review timeline for re-approval program reviews remains at 60 days. The Committee is also considering an online application process for re-approval and new degree programs.

I routinely answer questions related to the re-approval process, degree program development, and music therapy as a career. I am in frequent contact with APAC co-chairs Christine Leist and Kamile Geist for a number of these questions, and also with Marilyn Sandness, Chair Emerita.

The spring memo to AMTA faculty was sent out in April with a request for degree program enrollment/degrees granted, and other important information, including a link to the revised AMTA Advanced competencies document as well as a side-by-side comparison with the 2009 document,
conference information, an update on the work of the Master’s Level Entry Sub-Committee, an update on State Authorization, and a list of colleges that contacted AMTA for degree information.

**Appreciation**
I want to thank APAC co-chairs Kamile Geist and Christine Leist for their assistance and support with writing official letters, answering faculty questions, and other business of the APAC. I also wish to thank Marilyn Sandness for her continued support in her role as Chair Emerita, and the members of APAC for their continuing hard work and dedication to this Committee.

**IV. Professional Programs-Clinical Training**

*Association Internship Approval Committee*

- **Committee Structure**
  Eve Montague and Lauren DiMaio are the Co-Chairs of AIAC. The newest committee member as of last summer is Jacquelyn Claxton, from the Southwest region. There is an opening for a New England Region representative. Eve Montague is from the New England region, so she is filling in temporarily until a new regional representative is appointed.

- **Internship Supervision E-course**
  The new Internship Supervision E-course, launched in July 2016, is a real benefit to music therapists who want to establish a National Roster Internship program. Online access to the course allows music therapists to complete this requirement when they need it, without having to wait for a national or regional conference, which can help to increase the number of new applications. To date, 12 people have taken the supervision E-course, and 11 people have completed it for credit.

- **National Roster Internship Statistics**

- **Committee Activity**
  **January 1, 2017 - May 1, 2017**
  - New NR Internship Programs: 6
  - Deactivated NR Internship Programs: 14
  - Inactive Status: 10

  **January 1, 2016 - May 1, 2016**
  - New NR Internship Programs: 4
  - Deactivated NR Internship Programs: 2
  - Inactive Status: 6

**National Roster Internship Programs as of May 1, 2017:**
- Active: 167
- Inactive: 10
- Total National Roster Internship Programs: 177

**National Roster Internship Programs as of May 1, 2016:**
- Active: 160
- Inactive: 32
- Total National Roster Internship Programs: 192

**Discussion of Statistics**
The statistics above compare the total (active and inactive) National Roster Internship programs for the period between January and May for 2016 and 2017, as well as Committee business processed. Fourteen programs
were deactivated or closed as a result of an annual audit of the internship database. I contacted all internship programs that have been inactive for over one year, to assess the status. Most of the closures were a mix of a music therapist leaving and the position not being filled, or the new hire does not yet meeting the requirements to be an Internship Director. Four internship programs returned to active status, which are included in the “Active” category above.

The high numbers of closures combined with the programs that are inactive at this time is alarming. For the past couple of years, internship statistics have shown that the number of new national roster internship programs has not kept pace with student demand. This, combined with outside forces beyond our control like State Authorization, have now escalated to an emergency situation, which will affect students being able to complete their degree on time.

Last year, the AMTA Board of Directors addressed this concern by charging the AIAC with developing a multi-year plan for discussion at the annual meeting to address the potential shortage of national roster internship sites. AIAC co-chairs Eve Montague and Lauren DiMaio stated in their Mid-Year report that the AIAC discussed the charge at their meeting last fall at the annual conference and decided their first step is to gather data. They are determining how many available internship slots there are for all National Roster Internship programs, and how many slots went unfilled in the past year. A question was added to the National Roster Internship Director Annual Report that asked for the number of applicants for each internship program and how many internship placements were not filled. The AIAC said National Roster IDs have indicated that they don’t always have enough applicants to fill all their slots, so slots go unfilled. This is the opposite of feedback from Program Directors who are saying there are not enough openings to meet the needs of their students.

The AIAC would also like to gather the same information from University Affiliated Internship programs, so we can see internship availability from both models, and then create a plan of action.

In the meantime, the AIAC is working on to support AMTA faculty and their students by requesting information on internship openings from the National Roster Internship Directors in their regions. The Committee will send the information to me I will post it on the AMTA Facebook page. Faculty has been instructed to check the AMTA Facebook page regularly for National Roster Internship Information.

Music therapists are showing continuing interest in establishing National Roster Internship programs, demonstrated through the requests I receive as well as in people taking the Internship Supervision CMTE. Last year at the annual conference in Sandusky, 41 music therapists completed the CMTE. The supervision training was presented at five regional conferences; Mid-Atlantic, Midwest/West, Southeast, and Great Lakes, with a total attendance of 30.

- Committee Business

The review status for 2017 applications:
- 6 approved
- 1 Non-Compliance complaint resolved
- 4 in revision
- 8 in review

The review status for 2016 applications:
- 4 in revision
(2 of the 4 applications are on hold due to extensive changes in management at their facilities).

Co-chairs Eve Montague and Lauren DiMaio have done a great job in their leadership of the AIAC. They have worked out a process of communication with each other and with me to process committee business. All of the new Committee members are settled in and are working well in meeting review deadlines.

The AIAC Annual Report link went live in April, with a deadline of May 30, 2017. National Roster Internship Directors are submitting reports and the AIAC will follow up with National Roster Internship Directors after the deadline.
In May, all National Roster Internship Directors received a “Spring Memo,” which contained important information, including current list of Committee members, the latest AMTA E-courses, links to current Education and Clinical Training documents, link to the Welcome to the Professional World Packet, and updates on State Authorization and MLE. All National Roster Internship Directors are encouraged to update their program listing on the website so interns and faculty have accurate information.

Appreciation
I would also like to thank Eve Montague and Lauren DiMaio, and the members of the AIAC for their continuing hard work and dedication to this committee.

V. National Music Therapy Registry

NMTR Board of Directors
In January, a new NMTR Board of Directors began their term of office:
President: Elaine Abbott, PhD, MT-BC
Secretary: Nancy Perkins, MA, CMT
Treasurer: Caryl Beth Thomas, MA, LMHC, ACMT

In February a Memo was sent to the new Board to describe their duties, and in March NMTR Executive Director Andrea Farbman, and NMTR Deputy Director Jane Creagan held a conference call with the new Board Members to choose their offices, discuss the length of their terms, and discuss the sunset of the Registry. According to the NMTR By-Laws, Board members serve two year terms. Dr. Farbman asked the Board members if they would be willing to extend their term to the sunset of the Registry on January 1, 2020, and they agreed.

Sunset of the Registry
Since the sunset of the Registry is less than three years away, there was discussion about sending out a notice to all registrants (230) to remind them of the sunset date, as well as to provide information about CBMT and the Board Certification exam, and State Recognition. Beginning in March and continuing throughout this year, an NMTR Bulletin will be sent to registrants with their maintenance fee invoice. (See Appendix B)

VI. Advertising

➢ AMTA Publications
Advertising in AMTA publications now features the annual conference program, E-news, and direct marketing opportunities. *Music Therapy Perspectives*’ advertising is sold through Oxford University Press; however, it is still included with AMTA advertising because we connect the advertisers with OUP.

AMTA Patron and Affiliate Members, and other companies and individuals who advertise with AMTA, were sent a link to the advertising information on the AMTA website.

➢ Sponsorship
*Cindy Smith*, Membership Associate and Meeting Planner, and I developed the sponsorship brochure in December of 2016 and sent it out in January 2017. The brochure was sent to the local committee, AMTA Patron/Affiliate members, music product manufacturers, advertisers, past exhibitors, and regions. Soliciting sponsors has become a well-coordinated team effort between the local committee, Cindy, and me. For more information on Sponsors, please see the report of Al Bumanis and Cindy Smith.

➢ Conference Exhibits
The official decorator for the conference is Fern Convention Services. The large size of the exhibit hall last year allowed for an increase to 78 exhibit booths. We are working with a similar size this year.
The “University Boulevard” dedicated space for AMTA degree programs continues to be popular. Last year 22 AMTA degree programs exhibited, and I expect that number to increase this year. The Exhibit/Advertising Prospectus will be sent to all AMTA schools, Patron/Affiliate members, past exhibitors, and others interested in participating in the AMTA annual conference by the end of May.

- **Conference Advertising**
  This year the ad sizes for the conference program will remain at half and quarter pages in an effort to save space in the conference program and reduce printing costs. A small number of full page ads are set aside as sponsor benefits and one full page color ad will be available on the inside program cover.

VIII. **Priorities for 2017**

- **Professional Programs**
  Continue to update AMTA faculty and Internship Directors on State Authorization
  Collect data from AMTA-approved schools and National Roster Internship Programs
  Communicate with and provide support to AMTA Faculty and Internship Directors
  Work with the APAC and AIAC, processing committee business
  Manage the re-approval process for AMTA-approved schools
  Update the Directory of Schools and listing of National Roster Internship Programs
  Respond to inquiries about developing music therapy degree programs
  Follow-up with colleges/universities in the degree development process

- **Education and Training Advisory Board**
  Complete Education and Training Advisory Board tasks

- **MLE Sub-Committee**
  Complete work as assigned by the MLE sub-committee

- **AMTA Annual Conference**
  Produce Exhibit Prospectus
  Solicit exhibitors/advertisers/sponsors for 2017 Conference in St. Louis, MO.

IX. **Additional Tasks**

- **Contributing Author for Introduction. Text book**
  Blythe Lagasse contacted me in January, inviting me to be a contributing author to an AMTA intro-style textbook she is co-editing with Alicia Clair and Andrew Knight. I will be contributing to a chapter on the education of a music therapist. Kamile Geist is the lead author for the chapter and Christine Neugebauer is contributing on internships.

- **Regional Conference Support**
  AMTA placed half page ads in every regional conference program and sent door prize/silent auction contributions to every region. I exhibited for AMTA at the Mid-Atlantic and New England Regional Conferences and was also a co-presenter for the MLE session at the Mid-Atlantic Region and New England Region conferences.
SARA Member States
(as of April 2017)

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### NEW ENGLAND

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38 States | 128 NR programs | 57 colleges/universities
APPENDIX B - CREAGAN

NMTR NEWS
National Music Therapy Registry Bulletin March 2017

Notice to all current RMTs, CMTs, & ACMTs

The National Music Therapy Registry Board of Directors has an important reminder for all NMTR Registrants.

As you know, the National Music Therapy Registry is due to "sunset" on January 1, 2020. This means that after that date, the Registry will no longer be in existence to maintain a directory of or verify RMT, CMT, or ACMT status. If you are planning on continuing professional music therapy practice after January 1, 2020, you will need to obtain the MT-BC credential.

This action has been planned since the National Music Therapy Registry was established, per the Unification Agreement in 1998. (See excerpt from NMTR By-Laws, upper right.)

The NMTR Board of Directors wishes to remind you now that this action is coming so you will have ample time to make plans for your professional practice of music therapy. If you are not currently practicing music therapy, there is no action necessary on your part beyond discontinuing the use of RMT, CMT, or ACMT in a professional context.

Following unification and in an effort to improve access to music therapy services across the country, the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) & the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) began working together on a State Recognition Operational Plan in 2005. The goal of this national initiative is to achieve state recognition for the music therapy profession and the MT-BC credential required for practice. To that end, there are currently state recognition requirements in nine (9) states (listed to the right) with other states working on this initiative each year. If you live in one of these states and intend to practice, you need to comply with the established state regulations. Although AMTA and CBMT have advocated for states to recognize Registry designations until January 1, 2020 and allow individuals on the NMTR to be eligible for these programs, each state's waiver for NMTR designations are unique with most states requiring the MT-BC for renewal, which is typically on a 2-year cycle. For information on the MT-BC credential, how to obtain it, or for links to music therapy practice laws and rules in your state, please visit the CBMT website, www.cbmt.org; call 1-800-765-2288 (CBMT); or email, info@cbmt.org.

If you have additional questions about your RMT, CMT, or ACMT, please call the National Music Therapy Registry and leave a message at (301) 862-9330.

National Music Therapy Registry, P.O. Box 13623, Silver Spring, MD 20911

NMTR By-Laws, Article II – Purpose and Objective:
The purposes for which the registry is organized are:
1. To maintain the National registry of professional designations including CMT (Certified Music Therapists), ACMT (Advanced Certified Music Therapists), and RMT (Registered Music Therapists). The registry shall be maintained in accordance with the policies as stated in the memorandum of unification agreement until January 1, 2020.

State Recognition Requirement In:
CT: Title Protection, 2016
GA: Licensure, 2012
NV: Licensure, 2011
ND: Licensure, 2011
OK: Licensure, 2016
OR: Licensure, 2015
RI: Registry, 2014
UT: State Certification, 2014
WI: Registry, 1998
This report is an update on our conferences, media, and partnership activities since the annual meeting in November of 2016. The Sandusky conference is discussed with a focus on comparing the 2016 Sandusky data to the 2015 Kansas City conference. This is followed by an update on planning for the 2017 St. Louis conference and the most recent news on conferences in 2018 and 2019. An update of the current state of affairs in the hospitality industry is included. Media successes are summarized and the ongoing development of partnerships with filmmakers, artists, and the music products industry is described. The report concludes with a listing of upcoming priorities.

Highlights

I. Conferences
   • 2016 Kalahari Resort Conference in Ohio Follow-up
   • 2017 St. Louis Conference Planning
   • 2018 and 2019 Conferences
   • 2020 Conference and Beyond
   • Hospitality Industry and Conference Trends

II. Media Highlights
    • Kim Bell expands her role as Social Media Coordinator
    • Members Continue to be Profiled by their Local Media
    • Major Music Therapy research receives media attention

III. Partnerships
     • Foundations – Blue Star Connection – Each One Counts Foundation
     • Music Industry contacts – Renée Fleming, Craig Chaquico, Russ Freeman

IV. Upcoming Priorities

I. CONFERENCES
   2016 Conference Highlights:
   • 1,339 Paid Attendees – over 100 more than 1,234 total for 2015
   • 649 Paid Professionals (622 in 2015) - 690 Paid Students; (612 in 2015)
   • 232 comps (includes professionals and students) – 340 comps in 2015
   • 1,571 total attendees (including comps) - (1,574 in 2015)
   • Over 87% of 329 evaluation respondents rated their experience as Satisfied or Very Satisfied, 7.9% Neutral and 4.56% Unsatisfied – 94% Satisfied or above in 2015
   • 938 is the enrollment number for all CEU courses
   • 479 paid registrants enrolled in CMTEs – 275 in 2015
   • 459 enrollments in expanded number of free CMTE courses – 285 in 2015
     1. Advancing Practices in Early Childhood Music Therapy - 16
     2. Ethics, Music Therapy & Spirituality - 60
     3. Expanding Music Partnerships in Healthcare - 42
     4. Music Therapy Interventions for Children with Autism – 72
     5. CMTE U. Supervising the National Roster Music Therapy Intern - 58
     6. CMTE W. Developing A Music Therapist’s Toolbox for Working with Refugees - 30
     7. CMTE X. Toward the End of the Rainbow: Working with LGBT Older Adults - 51
8. CMTE Y. Identity & Relationships in Healthcare: Societal & Ethical Considerations of Subtle Discrimination - 90
9. CMTE Z. Beyond Clinic Walls: Bringing Music Therapy Practice to Our Broader Communities - 98

- 31 enrolled in the 2nd AMTA Leadership Academy – 38 in 2015
- 12 enrolled in Bonny Method of Guided Imagery & Music Level I; 26 in Rhythm, Breath and Lullaby
- 32 enrolled in the Institute, Exploring & Integrating Neuroscience Research Into Music Therapy Practice; 27 enrolled in CMTE B. Counseling Skills for Music Therapists in Mental Health & Related Setting; 24 in CMTE N. Mindful Movement for Music Therapists: Using Yoga for You AND Your Clients! ; 22 for CMTE O. Get Hip, Get Happy, Get Uke: Beginner & Intermediate Ukulele from the Pros!

- 2016 Conference was a huge financial success!
- Sponsorship for 2016 went very well. Total for Cash contributions was $22,149 and $26,200 for In-Kind donations = a Grand total of $48,349. Special thanks to Cindy Smith and Jane Creagan.
- Of the 1,576 room nights utilized by AMTA over the conference, the hotel reported many children and spouses attending the event. AMTA also had 234 staff room nights, most comped and used for volunteers.

In presenting the Ohio conference evaluation data, 2015 data are provided in parentheses for comparison. Most scores are very similar to the 2015 conference. The overall rating was down slightly, which can be attributed to the location in Sandusky being out of the way. The facility also was a controversial choice for some members. All ratings are based on a 5 point scale with 5 being “Very Satisfied.” The average rating for overall conference satisfaction was 4.19 (4.39); registration process was 4.60 (Same); Exhibit Hall was 4.21(4.19); Institutes and Trainings were 4.58 compared to 4.36 last year; CMTE were 4.69 compared to 4.59 last year; and the concurrent sessions were 4.17 (4.23). The opening session received a rating of 4.04 (4.62). More attendees are using the conference app, as 36% reported NOT using it in Ohio as compared to 58.9% in 2015 and 62% in 2014. Only 8% of respondents were NOT planning to attend the 2017 conference with 41% (38% saying maybe and 51% (55%) responding yes.

Vice President Jean Nemeth and her team of reviewers evaluated over 330 concurrent proposals and over 60 CMTE submissions. Each year the on-line submissions increase. The Continuing Education Committee went paperless again this year for Course Evaluations and Certificates of Completion. A special shout out to the committee, especially co-chairs Laurie Keough and Tracy Leonard-Warner.

Local Co-Chairs Carol Olszewski, MA, MT-BC and Tara Grist Pell, MA, MT-BC assembled an experienced team for the 2016 conference who all are praised to the heavens in Jean’s report. Quick kudos to Bonnie Hayhurst, MT-BC for running a fantastic conference website that helped in marketing the event; Samuel Rodgers-Melnick, MT-BC, organized a stellar instrument committee and rocked out at the closing session; and Lisa Gallagher, MA, MT-BC who was instrumental in securing our opening musical artist, Jim Brickman, to the conference. Carol Olszewski did a magnificent job in helping distribute the instrument donations from Blue Star Connection.

Cindy and I offer a Super “Beyond” Thank You to Jean Nemeth for being creative, innovative, and a joy to work with. She hit the ground running and showed tremendous energy in making the conference a success by developing a great educational program. She listened to all points of view and always had the best interests of the association and all of the members in mind when planning the program. The same can be said for Vice-President Elect Kristen O’Grady, who added much to the planning and is an integral part of the team with a younger perspective to what I call our mid-century modern outlook. Thank you Kristen and we look forward to our continued work together. Appreciation is also extended to the “Courageous Conversation” presenters, the Diversity and Multicultural Committee, and many Board of Directors members for sharing their thoughts and opening a dialogue on the selection of the 2016 Conference site. The conference planning team is enthusiastic to learn and become more sensitive to make AMTA conferences the best they can be. And finally, thanks also to our AMTA staff colleagues for once again covering many last minute on-site realities.

2017 Conference
In early 2017, the conference planning team and AMTA staff processed the 2016 conference evaluations and comments from the regional Presidents via regional president representative Deb Benkovitz Williams. A few recurring issues arose, which the planning committee (Jean, Cindy, Kristen and I) decided to tackle. These include later starting times for concurrent sessions and later times for regional meetings. We are also exploring building in many mindfulness activities into the conference to align with the theme. Because of incidents at the 2016 conference, we are reevaluating our security procedures to ensure we provide a safe environment and enjoyable experience for all conference attendees.

Vice President Jean Nemeth led the AMTA delegation of Cindy Smith, Jane Creagan and me during our first visit to the St. Louis Union Station Hotel in March. We met with hotel staff and studied the meeting room layout to develop a conference design utilizing this great space for maximum efficiency. We learned that 6 new meeting rooms will be available to us. Jane met with our decorator from Fern, Inc., Joe Villareal, to develop the lay-out for the exhibit hall. This hotel hosted our 1992 conference and at that time was part of shopping mall. The mall is now gone and has been converted into exhibit space.

Jean, Cindy, Jane, and I also met with the local committee headed up by co-chairs Elizabeth O'Dell MA, MT-BC and Brian Hilderbrand, MM, MT-BC. They have just about filled all the sub-committee chairs and all are eager to bring the conference to St. Louis. We look forward to working with them. Vice-President Elect Kristen O’Grady will be joining us, September 9 to 11, for our final site visit. Additional program specifics and conference information will be found in Jean’s report.

2018 Conference
We return to Texas in 2018 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas, November 14th to 18th. This is a very spacious hotel and will fit our needs nicely. We also have earned incentives from Hyatt for signing with their company for two consecutive years. We have not selected the rewards yet, but options include lowered attrition (50%) requirements and 75% discount off of internet fees for the meeting space.

2019 Conference
The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis will host our 2019 Conference, November 20 to November 24. This is a larger hotel than we utilized previously for our 2003 conference in Minneapolis.

Future Conferences
AMTA decided NOT to submit a proposal to the World Federation of Music Therapy to host the 2020 World Congress. We notified the WFMT in December as soon as the decision was made by the Board. We have indicated to the WFMT that we are interested in submitting a proposal for 2023 and we have started preliminary work on getting a proposal together to be completed this year. Our strategy for 2020 and beyond is described in the “Trends” section below.

Hospitality Industry and Conference Trends:

- 2016 represented the sixth consecutive year of rising hotel rates and lower availability across the majority of markets.
- For the near future, experts forecast that we will continue to operate in a seller’s market.
- Though online conferences continue to expand, they do not replace face to face meetings. Demand for meeting space is still growing faster than supply, meaning less availability and more difficulty in finding suitable properties.
- Hotels are now enforcing contract clauses that penalize buyers for not meeting room blocks and food and beverage minimums.
- All trends are reflecting increased charges and tighter enforcement of contract requirements; increases are also being seen in food and beverage rates, charging for meeting and exhibit space above making the room block, all-space holds are rare now with hotels booking evening events to other clients, and increasing surcharges for internet and other concessions that used to be complimentary as mentioned above.
- Social media has become a vital part of meetings and is beginning to be more integrated into our conference, both in marketing the conference and in increasing the on-site experience for attendees.

Not much has changed in the hotel industry that is good news for AMTA. Cindy and I are taking a strategic approach in dealing with what can only be described as a difficult market to work in. This includes investigating sites where there are more new hotel rooms than the average 2% increase in hotel rooms that is expected in most markets. We also are exploring the benefits of multiyear deals, which may offer bargain rates and extra concessions. We also negotiate fiercely to avoid additional charges such as resort fees, fees for podiums, and other expenses.

Hotel rates in first tier cities such as New York, Chicago, Boston, and Baltimore are way too expensive for AMTA to consider for future conferences because of the expense that would mean for our members. With hotels reporting
85% transient or business stays, rates in these areas look to remain well over $250+ per night without taxes and fees. And first tier cities also tend to levy some of the highest extra fees and taxes. Our research has focused on second tier cities that have reasonable accessibility to airline travel and that offer additional incentives.

Special thanks to Cindy Smith who has been traveling extensively exploring sites all over the country, many in regions AMTA has not been to in a while, searching for the best value. This includes Mid-Atlantic and Western regions for 2020. At this point, we have nothing substantial to report except that Seattle has a new property coming on-line in 2018 (but, so far, they are not willing to offer affordable rates) and Atlantic City (offering great deals). We intend to update the Board on progress related to thoughts about the 2023 World Congress at the mid-year meeting. The realities of the industry trends and financial constraints have meant that we have had no choice but to gravitate to attractive offers in the middle of the country; we are constantly open, however, to other options to diversify our locations and venues to minimize cost for our members and maximize the conference experience.

II. MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

- Kim Bell, MT-BC takes on role as Social Media Coordinator, a tremendous help to the team in sharing information with the public and members on the constantly increasing media attention music therapy is receiving.


- Researcher to examine if music intervention can alleviate distress in young cancer patients and ... News-Medical.net reports Sheri Robb has been awarded $1.4 million to determine if a music therapy intervention can be used to manage acute distress in young cancer patients ages 3 to 8 and their parents. [http://www.news-medical.net/news/20161122/Researcher-to-examine-if-music-intervention-can-alleviate-distress-in-young-cancer-patients-and-parents.aspx](http://www.news-medical.net/news/20161122/Researcher-to-examine-if-music-intervention-can-alleviate-distress-in-young-cancer-patients-and-parents.aspx)

- AMTA staff and appropriate standing committees continue to respond to media articles.

More positive and accurate portrayals of music therapy are popping up on Google searches. This reinforces the trend that music therapy has gone MAINSTREAM, becoming part of the larger culture! The “Latest News” section has posted these and many other media stories that have been either developed by AMTA, discovered by us, or shared by others that offer a good overview of the music therapy profession. Many of these are geared to the general public, while others are of special interest to AMTA members.

Listed Below is a Sampling of some of the Latest Stories You May Not Have Seen Yet:


Woodbury Senior Living therapists see positive results explores the work of AMTA member Erin Heidemann. This is an example of the many stories being posted by local media outlets: [http://www.woodburybulletin.com/news/business/4252608-woodbury-senior-living-therapists-see-positive-results](http://www.woodburybulletin.com/news/business/4252608-woodbury-senior-living-therapists-see-positive-results)

The Benefits of Music Therapy for Alzheimer’s Disease is a video produced by Alzheimer's News Today featuring he music therapy program at Lakeview Ranch in Minnesota: [https://alzheimersnewstoday.com/2017/03/02/the-benefits-of-music-therapy-for-alzheimers-disease/](https://alzheimersnewstoday.com/2017/03/02/the-benefits-of-music-therapy-for-alzheimers-disease/)


Leah Oswanski shares one of her many media successes: [Link](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJg5r2o5RqY&feature=youtu.be)

Art Saved My Life: Master Sergeant Mike Schneider Talks with Music Therapist, Rebecca Vaudreuil and NEA, DoD Launch Creative Forces Sites Expansion to Increase Art Therapies update music therapy with active military: [Link](https://www.arts.gov/audio/art-saved-my-life-master-sergeant-mike-schneider-talks-music-therapist-rebecca-vaudreuil)

Jodi McLaren and Kimberly Sena Moore were on *Reno Public Radio*, Healing with Music Therapy: [Link](http://kunr.org/post/healing-music-therapy#stream/0)

The healing power of music looks at Tori Steeley, UC Davis Children's Hospital music therapist: [Link](https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/healing-power-music)

Drexel Selected to Be Site of NEA’s First-Ever Arts and Health Lab, Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC associate professor in the college, will head up the music therapy portion of the lab: [Link](http://drexel.edu/now/archive/2016/December/NEA-Funds-First-Ever-Labs-at-Drexel/)

President-Elect Amber Weldon Stephens and the Fulton County Music Therapy program were featured in Music Therapy Helps Fulton County Students Learn: [Link](http://www.myajc.com/news/local-education/fulton-schools-boast-largest-music-therapy-program-the-nation/wg7iZTWf8tg8LhMU9FTauN/)

Renewing Minds, Changing Lives is from the *Winston-Salem Journal* and discusses music therapy at the Carolina Center for Cognitive Rehab: [Link](http://www.journalnow.com/winstonsalemmonthly/renewing-minds-changing-lives/article_0a5efa90-9f1b-11e6-a014-c32a0690507b.html)

Abbey Dvorak, assistant professor of music therapy at the University of Kansas is involved in adaptive instrument research and development NEA grant to KU to help physically disabled play music: [Link](http://www2 ljworld.com/news/2017/jan/05/nea-grant-will-help-ku-professors-put-aumi-symposi/)

Annie Heiderscheit and Christine Stevens discuss the benefits of the HealthRHYTHMS program on KHTS Radio in Santa Clarita, CA. The Healing Power of Music To Be On Full Display At Child & Family Center: [Link](http://www.hometownstation.com/santa-clarita-news/the-healing-power-of-music-to-be-on-full-display-at-child-family-center-181800)

Russell Hilliard discusses Hospice Music Therapy Provides Support for Dying Patients: [Link](http://www.nextavenue.org/hospice-music-therapy-dying-patients/)

Shannon de l'Etoile looks to continue research on why Singing can nurture healthy bonds between mothers and their kids: [Link](http://www.emaxhealth.com/11402/singing-can-nurture-healthy-bonds-between-mothers-and-their-kids)

Joseph Reilly is the subject of Music therapist teaches developmentally disabled the power of music published by the *University of Delaware Revie*: [Link](http://udreview.com/music-therapist-teaches-developmentally-disabled-power-music/)
Jan Stouffer work at the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center is profiled at The Medical Minute:
**Music Can Be Good Medicine:**
http://www.newswise.com/articles/the-medical-minute-music-can-be-good-medicine

Maegan Morrow continues her work at Memorial Hermann Cancer Center-Texas Medical Center Rocking for a Cure: Cancer Patients Get Distraction from Treatment with **Music Therapy** Made:

Kamica King is featured on NBC 5 Dallas-Fort Worth in Homeless Adults Work Through Trauma Using Music:

KCRA TV in Sacramento focuses on music therapy in Healing through music: Songs help cancer patients at Sutter Hospital:

**Music Therapy** with ALS Treatment May Improve Overall Quality of Life, Study Shows

*ALS News Today* reports Incorporating music therapy into standard treatments for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) patients may improve the patient's quality of life in a study published in *International Journal of Rehabilitation Research*:

Athens Community Singers perform at national conference Led by Stephanie Morris, MM, MT-BC, members of Athens County Community Singers perform at the 2016 American Music Therapy Association National Conference in Sandusky, Ohio:

The Cleveland Music Settlement's Center for **Music Therapy** celebrated its 50th anniversary Nov. 7 Center for **Music Therapy**'s 50th anniversary:
http://www.clevelandjewishnews.com/community/community_scene/center-for-music-therapy-s-th-anniversary/article_b29f1988-aaab-11e6-a0ec-fff9fec038fe.html

Juvenile Justice Center And Drury Offer **Music Therapy** Radio Station KTTS covers AP story on a juvenile justice center teaming up with Springfield university in offering weekly **music therapy** sessions to troubled teenagers:

KCBD-TV covers **Music Therapist** helps heal children at Covenant Hospital

Hyun-Jung Lee explains the **Benefits of Music Therapy**:

David Knott featured in the *Seattle Times*:

### III. MUSIC INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

**Partnership Highlights**
- Assisting Dr. Farbman and the rest of the AMTA team in logistics for **SOUND HEALTH: MUSIC AND THE MIND**, the two day major event in collaboration with the Kennedy Center and the National Institutes of Health.
- I had the privilege to speak with Renée Fleming to reinforce Dr. Farbman’s participation in the NIH/Kennedy Center **Music and Health Initiative**’s working group focusing on “Music and Healing.”
- We are continuing to collaborate with award-winning film producer, Wendy Thompson, on “High Notes,” which describes the music therapy program created by Tom Sweitzer, MT-BC.

Continuing collaboration with Alyssa Janney from Remo to promote music therapy. This year we are exploring a conference session on mindfulness and rhythm and mindfulness-themed drum circle.

Working with Yamaha, especially their keyboard consultant Lori Frazier. Yamaha is proposing sponsoring keyboard and technology sessions and providing keyboards and acoustic guitars.

Working with the Kristen O’Grady and the conference team with the “Each One Counts” Foundation on future education and training collaborations.

President Geiger and I have re-connected with artist spokesperson Craig Chaquico and his manager, Dara Crockett from Pilot Rock Management. Craig has been a longtime supporter of music therapy and AMTA. We hope to utilize Craig more in the coming years.

Rekindled our relationship with Russ Freeman and the Rippingtons for possible Sirius XM radio concert focusing on music therapy.

Working to connect with pianist Jim Brickman and his management with the goal of having a new spokesperson and a possible segment on Jim’s syndicated radio program.

AMTA has begun collaborating with Tom Petersson, bass player with the iconic rock band “Cheap Trick” who, with his wife Alison and music therapist Maegan Morrow, has developed the ROCK YOUR SPEECH project [http://rock-your-speech.myshopify.com/](http://rock-your-speech.myshopify.com/) Tom and Alison won Advocate Awards in 2015.

AMTA is coordinating with Past-President Ronna Kaplan to use our Huffington Post blog to promote the mission of AMTA in a variety of ways.

### IV. UP Kompleting PRIORITIES

- 2017 Conference Final Planning – A Shout Out to Jean, Cindy, and Kristen
- 2018 Conference Planning
- Future Conference Site Selection and Negotiations, with focus on 2023 World Conference Possibility
- Continued Media Development
- Continued Development and Maintenance of Partnership
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MID-YEAR MEETING – MAY 31 – JUNE 5, 2017
DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT
Judy Simpson, MT-BC

May 2017

Overview

- Oversee federal and state legislative and regulatory activity that impacts music therapy practice and access to services
- Direct advocacy efforts with federal and state legislators, federal and state agency officials, national and state healthcare and education organizations; and national and regional third party payers regarding the provision of music therapy services
- Collaborate with CBMT on the implementation of the AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan, assisting state task forces with national initiative
- Respond to time-sensitive requests from state and federal legislators and agency staff
- Network with policy staff and volunteers from other healthcare profession and education organizations
- Collaborate with Chairs of AMTA Committees on projects that impact policy and contribute to advocacy activities
- Provide public policy and reimbursement technical assistance, guidance, and support to clinicians, educators, students, healthcare and education facility administrators, consumers, and media
- Co-Chair Government Relations Committee and Reimbursement Committee
- Assist with development and editing of AMTA documents and communications
- Represent AMTA with accreditation organizations

National Advocacy

(Please refer to Rebecca Preddie’s report for a complete update on federal news)

- 2017 Arts Advocacy Day (AAD) sponsored by Americans the Arts: Represented AMTA as National Co-Sponsor on Legislative Planning Committee; Served as Chair of Arts in Health and Arts and the Military Subcommittee; Prepared Arts in Health Issue Brief, Arts and the Military Issue Brief, and Healthcare Coverage Statement of Concern; Prepared AMTA letter to Congress included in AAD handbook; Prepared presentation for Congressional Arts Caucus; Collaborated with Barb Else to compile updated and relevant research citations and talking points for Americans for the Arts Vice President of Research and Policy; Prepared and presented Arts in Health, Arts and the Military, and Healthcare Coverage Statement of Concern breakout session during Arts Advocacy Day

- NIH Workshop – “Music and the Brain”: Attended as AMTA staff representative; Communicated with presenters and participants about music therapy policy initiatives and reimbursement efforts; Provided assistance with related special events at the Kennedy Center

- Joint Commission: Monitored AMTA representation for three Professional and Technical Advisory Committees (PTACs); Participated in Joint Commission conference calls; Offered feedback to member representatives

State Advocacy

Implementation of AMTA and CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan

There are 45 states that have participated at some point in the State Recognition Operational Plan. A total of 31 states have introduced some form of music therapy legislation. There are over 300 music therapists involved in Task Force work at the state and regional level. So far in 2017, 28 states have actively advocated with state legislators and agencies. It is exciting to witness the dedication and energy these individuals have committed to this important national initiative.
Working with AMTA’s part-time Government Relations Specialist, Maria Fay, the productive collaboration with CBMT Regulatory Affairs Advisor Dena Register and Regulatory Affairs Associate Kimberly Sena Moore continues. The “national team” communicates on a weekly, and sometimes daily, basis as we provide support and guidance to each task force. To assist in managing the expanding caseload, the national team continues to schedule “in-person” work meetings with the team twice a year. Goals for the next 12 months include:

- Expand advocacy network and involvement; re-engage inactive task forces
- Foster creation of advocacy champions
- Develop task force participation guidelines and agreement
- Continue development and revision of print and video resources to support advocacy, (i.e., potential for harm, anti-regulation opposition, intervention description)
- Explore creation of database/receptacle of music-based interventions/assessments/research information to assist in policy outreach
- Collaborate with association leaders to draft potential White Paper/Position Statement on levels of training required for using music in healthcare
- Create Focus Group to clarify existing professional language and develop new support materials to address ASHA opposition
- Offer advocacy trainings in Mississippi and Louisiana to support TF activity
- Develop response plan for hospice and palliative care music therapists related to change in reporting of professionals who care for hospice patients during the last week of life (New CMS reporting guidelines do not currently include music therapy)
- Continue annual conference Task Force (TF) Boot Camp training
- Potential music therapy legislation carry-over or introduction in 2018: Florida, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and South Carolina

**Political Climate Impact on State Advocacy**

State legislatures appear to be responding to the political environment in Washington, DC by preparing for potential Congressional action related to health and education issues. Without knowing what actual legislation will be proposed on the federal level, many states have introduced bills designed to protect programs and services they anticipate may be de-funded by the federal government. These pre-emptive actions and overall state budget concerns seem to be consuming legislative calendars, leaving limited time for consideration of other topics. Although music therapy legislation has received favorable support this year, placement on committee agendas has required additional advocacy.

**Social Media Advocacy Month**

In January 2017, dozens of music therapy bloggers and podcasters spread the word about music therapy advocacy during the 6th Annual Social Media Advocacy Month. The 2017 project theme centered on how music therapists can incorporate a spirit of mindfulness into their advocacy efforts. Participants were challenged to consider ways in which they have been REACTIVE and PROACTIVE in their music therapy advocacy.

**2017 Advocacy At-A-Glance**

- Increase in frequency of calls for states with active legislation
- Increase in complexity of issues due to variety of bills and inclusion within legislation not related to creating separate music therapy regulatory system (i.e., funding for music therapy through client-specific state programs)
- First Music Therapy Rally Day-Harrisburg, PA with over 60 participants and attendees!

16 States Hosted Hill Days, Advocacy Trainings, or Presented Testimony at Legislative Hearings, involving over 250 music therapists, students, and music therapy advocates!

Texas Music Therapy Day—Show Us Your Shirt
Maryland Music Therapy Task Force at the MD State Capitol

Maine Music Therapy Task Force with Bill Sponsor Rep. Hamann

Colorado Hill Day

- 9 States Introduced Legislation
- 58 State Task Force Conference Calls
The following information provides highlights from states that have either introduced music therapy legislation or have been active in addressing state regulatory activity in 2017. Although other states continue to meet and complete operational plan objectives, this chart focuses on the intense activity involved in communicating with state officials, supporting legislation, and monitoring regulations that directly impact music therapy practice.

Please see Appendix A for National Overview and Appendix B for Costs and Administrative Expenses Overview

### Current Legislation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>BILL NUMBER</th>
<th>RECOGNITION</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FLORIDA</td>
<td>HB 729</td>
<td>Registry</td>
<td>Sponsored by Rep. Ponder (R-Destin), Sen. Campbell (D-N. Miami), both bills died in committee. Additional legislation introduced that included recognition of the MT-BC: HB 55 Veterans Affairs Bill, originally included language that specifically named music therapy as an alternative treatment for PTSD and TBI. Bill has been amended to remove list of all treatments and provide general term that COULD include music therapy. HB 15 (revision of Gardiner Scholarship Program) would allow parents of children with special needs to use scholarship funds for services provided by an MT-BC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAINE</td>
<td>LD 688</td>
<td>Statute</td>
<td>Sponsored by Rep. Hamann (D-South Portland) to request MaineCare coverage for music therapy services. Voted down as written in committee, under revision to include music therapy in the existing waiver program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARYLAND</td>
<td>HB 1458</td>
<td>License</td>
<td>Sponsored by Delegate Sample-Hughes (D-Eastern Shore). Advocacy training, Hill day and committee hearing occurred in early March. Strong testimony presented by parent of local music therapy client. Chair of committee recommended a study group to amend bill (and reintroduce next year) in order to work out opposition submitted from other professions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISSOURI</td>
<td>HB 102</td>
<td>Statute</td>
<td>Sponsored by Kathy Swann (R-Cape Girard). Language would recognize MT-BC as qualified provider in the First Steps program. Passed 2nd committee hearing, awaiting further action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW JERSEY</td>
<td>AB 783</td>
<td>License</td>
<td>Completely passed Assembly. Bill continues to await a hearing in the Budget and Appropriations Committee in the Senate. State currently has a CALL-TO-ACTION out to state MT-BCs in order to get bill scheduled for committee hearing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW YORK</td>
<td>S 5264</td>
<td>License</td>
<td>Sponsored by Sen. Funke (R-Rochester). Bill introduced to license professional and clinical music therapists, using a tiered system. LPMT for those with a Bachelor’s degree and LCMT is for Master’s level or advanced level practitioners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>H 192</td>
<td>License</td>
<td>Sponsored by Reps. Warren, Blackwell, Corbin, and Hunt Williams (Republicans), co-sponsor, Terry (Dem.). Referred to Committee on Health for hearing. Session ends in July.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please join me in thanking all of the music therapists and students who contribute significant volunteer hours to task force activities. This initiative would not be possible without their active participation and leadership within their states.

**Government Relations Committee**

The AMTA Government Relations “Department” has seen an increase in questions from regional boards and state associations regarding the use of association funds for advocacy events and outreach. Although national office staff have always compiled advocacy expense documents for the association’s IRS 990 annual report, we recognize the need for the regions to more specifically track these funds as state advocacy increases. We are currently preparing guidelines to assist regional boards with this new financial request. Plans include educating state task forces, regional Government Relations Committee representatives, and regional treasurers on a system for reporting direct and in-direct lobbying income and expenses. This information will then be added to the annual 990 reports for AMTA and the regions.

Full Committee Overview included in Council Coordinator’s Report
Reimbursement

- Case-specific resources generated and provided to members on request, including Reimbursement Coverage Options for various clinical settings, Reimbursement Overview, National Provider Identifier (NPI) Information, and CPT Fact Sheet
- Continue to monitor communication from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that impacts music therapy access, i.e., Minimum Data Set (MDS 3.0) Assessment Tool and Manual revisions; Rules for Prospective Payment System (PPS) annual changes; Guidance for Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waivers
- Technical assistance and detailed information provided to educators, clinicians, facility administrators; and billing department staff, interns, and students regarding specific funding opportunities and challenges
- Continue to refer individuals to AMTA.Pro reimbursement podcast and 5-hour reimbursement E-Course

Reimbursement Committee

Full Committee Overview included in Council Coordinator’s Report

Presentations/Meetings

Millersville University, Millersville, PA: What is Music Therapy? presentation for students in Robin Spielberg’s music careers class

Illinois Music Therapy Advisory Board, IL Department of Financial and Professional Regulation: At the Board’s request, co-presented teleconference testimony about music therapy state recognition with Dena Register

Oregon Health Evidence Review Commission (HERC): In support of OR State Task Force members attending meeting in-person, prepared support document and participated in teleconference to present overview of music therapy reimbursement, client diagnostic & procedure codes, and related music therapy interventions and research

Maryland Association for Music Therapy/Maryland Music Therapy State Task Force, Annapolis, MD: Along with Niki Runge, Tatyana Martin, and Dena Register, co-presented advocacy continuing education course as a part of State Hill Day; Met with music therapy bill sponsor to discuss advocacy strategies; Prepared and presented testimony to House of Delegates’ Health and Government Operations Committee in support of Music Therapy Licensure Bill HB 1458

Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Rochester, NY: Presented 3-hour State Recognition Advocacy CMTE with Maria Fay and Dena Register; Provided brief national overview during Advocacy Breakfast event

University of Iowa Music Therapy Program 40th Anniversary: Invited guest speaker; Presented session titled: “AMTA: Advocating for Music Therapy Advancement”; Met with Iowa State Task Force to discuss new state recognition strategies; Met with University of Iowa SLP Professor to explore options for responding to ASHA opposition toward music therapy legislation

Pennsylvania Music Therapy Rally Day, Harrisburg, PA: Presented national overview and cost-effectiveness information during Rally program; Visited with legislators and staff to discuss music therapy licensure bill
Music Therapy Association of Washington (MTAW)/Washington Music Therapy State Task Force, Seattle, Olympia, and Lacey, WA: Along with Dena Register, presented state recognition advocacy continuing education course for state meeting; Along with TF members, met with state officials within the Department of Early Learning, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), Developmental Disabilities Administration, and the Aging and Long Term Support Administration

Music Therapy Association of Washington

Support Services

In addition to managing AMTA government relations activity on the federal and state levels, a significant amount of time is dedicated to responding to member and general public calls and emails covering a wide range of practice issues. Individual requests from educators, clinicians, students, potential employers, related healthcare and education professionals, consumers, government officials, and media representatives include:

- Assistance with access to IEP-based services in special education
- Reimbursement options, including procedures specific to work settings and client diagnoses
- Liability insurance requirements and providers
- Regulatory language support for service access
- Impact of federal and state agency actions on music therapy practice
- Opportunities for advocacy through exhibits at related conferences
- Self-employment business development resources

Future Priorities

- Monitor and respond to federal and state legislation and regulations that impact music therapy practice
• Work with Maria Fay, AMTA’s Government Relations Specialist, Dena Register, CBMT’s Regulatory Affairs Advisor, and Kimberly Sena Moore, CBMT’s Regulatory Affairs Associate, to implement state recognition operational plan
• Prepare Exploring the Intersection between Recognition and Reimbursement manuscript for publication consideration in the inaugural mini-focus issue of the “Advocacy Agenda” series in Music Therapy Perspectives
• Prepare reimbursement content for potential inclusion in AMTA publications
• Reorganize structure and revise text for Public Policy section of AMTA Website
• Investigate alternative liability insurance options for music therapists
• Monitor 2018 planned revision of Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Standard Occupational Classifications
• Advocate for Task Force representation on MUSIC & MEMORY℠ committees at the state level
• Co-Chair the Reimbursement Committee and encourage involvement in outlined tasks
• Co-Chair the Government Relations Committee, assisting regional and state representatives with occupational regulation issues
• Assist with state advocacy continuing education presentations
• Collaborate with other AMTA Committees on projects related to advocacy (i.e., Affiliate Relations-Fact Sheets)
• Follow and network as needed with other arts groups (National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians (NSBTM), National Organization for Arts in Health (NOAH), University of Florida Arts in Medicine Program, etc.)
• Represent AMTA with the Joint Commission and CARF
• Provide staffing assistance with association consultants and high level projects
The American Music Therapy Association (AMTA) and the Certification Board for Music Therapists (CBMT) collaborate on the State Recognition Operational Plan, a joint national initiative to achieve official state recognition of the music therapy profession and the MT-BC credential required for competent practice. Desired outcomes include improving consumer access to music therapy services and establishing a state-based public protection program to ensure that “music therapy” is provided by individuals who meet established training qualifications. Inclusion within state health and education regulations can also have a positive impact on employment opportunities funding options, while meeting requirements of treatment facilities and accrediting organizations.

**Current Recognition**

**Connecticut**
Music therapy title protection established in 2016. Practitioners must hold the MT-BC credential.

Music therapy license overseen by the Secretary of State utilizes an ad hoc volunteer Advisory Council. License created in 2012 and regulations approved in 2013.

**Nevada** ([http://dpbh.nv.gov/Reg/MusicTherapist/MusicTherapists_-_Home/](http://dpbh.nv.gov/Reg/MusicTherapist/MusicTherapists_-_Home/))
Music therapy license overseen by the State Board of Health utilizes an ad hoc Advisory Council. License created in 2011 and regulations approved in 2012.

**North Dakota** ([http://ndbihc.org/](http://ndbihc.org/))
Music therapy license overseen by the newly created Board of Integrative Health. License created in 2011 and regulations approved in 2013.

**Oklahoma** ([http://www.okmedicalboard.org/music_therapists](http://www.okmedicalboard.org/music_therapists))
Music therapy license managed by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision was signed into law in 2016.

**Oregon** ([https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hlo/Pages/Board-Music-Therapy-Program-Information.aspx](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hlo/Pages/Board-Music-Therapy-Program-Information.aspx))
Music therapy license managed by the Health Licensing Office was signed into law and regulations approved in 2015.

**Rhode Island** ([http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/PublicLaws/law14/law14189.htm](http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/PublicLaws/law14/law14189.htm))
Music therapy registry managed by the Department of Health was signed into law in 2014 and regulations approved in 2015.

**Utah** ([http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/music_therapy.html](http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/music_therapy.html))
Legislation creating a music therapy state certification managed by the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing signed into law and regulations approved in 2014.

Music therapy registry created in 1998.

**2017 Legislative Activity**

The following states have introduced or have current legislation to recognize music therapy education, clinical training, and credentialing qualifications: **Florida** (registry), **Maryland** (license), **Missouri** (license), **New Jersey** (license), **North Carolina** (license), **Pennsylvania** (license), and **Texas** (study bill).
Music Therapy State Recognition
Costs and Administrative Expenses

Background

The State Recognition Operational Plan is predicated upon music therapist’s participation and engagement in the professional organizations of CBMT and AMTA. The foundational principles and documents of these two organizations are the seminal requirements and parameters under which professional music therapists are trained and adhere to a standard of best practices. The state recognition operational plan uses this high standard of professional engagement to assure that recognition of the MT-BC credential does not require costly investment. If structured according to the proposed plan, start-up and maintenance costs can be covered through music therapy licensing fees, which are nominal for the practitioner. Licensure template language proposes the use of a music therapy advisory committee (as opposed to a board) in order to provide oversight at minimal cost to the state.

Wisconsin: Registration under the Department of Safety and Professional Services
Enacted 1998

- Application fee: $75
- Biennial Renewal fee: $107

Continuing Education: Proof of Maintenance of Board Certification or Inclusion on National Music Therapy Registry

North Dakota: License under the Board of Integrative Health Care (also includes Naturopaths)
One Volunteer Music Therapy Member (periodic tele-conference meetings)
Enacted 2011
Legislature provided Office of Management and Budget (OMB) with an appropriation of $4,000 from the general fund for a grant to the State Board of Integrative Health

- Application fee: $50
- Initial License fee: $100
- Temporary License fee: $100
- Biennial Renewal fee (active): $100
- Renewal fee (inactive): $75
- Late Filing fee: $75
- Duplicate License Certificate fee: $25
- Duplicate License Wallet Card fee: $20

Continuing Education: 40 hours every 2 years

- Complaints filed since the license has been enacted: 0
- Complaints investigated since license has been enacted: 0
- Complaints from state that licensure fees do not cover costs to administer the license: 0

Nevada: License under the Department of Health
Volunteer Music Therapy Advisory Group (periodic tele-conference meetings)
Enacted 2011

- Application and Initial License fee: $200
- Triennial Renewal fee: $150
Continuing Education: 100 hours every 3 years

Complaints filed since the license has been enacted: 0
Complaints investigated since license has been enacted: 0
Complaints from state that licensure fees do not cover costs to administer the license: 0

**Georgia:**
License under the Secretary of State
Volunteer Music Therapy Advisory Group (annual tele-conference meeting)
Enacted 2012

Application fee: $100
Biennial Renewal fee: $50

Continuing Education: 40 hours every 2 years

Complaints filed since the license has been enacted: 7
Complaints investigated since license has been enacted: 0
Complaints from state that licensure fees do not cover costs to administer the license: 0

**Rhode Island:**
Registration under the Department of Health
Enacted 2014

Application fee: $90
Biennial Renewal fee: $90
Penalty Fee - Late Renewal: $45

Continuing Education: Proof of Maintenance of Board Certification

**Utah:**
State Certification under the Department of Commerce
Enacted 2014

Application fee: $70
Biennial Renewal fee: $47

Continuing Education: Proof of Maintenance of Board Certification

**Oregon:**
License under the Health Licensing Office
No Board
Enacted 2015

Application fee: $150
Initial License fee: $50
Annual Renewal fee: $50
Replacement fee: $25

Late fee: $40
Continuing Education: 10 hours every year

Complaints filed since the license has been enacted: 0
Complaints investigated since license has been enacted: 0
Complaints from state that licensure fees do not cover costs to administer the license: 0

Oklahoma: License under State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision
Volunteer Music Therapy Committee (first meeting scheduled for February 2017)
Enacted 2016

Application and Initial License fee: $50
Biennial Renewal fee: $50

Continuing Education: Proof of Maintenance of Board Certification

Connecticut: Title Protection
Enacted 2016

All music therapists must hold MT-BC credential
No applications or fees
Overview

- Responsible for National Representation of AMTA, including meeting attendance for numerous Washington, DC-based coalitions; monitoring, recommending, coordinating, and implementing organizational Federal advocacy strategies.
- Involved in raising Congressional and Federal Agency awareness of the efficacy of music therapy services.
- Educate AMTA members on advocacy issues of national significance while simultaneously engaging them in the advocacy process.
- Serve as Co-Chair of AMTA Government Relations and Reimbursement Committees.
- Responsible for the administration of AMTA's 20 scholarships and grants awarded at the student and professional levels.

National Representation

- **New Administration / 115th Congress:** Several articles and a series of postings have gone up on the AMTA website and social media outlets to ensure that members have the most up-to-date information on major developments with the new administration. Including:
  - 2017 AMTA Federal Advocacy
  - American Health Care Act (AHCA)
  - President Trump’s Proposed FY2018 Budget
  - Supreme Court Ruling Increases Scope of Special Education Rights (Endrew Ruling)
  - Update – AHCA
  - Update – FY2017 Budget Omnibus Agreement Reached

- **FY 2017 / FY 2018 Budget Process:** On March 16, 2017, President Trump released his FY 2018 budget blueprint. The President’s budget proposes cuts to many programs and the elimination of entire agencies. The President's budget request is a first step in a very long budget process. As of April 28th, Congress agreed on a short-term Continuing Resolution (CR) that funds government operations at current levels through May 5th. Congressional negotiators agreed on a Bipartisan Omnibus budget appropriations deal that avoided an approaching government shutdown. The $1 trillion deal, if passed, funds the government through September, and completes the appropriations process for the remainder of FY2017. As this process moves forward, we are closely monitoring the progression and working with our many partners to respond, where appropriate.

- **Healthcare Reform:** On March 6, 2017, the U.S. House Republican leadership introduced Affordable Care Act repeal and replacement budget reconciliation bills in the Ways and Means (W&M) and Energy and Commerce (E&C) committees. Both bills collectively are known as the “American Health Care Act” (AHCA). On March 24th, House Speaker Ryan declared that there were not sufficient votes for the bill to pass the House of Representatives and the bill was pulled. As of mid-April, members of the House of Representatives and the Administration are proposing changes to gain enough support for passage of the AHCA. A new amendment to the AHCA is making it more likely that a vote by the House of Representatives could happen very soon. The latest proposed amendment would allow states to seek waivers that would allow them to charge higher premiums to people with pre-existing conditions. It would also allow states to seek waivers from the Affordable Care Act’s requirement to provide essential health benefits.
The statutory language, and subsequent federal regulations associated with essential health benefits packages within the Affordable Care Act (ACA), created a national standard that states adopted with some degree of flexibility for coverage of important benefits (including mental health services and habilitative/rehabilitative services) and facilitated access to and coverage of therapeutic services in both individual and small group market plans, as well as Medicaid expansion programs. Essential health benefits protects all patients by ensuring they have basic coverage. Eliminating benefit standards, likely leads to insurers offering inadequate plans that fail to cover important services, thus resulting in patients who are underinsured and unable to access services.

- **Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD)—Task Force Participation:**
  
  **Health Task Force** –
  - Monitoring the progression of the American Health Care Act (AHCA) and releasing position statements as appropriate, including statements focused on: importance of preserving essential health benefits; Congressional Budget Office Score of the AHCA; Per capita caps and Block Granting Medicaid.
  - Created Hill Visit task force focused on educating new members of Congress on the needs of the disability community, especially related to Affordable Care Act repeal and replace efforts.
  - A critical issue for the Health Task Force continues to be supporting federal and state efforts to ensure that existing essential health benefits packages cover critical benefits for people with disabilities such as behavioral health services, habilitation and rehabilitation services, and durable medical equipment, prosthetics and orthotics.
  - Focus on proposed reduction of funding and establishing funding caps for the Medicaid program threatening the longstanding Medicaid guarantee for people with disabilities. Per capita cap proposals will force states to cut services and eligibility.

  **Veterans Task Force** –
  - Working to increase access to VA’s specialized health care services, including spinal cord injury/disease care, blinded care, poly-trauma care, and mental health care.
  - Developed fact sheets on the Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program and Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act - VEVRAA/Section 503.
  - Facilitated discussions during monthly meetings on a wide range of topics, including the Commission on Care, Advisory Committee on Veterans Employment, Training, and Employer Outreach (ACVETEO), Veterans-related provisions in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) final regulations, 501 regulations, Veterans Transportation Service final rule, implementation of the Disabled Military Child Protection Act, and Veterans’ studies conducted by RAND and Virginia Commonwealth University.

  **Developmental Disabilities, Autism and Family Support Task Force** –
  - Working to protect vital mandatory and discretionary programs that fund priority programs relevant to persons with developmental disabilities and their caregivers.
  - Continuing to advocate for the reauthorization of the Lifespan Respite Act and the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and advocate for the enactment of separate legislation to create a national strategy to support family caregivers, to require certain employers to provide paid leave, and to expand eligibility for unpaid leave to siblings of persons with disabilities.

- **Waiver Task Force**: Actively monitoring Medicaid waivers in all 50 states. Each time there are revisions, updates, and opportunities to comment on proposed changes to waivers, the task force responds and provides the opportunity for input from interested organizations.

- **Health Professions Network (HPN)**: Spring 2017 conference titled “Healthcare Advocacy” held April 5-7, in Dubuque, IA. Presented “Federal Advocacy 101” as a part of the “HPN Talks” series. AMTA serves as Advocacy Committee Chair and holds an elected position on the Board of Directors.

- **National Alliance for Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (NASISP)**: Congressman Dave Loebsack introduced a SISP resolution recognizing April 24th-28th as National Specialized Instructional
Support Personnel Awareness Week (H. Res. 265). Working to create practice-based resources that will assist SISP professionals in advocating for the inclusion of their services with their employers. Currently focused on securing a meeting with Department of Education Secretary, Betsy Devos, and her staff.

- **Title IV, Part A Coalition** – Advocating for funding of the Student Support and Academic Enrichment (SSAE) grant program (Title IV, A of ESSA) within the FY2017 budget at $400 million, which is a small fraction of its ESSA authorization level of $1.65 billion. Provides meaningful investments in a range of programs that foster safe and healthy school climates and ensure students receive a well-rounded education.

- **Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC):** 114th Congress passed bipartisan legislation in late December that seeks to enhance and better coordinate medical rehabilitation research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as part of the 21st Century Cures Act. The rehabilitation research legislation, S.800/H.R. 1631, the Enhancing the Stature and Visibility of Medical Rehabilitation Research at the NIH Act, was included in Section 2040 of the Cures Act. Submitted comments on the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) draft long-range plan for the period 2018–2023.

- **Nondefense Discretionary Coalition (NDD United):** Participation in this coalition includes ongoing work to urge a balanced approach to deficit reduction and advocacy for no additional cuts to discretionary programs; AMTA is one of 3,200 organizations supporting this effort.

- **Habilitation Coalition (HAB):** Continued focus on coverage of Rehabilitation / Habilitation services in health insurance marketplace plans and the impact on access to services. Coalition will continue to work to encourage state insurers to incorporate habilitative and rehabilitative benefits that comply with the newly-issued federal regulations for this benefit category under the Affordable Care Act.

- **Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF):** As members of CARF’s International Advisory Council, each time new rehabilitation facility standards are proposed, select AMTA members have the opportunity to provide feedback on their content. A small sample of members are chosen to provide input on each standard. Potential participants are identified and chosen based on the populations served indicated and submitted on their yearly member surveys. Standards on “Behavioral Health-Adults” have been introduced in 2017.

- **AMTA Website Policy Section:** Monitor related news; Assist with updates and new postings.

**Presentations**

- Dubuque, IA – April 7, 2017 – (Via Teleconference) HPN Spring Conference – Federal Advocacy 101 - Presented an overview of the profession of music therapy. Outlined the particulars of advocacy on the federal level. Described the many ways that AMTA advocates for music therapy on a national level.

With a new administration and the start of the 115th session of Congress, AMTA has been actively advocating for the music therapy profession and the clients served through a variety of networks. Now more than ever, it is of the utmost importance to ensure that the music therapy profession has a “seat at the table” during policy discussions that impact healthcare and education issues.

**Networking conducted through monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly conference calls/meetings/webinars:**

- CMS Open Door Forum – Skilled Nursing Facility - Long Term Care
- CMS Open Door Forum – Physicians, Nurses, Allied Health Professionals
- Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC)
- Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE)
  - Real Warriors
Listed below are the scholarship/grant awards to be administered by AMTA in 2017. This represents an impressive total of 20 possible awards granted at student and professional member levels.

- Florence Tyson Grant for the Study of Music Psychotherapy (1)
- E. Thayer Gaston Writing Award (1)
- Anne Emery Kyllo Professional Scholarship (3)
- Edwina Eustis Dick Scholarship Fund (2)
- Cathy and Brian Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund (1)
- Theodore Meyer Scholarship (1)
- Conference Scholars Fund (3)
- Christine Stevens Professional Development Scholarship (2)
- Past-Presidents’ Conference Scholars Fund (2)
- Student Conference Scholarship Fund (2)
- Fultz Fund Research Grant program (1)
- Clinician Research Grant (not granted)
- Ruth Robertson Scholarship (TBD)

Thanks to Kymla Eubanks, Chair of the AMTA Scholarship Committee, and Michele Forinash, Chair of the Fultz Committee.

**Future Priorities**

- Continue to Educate AMTA members about advocacy opportunities in response to White House administration and Congressional Activity.
- Co-Chair the Reimbursement Committee and encourage member involvement in outlined tasks.
• Co-Chair the Government Relations Committee, assisting regional representatives with state and federal advocacy.
• Continue communication with CMS to ensure accurate music therapy recognition within MDS materials.
• Update and Maintain Public Policy Section of AMTA Website
• Serve on the Health Professions Network Board and Chair the HPN Advocacy Committee
• Participate in various Washington, D.C.-based coalitions
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND REPORTS
TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR FINANCIALS

1. Treasurer’s Report

2. March 31, 2017 Balance Sheet and Year-To-Date Statement

3. FY 2018 Budget Revenue & Expense Worksheets

4. FY 2018 Budget Notes
1. Treasurer’s Report
I. Introduction & Overview

As I begin this report I am delighted to remind Board members and others that the Fiscal Year 2016 (July 15-June 16) revenue far exceeded expectations due to 1) a wonderful increase in membership, including an unprecedented total number of members for the 2016 membership year, 2) an exceptional attendance at the 2015 annual national conference with a robust number of conferees enrolled in pre-conference specialized trainings, 3) more than projected revenue from journal subscriptions, 4) a large number of participants in e-Courses, 5) generous monetary gifts/donations, 6) a full year of 100% participation in academic maintenance fees, and 7) careful budget planning and vigilance. While the Board of Directors has fiduciary responsibility for AMTA and is fully committed to revenue development, it takes an army of national office staff along with professional member and student volunteers to make us fiscally successful. A special “thank you” to each one of you; we are successful, indeed!

In all financial considerations, it is essential to focus on the AMTA mission statement, to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world. To that end, we must have funds to support our work to eliminate threats and collaborate with others to form continuums of care, strive to obtain state and national legislation that increases access to music therapy as a necessary service, advocate for music therapy services and employment for qualified and credentialed professionals who provide those services, and so much more.

We are in exciting times. Around the globe there is great interest in the power of music to affect people in positive ways. Such interest propels many with little or no training to seek opportunities to use music to influence others and, in some cases, misuse the music therapy body of knowledge to justify what they are doing. While this may seem like a threat to credentialed music therapists, it is really an opportunity to collaborate and define the ways in which we can work together with others who seek to use music therapeutically.

The world is in a heightened awareness of the powers of music and we must assume a leadership role to define how, when, by whom and for which purposes music may be used to its greatest value. If we do not take the leadership, someone else will. We all know that not everyone needs music therapy and not everyone can benefit from it. Yet, most people like music and want it in their lives in some way. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we could be part of making that happen with musicians and others who are interested in serving humankind, while we continue to develop our profession with credentialed music therapists who provide quality music therapy services for those who need them?

Whatever direction our agenda as an organization takes, we must continue to develop the funding that supports it. The Board of Directors carefully monitors revenue and expenses and is indebted to Executive Director Andi Farbman for her integrity and stewardship. Further, each Board member does his or her part to plan and implement...
the Financial Action Plan (FAP) and revenue continues to grow; but, expenses continue to grow also. It simply costs more to do business each year even if we don’t do new things!

The Financial Action Plan
The Financial Action Plan (FAP) (see Appendix A) so ably designed by the Board of Directors in the last several years has served well as a framework for progress. It has provided opportunities to brainstorm options and to re-configure established revenue sources for the AMTA. The Board of Directors has worked hard and well in efforts to meet its fiduciary responsibilities. It has carefully monitored the function of well-established approaches to financial development while designing and exploring new options for value-added revenue. The Board has worked together successfully as a team of forward-thinking professional volunteers who are committed to the sustainability and growth of AMTA. I would like to commend Board members, past and present, for all your contributions.

A careful study of AMTA’s financial trends over the last several years reveals increased revenue; yet, revenue streams have struggled to keep up with growing demands for services, their concomitant costs and the ever-increasing price of doing business. Persistent effort is necessary to maintain the status quo and even more is required to prepare for the increasing financial needs and demands of the future, including unknown challenges and opportunities.

An analysis of the current FAP document reveals an extensive array of activities, some of which have high yield for high effort, while others have moderate to low yield for high effort. It makes sense to concentrate efforts in areas that have the greatest potential for revenue outcome.

We have accomplished many important revenue initiatives over the past several years with highlights that include:
- 1) Active membership development in tandem with the Regions,
- 2) a Leadership Academy that is available at each conference,
- 3) new Conference Institutes and Continuing Education Courses for each conference,
- 4) relationship development with the Regions through better communication,
- 5) new academic maintenance fees with a current recommendation to increase fees within a 5-year fee structure, yet to be developed,
- 6) increased fees for approval of new music therapy academic programs,
- 7) a wide array of E-courses,
- 8) selected publications translated into Japanese for the World Congress in 2017,
- 9) a new introduction-type resource is underway,
- 10) a new manuscript review procedure is in place, and
- 11) new book proposals are coming in.

We are strong. We are innovative and we are successful!

A close examination of revenue and expense excel worksheets over the last five years (see Budget Worksheets) has shown the largest revenue streams include Membership, Grants & Donations, Publications, Conference, and Subscriptions. Of these, conference revenue is developed and managed by the very capable AMTA staff and the conference program planners. Subscriptions also fall within the purview of the AMTA staff and the Oxford University Press partnership--no direct Board work is required. Consequently, there are three major revenue areas over which the Board can have strong influence with good potential for revenue growth. They include
- 1) Membership,
- 2) Donations and
- 3) Publications and E-courses.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors focus on revenue development in these three areas over the next five years.

Membership
Membership growth, particularly among professional music therapists who benefit from AMTA services even when they are not members of the AMTA, has been an ongoing target for development in the past several years. The Board of Directors has agreed to an ambitious goal--50% of the total number of Board Certified Music Therapists as professional members of the AMTA. It is possible and it will take a lot of work! Congratulations to the success of coming close to our goal of 35% of Board Certified Music Therapists as professional members in the Fall of 2016!
Donations: The Framework for A Giving Community of Music Therapists

Gifting within AMTA is a strong value that continues to grow across all membership categories. It includes fundraising activities, revenue development initiatives, legacy giving, and charitable gifts from outside sources. As gifting continues to evolve throughout the changing culture of AMTA, younger members are excited by the challenges of fundraising events, e.g., the Frunners, and others have a heartfelt desire to “give back” through volunteer work within AMTA, manuscript contributions, E-course production and other activities. In addition, the Legacy Society has great promise for planned gift development among the senior members of the AMTA. Several of those members have already made planned gifts within their estates. Persons who are in their later years are likely candidates for making planned estate gifts because they are at a time in life when they are considering leaving something important behind. And there are considerable tax incentives to do so. Several past presidents and others have made gifts; the estimated total amount is not yet known.

Publications and E-Courses

AMTA is fortunate to have developed interest and commitments from authors to contribute their work to AMTA. These contributions are donations but are listed separately in the FAP document below.

Considerations

The FY 2017 was adopted, based on our best estimates, as a “Place Holder” budget, one that keeps up, but does not develop new revenue sources for the future, and the FY 2018 budget does much the same. Meanwhile, there are increased demands on staff to do more when their energies and efforts are maximized. Further, revenue from music therapy registrants will end when the National Music Therapy Registry is terminated on January 1, 2020; it is time to negotiate a new lease for office space and storage; some staff changes are possible; and there is a need to grow our future beyond conducting business as usual.

The FAP is underway with plans for new initiatives along with increased energy devoted to approaches to revenue already in place. Within the FAP is a recommendation to consider a dues increase. Dues for professional members have remained the same for four years, i.e., 2015, 2016, 2017, and are schedule to for 2018. An increase of approximately 10% across all dues membership categories is recommended for consideration. If a change is made, the earliest implementation date would be January 1, 2019 at the beginning of the 2019 membership year, effecting half of FY 19 and a full year in FY 20. The following changes in dues structure will be considered: Professional and Associate members from $250 to $275; Students and Graduate Students from $95 to $105; Affiliate from $350 to $385; Patron from $650 to $700; and Retired from $125 to $135.

II. Treasurer’s Responsibilities

The Treasurer’s report and accompanying documents serve as the basis for financial decision making within the Association and it is essential that all Board members fully understand its content and implications so that they can fulfill their fiduciary responsibilities. Please ask questions if you need clarification about anything in this report.
According to the AMTA Bylaws, the “Treasurer will be entrusted with the custody and supervision of the financial affairs of the Association, as directed by the Board of Directors....” The “supervision” of AMTA’s financial affairs involves reviewing past trends as well as projecting trends into the future. We consider the larger economic picture of society in general, as well as trends related to associations and AMTA. The Treasurer does not track numbers per se, but works closely with the Executive Director and helps disseminate and interpret information for the Board of Directors, the Assembly, and the membership. The ongoing task of creating and adjusting the budget is a collaborative process that takes an enormous amount of time and attention to detail. Be assured that your budget team takes this responsibility very seriously and we always consider as many factors as possible to develop the budget document that is presented to the Board. In addition to the budget team, the Financial Advisory Committee reviews the draft budget for the coming year, and the Audit Committee reviews audit results. The Budget Team is comprised of Executive Director Andi Farbman and me. Thus far this year we have met weekly since February, via telephone and e-mail, to review financial statements to monitor FY 2017 and to plan the budget for FY 2018.

Prior to presenting the FY 2018 budget to the Board of Directors, the Financial Advisory Committee met on April 18, 2017 to review the budget draft. It was the consensus of the Financial Advisory Committee to recommend the FY 2018 budget as drafted to the Board of Directors. The Board will consider the FAC-endorsed FY 2018 budget for approval at the mid-year meeting in June, 2017.

The Financial Advisory Committee members are: Alicia Clair (Treasurer), Deborah Benkovitz Williams (Board Liaison to the Regional Presidents), Amy Furman (Past President), Jennifer Geiger (President), Amber Weldon-Stephens (President Elect) Kevin Hahn (Western Region Treasurer), Bryan Hunter (Historian), Amy Rogers (Southwestern Region Treasurer), Michael Silverman (Assistant Speaker of the Assembly), Angie Snell (Speaker of the Assembly), and Andi Farbman (ex-officio). Special thanks to regional treasurers Kevin Hahn and Amy Rogers for their participation.

For the day-to-day accounting, two staff members are responsible for accounts receivable and accounts payable so that there are various levels of accountability always in place in our financial system. In addition to NO staff, an outside CPA accountant, Char Patterson, works on a monthly basis to compile the balance sheet and reconcile all the accounts. This is our second layer of quality control. Third, every August or September AMTA undergoes an annual audit by an independent financial firm. The results of that audit are sent to the annual Audit Committee who reviews the report with an audit partner from the financial firm. The Audit Committee for FY 17 consisted of the President (Jennifer Geiger), President Elect (Amber Weldon-Stephens), Speaker of the Assembly (Angie Snell), Historian (Bryan Hunter) a non-Board member of the Financial Advisory Committee (Kevin Hahn) and the Treasurer as Chair. We met in early November to review the audit results for the fiscal year with our audit partner, Terri McKnight, CPA. The results of this call were presented at the annual board meeting.

The financial oversight of AMTA is one of our most important collective duties as Board members. I appreciate your attention to these important fiduciary matters. I welcome

III. Year-to-Date Status as of February for FY 2017
(July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

The midyear Board meeting is scheduled earlier than usual this year--May 31 through June 5, 2017. Consequently, the analysis of the FY 17 figures will cover less time than usual. For purposes of this analysis, the February statement is being utilized—the figures for which are located in Column J on the FY 2018 Budget Worksheets; however, in addition, the March statement was recently completed and is included for your information.

The FY 17 Budget included $1,722,500 in Revenue and $1,789,000 in Expenses, resulting in a projected deficit of ($66,500). By comparison, the FY 16 fiscal year ended with a surplus of Revenue over Expenses of $68,282 or $83,784 (excluding depreciation of $15,502).
Revenue as of 2/28/17

- **Membership Dues** – Membership indicators look positive. As of February 28th (which is only two months into the 2017 membership year), membership dues revenue has reached 88% of our goal for the year and within $2,000 of where we were last year at this time. As far as the number of members, we are using April 1, 2017 data: overall totals for both years are basically the same; however, the **good news** is that professional members = 1864, **an increase of 48 or 3% of professional members**; total student members = 1150, a decrease of 47 student members or 4% (further breakdown reveals undergraduate students = 776, a decrease of 83 or 10%; **good news on graduate students = 374, an increase of 36 or 11%**).

- **Publications** – We have been steadily decreasing the budget expectations for publications for the past four years; however, this year’s total as of 2/28/17 is even more disappointing—$42,000 less than the same time last year. This income reflects the ages of our publications and the fact that we haven’t published anything new since 2014. As you will see from the updated Financial Action Plan, however, the new Intro book is well underway and promises to be a win-win project, thanks to the coordination of Treasurer Alicia Clair and the able editorship of Drs. Knight and LaGasse.

- **E-courses** – We have achieved nearly $10,000 this year. We have increased the value of membership by making the newest E-course on Self-Care (and its related CMTE credits) a free member benefit, which may have contributed to a slight decrease in revenue.

- **Conference-related revenue** (3 line items) = 34% of budgeted revenue for the total year; gross revenue exceeded projections for FY 17 by $41,000 (7%) and exceeded net revenue projections by over $52,000 (12%). This was due to (1) a well-attended 2016 conference; (2) many varied and excellent trainings; (3) a larger than expected number of hotel stays; (4) keeping expenses at a minimum; and (5) a well-negotiated hotel contract.

- **Subscriptions** – This year’s revenue exceeds our budgeted target. It’s difficult to determine at this time of year how much additional income will be achieved but we will provide an update for the mid-year report. In addition, please note that our partnership with OUP has also reduced multiple expense categories including printing and postage.

- **Grants & Donations and Special Projects** – The combined budget for these line items is $70,000. The actual income for these categories and E-Courses (which are considered Special Projects but broken out into their own category) is approximately $115,000, which includes the **one-time $50,000** donation previously mentioned. Exclusive of that donation, the amount to date is $65,000, which is nearly our goal of $70,000 with four months remaining in the fiscal year.

- **Academic Maintenance Fees** – Our second year of academic maintenance fee collection, we are on track to report 100% by the end of the fiscal year.

- **Interest Income** – Though the market bounced back between November and February, at $6200, we are behind where we were last year at this time, i.e., $10,000. However, we hope to achieve our budget of $15,000 by the year-end.

Expenses as of 2/28/17

Good news can also be found in expense categories—expenses are mainly at budget or under budget. The two areas in which expenses are over expectations are Payroll Taxes & Benefits, which reflects rising healthcare costs and associated taxes, and Travel & Lodging, which is not currently over-budget but will be over-budget by the end of the fiscal year due to increased days for the mid-year meeting and related Kennedy Center/NIH Event costs. In addition, the Master’s Level Entry subcommittee of the board will be holding a stand-alone (not in conjunction with the mid-year meeting), face-to-face meeting that will cost in excess of $10,000–12,000. We attempted to allocate those costs to FY 18 but because the meeting will be held before June 30th, we cannot move the costs to the fiscal year that starts on July 1st.
Expense category savings include Computers, Equipment, Postage & Delivery, and Space Costs (Kudos to staff for a major ‘spring cleaning’--we decreased the number of storage site units, saving in excess of $7,000 annually!).

We are also showing over $37,000 in Wilson Trust expenses, which will be eliminated from the operating budget and allocated to the Wilson Fund at the time of the annual audit, thereby reducing the operating expenses by that amount.

The bottom line for our current Fiscal Year 2017 budget is that the originally projected deficit of ($66,500) will most likely be lower based on additional conference net revenue and the Belli donation. We are unable to revise our projections at this early juncture, but once we analyze the March and April financial statements, we’ll have a better idea about the decrease, which will inform FY 18 as well.

**Total Net Assets**

The last year for which we have total net asset information is the end of Fiscal Year 2016 (June 30, 2016) at which time our Total Net Assets are just under half a million dollars, i.e., $490,958 (not including Wilson Trust funds). Reviewing the past 6 fiscal years, we had two years resulting in deficits, i.e., FY 14 and FY 12, and the other four years (FY 11, FY 13, FY15, and FY16) resulting in surpluses.

We always strive to have a surplus as large as we can possibly manage to get, but, minimally, we strive for a zero-based budget. We are pleased to continue a healthy trend of total net assets.
Please review the table below for total net asset figures over the last 18 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
<th>Total Net Assets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 1999</td>
<td>$18,832</td>
<td>($25,457)</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2000</td>
<td>$198,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2001</td>
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<td>FY 2002</td>
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<td>($10,916)</td>
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<td>FY 2003</td>
<td>($30,754)</td>
<td>($41,670)</td>
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<td>FY 2004</td>
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<td>($21,447)</td>
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<td>FY 2005</td>
<td>$140,724</td>
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<td>FY 2006</td>
<td>$87,571</td>
<td>$228,295</td>
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<td>$74,644</td>
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<td>FY 2008</td>
<td>($50,580)</td>
<td>$252,358</td>
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<td>FY 2009</td>
<td>($1,061)</td>
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<td>FY 2010</td>
<td>$29,826</td>
<td>$281,123</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2011</td>
<td>$478,069*</td>
<td>$759,192*</td>
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<td>$78,069</td>
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<td>FY 2012</td>
<td>($140,143)*</td>
<td>$619,049*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>($46,403)</td>
<td>$323,548</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2013</td>
<td>$84,559*</td>
<td>$703,608*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$106,618</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>($79,282)*</td>
<td>$624,326*</td>
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<td>($75,407)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>$1,375*</td>
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<td>$54,698</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>$68,282*</td>
<td>$693,983*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$81,615</td>
<td>$490,958</td>
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</table>

*Amounts include restricted funds from Wilson Trust Fund

**Unrestricted Net Asset Target Goal**

Standard nonprofit management guidelines recommend that a non-profit organization, such as AMTA, should have at least three months’ worth of reserves in the form of unrestricted net assets. Fiscal year's 2016 unrestricted net assets as of 6/30/16 increased by 53% to $303,817 from FY 15’s $198,166 in the previous year. This is a great sign, especially in today's economy. The recommended target amount for unrestricted net assets is approximately $425,000. Whereas we finished FY 15 with 47% of our recommended unrestricted net assets; in FY 16, we are at
72% of our targeted unrestricted net asset amount—excellent progress. We’ll see where we are with FY 17 by the

time of the annual meeting.

IV. Synopsis of FY 2018 Budget
The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) met on April 18, 2017, to review the FY 18 budget draft. It was the
consensus of the Financial Advisory Committee to recommend the FY 2018 budget as drafted to the Board of
Directors. The Board will now consider the FAC-endorsed FY 2018 budget for approval at the mid-year meeting.

Discussion of Draft FY 2018 Budget
- FY 2018 includes $1,753,000 in Revenue ($30,500 or 2% increase over last year) and $1,819,000 ($30,000
or 2% increase over last year) in Expenses, resulting in a deficit of ($66,000). For the most part, the
revenue and expense budgets are nearly identical to last year.
- Revenue—the majority of categories are unchanged. The increase is modest for membership dues based on
increased numbers in 2016; E-courses are increased to reflect additional revenue and courses; publications
are decreased due to our aging library; conference is decreased to be conservative; and academic fees are
increased slightly to reflect the full range of fees.
- Expenses—the majority of categories are unchanged. Other line items are either increased slightly or
decreased slightly.

We are disappointed to be recommending another deficit budget, but feel that this is the best we can do for now. We
have every intention of improving on this bottom line as we have more data about FY 17.

In addition, implementing our latest Financial Action Plan should contribute to the reduction of deficits and provide
more financial stability.

V. Investments
Please see Executive Director Farbman’s summary of M&T Bank’s Wealth Management’s accounting of the
AMTA investments.

VI. Conclusion
Remember that a budget is a working document that requires ongoing scrutiny and analysis. We must consider past
years as we anticipate future directions and needs. We continue to be at a crossroads where we are challenged
almost every day with opportunities to grow the profession and with threats to our identity through organizations
that claim to provide music therapeutically without much, if any, training. Our strong financial foundation is critical
to our growth and sustainability.

It is important to consider the long view when analyzing the financial health of our association. I am delighted to be
on board as your treasurer and look forward to your questions, comments, and suggestions at the upcoming mid-year
board meeting and in the future.

We welcome your input and ideas. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us: Alicia at aclair@ku.edu
(785) 224-9201 or Andi at farbman@musictherapy.org or (301) 589-3300, ext. 106.

Enclosures in the Financial Statements section of the Board Book
(1) March 31, 2017 Year-to-Date Balance Sheet and Income & Expenses
(2) FY 2018 Budget Worksheets
(3) FY 2018 Budget Notes
Financial Action Plan
Updated, April, 2017
### AMTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
April 25, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID &amp; Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Implementation Point Person &amp; Assistant(s)</th>
<th>Review Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>End Target Date</th>
<th>Expected Future Income</th>
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<td>1. FY 17 &amp; FY 18</td>
<td>Membership Special Projects:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Professional Member Growth Workgroup (PMGW)</td>
<td>Kristen O’Grady &amp; Amy Furman, Co-chairs; assisted by Amber Weldon-Stephens, Tracy Richardson, Deborah Williams, &amp; Angie Elkins, Staff. All Board Members</td>
<td>6-17 See Detailed &amp; Compendable Report in the Board Book</td>
<td>A. Information is in hand re MT-BCs &amp; non-members by State &amp; Region. Target Areas: 1) MT Business Owners Contact person, Kat Fulton. Developing a survey to better understand the needs of MTBOs (Bonnie Hayhurst has interest helping with MTBOs). 2) VA Music Therapists, Kristen Bouwman (contact person) Developing specific continuing education offering for VA MTs by VA MTs related to vicarious trauma. Emphasis on how AMTA assists with advocacy and misrepresentation in the VA system, a big issue for VA MTs. 3) Contact music therapy program directors, faculty, adjunct faculty, and clinical supervisors who are non-members. Tracy Richardson, Point 4) Developing Patron membership, Tracy Richardson, Point (in communication with Andi Farbman) 5) Connecting with past AMTAS officers and student scholarship recipients, Amy Furman, Point. Create time for fellowship/connection during conference for recent AMTAS officers, members and scholarship winners to maintain connection to AMTA, revive membership interest, determine membership needs of new professionals. 6) Enhance Board Culture focused on membership. Highlight the impact of membership when considering issues brought</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. FY 17 &amp; FY 18</td>
<td>Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Responsible</td>
<td>Notes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Determine educators’ needs for new publications (included in the survey).</td>
<td>Ed Kahler, Point, Michael Silverman, Amber Weldon-Stephens</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 6-17 | B. | Authors development  
B.1 encourage self-identified authors  
B.2 solicit authors to write publication proposals. | B.1 AMTA communiqués  
B.2 All Board members & others solicit authors | 6-17 |
| 6-17 | C. | Incentive to propose a manuscript: Tax benefit re intellectual property. | C. Andi Farbman and AMTA communiqués | 6-17 |
| 6-17 | D. | Publish new intro book | Alicia Clair, Point; Publication staff support Assist | 6-17 |
| 6-17 | E. | ?? Explore feasibility to Publish a “short book” for those interested in music therapy versus music as arts & healthcare | ???Point | 6-17 |
| 6-17 | F. | Do we want to publish a book/booklet re Ethics? Emphasis on clinical examples and appropriate handling | F. Debbie Bates, Point | 6-17 |
| 6-17 | G. | Identify 3-4 audiences/markets for AMTA materials outside of the US or outside of MT | Alicia Clair, Point; Andi Farbman and AMTA Staff, Assist All Board Members | 6-17 |

B. 4 A Legacy Society informational session is being planned for the St. Louis Conference.
Develop and implement a marketing plan to support sales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H. Translate selected publications to other languages, priority Spanish</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>H. Other publishers are providing materials in Spanish which could be a large market for MT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. FY 16 &amp; Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-Course &amp; Video Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. All Board members are asked to provide an E-course and/or to facilitate others to provide E-courses. Discuss proposed courses with production team. Develop priorities and timeline</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>A. New Proposed E-Courses TBD Volunteers required: All Board Members Annette Whitehead-Pleaux, Heroin Epidemic; Debbie Williams, Pediatric Pain, Procedural Support, or Self Care; OTHERS?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. MTex Videos from Conference</td>
<td>Jean Nemeth</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>B. Video Implementation, Cathy &amp; Dwight Knoll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Develop marketing materials and approaches to push sales</td>
<td>Board volunteers are needed to work with Andi Farbman and NO Staff persons!</td>
<td>6-17</td>
<td>C. Great AMTA products are not selling as well as they can. Marketing is essential.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT ARE SOME COMMON TYPES OF PLANNED GIFTS ACCEPTED BY AMTA?

Charitable Bequest

- Can be established with a simple clause in your will or trust (see form provided by AMTA).
- Can be structured so that the gift comprises a specific dollar amount, designated securities such as stocks/bonds, or a percentage of your estate.
- If applicable, can provide your heirs with an estate tax charitable deduction.

IRA and Retirement Plan Assets

- Because they are subject to income taxes, retirement assets often are significantly reduced if left to heirs as part of an estate plan. These same assets are not taxed when left to a not-for-profit organization such as AMTA.
- Can be structured so that a portion of the asset, either a specific dollar amount or a percentage, is left to AMTA with the remainder going to your heirs.

Life Insurance

- Ownership of a no longer needed life insurance policy can be given to AMTA at any time.
- AMTA can be designated as a beneficiary of a policy for a minimal expenditure.

Charitable Gift Annuities

- Annuities can be created with a gift of cash, stock, or other assets.
- The annuity initially provides the donor with an income tax deduction and fixed payments for life.
- Upon the donor’s passing, the remainder of the annuity goes to AMTA.
- Charitable gift annuities and similar vehicles, such as charitable remainder trusts, should be created with advice from your attorney or financial planner.

WHAT KINDS OF PLANNED GIFTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY AMTA?

- Gifts of real estate
- Gifts of personal property

Always consult with your financial planner or attorney to make sure you are choosing the type of planned gift most beneficial to your unique situation.

AMTA Legacy Society donors will be acknowledged on an annual basis at the conference, and on a plaque in the national office.
I/we are pleased to confirm that I/we have made the following estate provision in support of the American Music Therapy Association:

-☐ Bequest (will)
-☐ Life Insurance Beneficiary
-☐ Retirement Account Designation
-☐ Life Insurance Owner
-☐ Charitable Gift Annuity
-☐ Other (describe below)

Gift Details, including:

Type of bequest

Percentage of estate _____ %

Specific dollar amount $___________

Description of gift annuity, retirement designation, life insurance or other

______________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________

Best estimate of current gift value: $______________

I/we wish for this gift to be used as follows:

-☐ Unrestricted, to be used where needed most, as determined by AMTA administrative staff and board
-☐ To benefit or establish the following initiative or program:

______________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________

☐ I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Please provide a copy of the relevant pages of your documentation directing your estate gift to The American Music Therapy Association.

This form is for AMTA records only. I/we understand it is not legally binding upon my/our estate as to the ultimate receipt or value of this gift.

Donor Name (please print) ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Signature

Donor Name (please print) ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Signature
THE AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION (AMTA)

SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

Estate provisions are important to the future of AMTA. The following bequest language is provided as a guide to you and your legal advisor for the inclusion of gift provisions in your will or trust document.

Describe the gift:

“to The American Music Therapy Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization,

☐ The sum of $_______________________

☐ _____ % of my estate owned by me at my death

☐ Other (please describe)

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Describe the purpose of the gift:

☐ For unrestricted use where needed most, as determined by AMTA administrative staff and Board of Directors

☐ To benefit the following existing initiative or program:

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

☐ To establish the following new initiative or program (as previously agreed upon and documented by AMTA administrative staff and/or board):

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

With your bequest provision, we are pleased to acknowledge you as a member of the AMTA Legacy Society, which recognizes AMTA members and friends who have remembered AMTA in their estate plan or other planned gift arrangement. For more information, contact _______________________________
Greetings

I am Alicia Clair (name) and I am talking to you on behalf of the newly organized Legacy Society of the American Music Therapy Association. The Legacy Society is new but the practice of making planned gifts to support the Association and the music therapy profession has been in place for a long time.

I am calling/talking with you to let you know that I have made a planned gift to the AMTA for the purpose of supporting the future of AMTA, not to address immediate needs, and I am asking you to think about it, too. A planned gift can provide you with an opportunity to make a substantially larger gift in the future than you feel comfortable making outright at this time. That is what drew me to make my gift. Also, I was attracted by the significant tax benefit to my estate and to my heirs.

The AMTA accepts common types of planned gifts that are outlined on a fact sheet I have for you [offer to send it or email it as an attachment]. The AMTA does not accept gifts of real estate or personal property. I made my gift through a trust in which I designated a charitable bequest as a percentage of my estate which will go to the AMTA upon my death. Other estate provisions available include a bequest in a will, retirement account designation, charitable gift annuity, life insurance beneficiary, life insurance owner and other. If you decide to consider the possibility of a planned gift, it is essential that you discuss it with your financial advisor to determine which type of gift will be most advantageous to your estate and ultimately to your heirs.

I am happy to talk with you again as you think about supporting the mission of the AMTA and the development of the music therapy profession. Let me know if I can help.

AMTA Mission Statement: The mission of the American Music Therapy Association is to advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world.

The form for Planned Gift Commitment should not be used until the person has made a commitment for a planned gift. I have not done one for the AMTA but am ready to do so.
Appendix B: Educator Survey Selected Outcomes - CLAIR

1. Educators prioritized the following e-Courses for classroom use. These could also be available for Spring, 2017. Again, marketing is critical to purchase. A copy of the following e-Courses could be sent to all program directors of music therapy programs who are AMTA members to spur requirements for courses and sales to students and other faculty.
   A. Ethics & copyright
   B. MT reimbursement
   C. MT and dementia
   D. MT in early childhood

*Find a way that materials cannot be forwarded to others to prohibit distribution without payment!

2. Textbook topics of interest from educator survey results:
   - Reimbursement & related business (some information will be included in the new intro book)
   - Updated intro book (In process)
   - Human development and music (some information will be included in the new intro book)
   - Special populations, multicultural issues in practice (intro book in process), protocols for practice for various subtopics (provided in some e-Courses)
   - Research and research topics, undergrad text, stats for MTs, topics in evidence-based practice
   - Ethics and topics in ethical MT practice
   - Business aspects of music therapy
   - Comprehensive overview of theories in music therapy
   - Supervision
   - Music and the brain (the new intro book will have a chapter dedicated to this topic)
   - Clinical foundations: Pre-practicum
   - Topics in psychology of music for music therapists

3. Educators’ recommendations for publications
   A. Recruit a diverse pool of authors (in process)
   B. Ensure a consistent and quality focused review of proposed content for publication (procedures are written and ready for implementation)
   C. Top priorities for publication
      b. Ethics (included as a chapter segment of the new intro book)
      c. Reimbursement
      d. Business
   D. Compete better with other publishing companies: Provide an e-catalog
   E. Push tax benefits of donating texts/other publications
   F. Content in modular form is appealing
2. March 31, 2017 Balance Sheet and Year-To-Date Statement
## ASSETS

### Current Assets
- M&T Checking $567,180.30
- M&T Securities - Seattle $247,576.48
- M&T Investments $555,214.62
- AMTAS Account $2,727.25
- Accounts Receivable $26,314.00
- Prepaid Expenses/Clearing $(1,631.46)

Total Current Assets $1,397,381.19

### Property and Equipment
- Furniture & Fixtures $34,144.82
- Accum Dep F&F $(31,269.79)
- Office Equip $107,618.08
- Accum Dep - Office Equip $(94,433.29)
- Leasehold Improvements $32,595.91
- Accum dep - Leasehold $(20,267.15)

Total Property and Equipment $28,388.58

### Other Assets
- Sears Memorial Fund $22,167.69
- Deposits $5,951.88

Total Other Assets $28,119.57

Total Assets $1,453,889.34

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

### Current Liabilities
- Accounts Payable $26,364.85
- Due to AMTAS $2,333.05
- Deferred Dues - 17 $277,565.25
- Deferred rent $24,550.74
- Deferred Subscriptions $18,589.00
- Deferred Conference Revenue $6,800.00
- Accrued pension $20,823.30
- Accrued Vacation $34,081.21
- Lease Obligations $12,328.76

Total Current Liabilities $423,436.16

### Long-Term Liabilities

Total Long-Term Liabilities $0.00

Total Liabilities $423,436.16

### Net Assets
- Research Grants $11,103.00
- Disaster Relief Fund $21,549.00
- Archives $8,906.00
- Emily Baumann $10,000.00
- Music Therapy Research Mtg $14,100.00
- Ruth Robertson $5,000.00
- Sears Fund $21,325.00
- Bitchon $18,150.00
- Fultz Award $48,829.00
- Tyson Fund $26,339.00
- Wilson Trust Fund $203,025.00
- Kyllo Fund $5,000.00
- Unrestricted Net Assets $303,816.57
- Net Income $336,470.61

Total Net Assets $1,030,453.18

Total Liabilities & Net Assets $1,453,889.34

Unaudited – For Management Purposes Only
## Income Statement - Compressed Last Year/This Year

For the Nine Months Ending March 31, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Last Year Actual</th>
<th>Last Year Budget</th>
<th>This Year Actual</th>
<th>This Year Budget</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>670,205.92</td>
<td>690,000.00</td>
<td>662,235.35</td>
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<td>Sale of Publications</td>
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<td>AMTA Products</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,646,750.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,686,621.77</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,722,500.00</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>AMTA Products</td>
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<td>Thank Yous &amp; Awards</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1,714,900.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,350,151.16</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,789,000.00</strong></td>
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</table>

| Net Income                       | $ 310,026.45     | ($ 68,150.00)    | 336,470.61       | ($ 66,500.00)    |

For Management Purposes Only
3. FY 2018 Budget Revenue & Expense Worksheets
# AMTA Budget Worksheet

**FY 2010-2018 - REVENUE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Membership Dues (Natl. &amp; R)</strong></td>
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<td>$678,541</td>
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<td>$641,634</td>
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<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
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<td>$32,740</td>
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<td><strong>AMTA Products</strong></td>
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<td>$7,400</td>
<td>$3,638</td>
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<td>$1,717,471</td>
<td>$1,844,810</td>
<td>$1,722,500</td>
<td>$1,612,061</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Conference sites**
- San Diego
- Cleveland
- Atlanta
- St. Charles
- Jacksonville
- Louisville
- Kansas City
- Sandusky
- Sandusky
- St. Louis

**Wilson Trust Fund**

$400,000

*Wilson Trust overhead @ 12.5% over 3 years*

FY 18 – 3/8/17
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<td>TOTAL INCOME (previous pg)</td>
<td>$1,525,518</td>
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<td>$1,523,457</td>
<td>$1,759,322</td>
<td>$1,516,658</td>
<td>$1,717,471</td>
<td>$1,844,810</td>
<td>$1,722,500</td>
<td>$1,612,061</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
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<td>$16,708</td>
<td>$15,502</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

N.B. Depreciation is not included as an expense item on any of these budgets.

It appears as an expense on the annual audits.

*Wilson Trust expenses will be allocated by category and include an additional 12.5% admin overhead.

**Archives $5631

Wilson Trust $189
AMERICAN MUSIC THERAPY ASSOCIATION
FY 2018 Budget Notes
Line-by-Line Notes on AMTA Income
(July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)
April, 2017

[ Comparable financial data for categories and, in some cases, subcategories, from several year-end statements as of 6/30, i.e., 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016, are included in these notes for your reference. In addition, budgets for FY 16 and FY 17, as well as a draft FY 18 are included on the Budget Worksheets in Excel format ]

INCOME
5. MEMBERSHIP DUES (National and Regional combined)
  $740,000 [6/16 $742,640; 6/15 $667,537; 6/14 $641,634; 6/13 $644,388; 6/12 $616,156; 6/11 $678,541; 6/10 $646,465]

Membership dues income typically ebbs and flows during the fiscal year, depending on a number of factors including the timing of dues invoices, location of the annual conference, number of payment reminders, and the timing of the regional conferences, etc. In addition, the member database/directory, the online payment system, automated payment plans, and the website also are factors.

The conservative projection of $740,000 for dues for the FY 2018 budget is based on membership numbers remaining the same as they were at the end of 2016. Remaining conservative is the safest thing to do. Please note, however, that a number of targeted membership drives are in process in 2017 by the Membership Committee and the Board’s “Professional Member Growth Workgroup.”

The 2016 membership year ended on December 31, 2016 with a total of 4,104 members (more than 12/31/15 as opposed to 37 more between 12/31/15 and 12/31/14). This is the highest total since the beginning of AMTA, including its predecessors and the year in which World Congress was held. The professional and associate member total, 2,295 (60 more than 12/31/15), is still low relative to all the previous year-end totals that exceeded 2500 and compared to CBMT’s certificant total over 7000. On the other hand, the student member total (undergraduate and graduate) of 1,669 continues to be strong, 95 more than 12/31/15.

We continue to focus on recruiting more professional members, while at the same time celebrating and retaining student members.

December 31, 2016 total members = 4104; prof&assoc = 2295; students&grad = 1669
December 31, 2015 total members = 3935; prof&assoc = 2235; students&grad = 1674
December 31, 2014 total members = 3874; prof&assoc = 2252; students&grad = 1490
December 31, 2013 total members = 3837; prof&assoc = 2120; students&grad = 1583
December 31, 2012 total members = 3852; prof&assoc = 2194; students&grad = 1516
December 31, 2011 total members = 3922; prof&assoc = 2295; students&grad = 1475
By using the 2016 year-end membership figures and applying the relevant dues amounts, the total expected revenue for FY 2018

Prof + Assoc (combined) 2295 @ $250 = $573,750
Students 1669 @ $95 = $158,555
Affiliates 20 @ $350 = $7,000
Retired 69 @ $125 = $8,625
Patron 5 @ $650 = $3,250
TOTAL = $751,180

Using $740,000 is conservative and allows for some flexibility.

N.B. The final actual Membership Dues for FY 16 = $742,640

[The Membership Report provides a thorough analysis of updated membership numbers.]

Please note: Dues received by the National Office include membership in the regions, as well as the national organization. Regions previously received $15 per professional and associate member, and $7.50 per student member. AMTAS, the student organization, also receives $3.00 per student member. Dues to the regions are sent on a quarterly basis from the National Office to each regional Treasurer.

As of January 1, 2012, regions receive 6.5% of the professional member dues, which adds additional expenses and reduces the income by the same amount.

PLEASE NOTE: IN REVIEWING THE DUES SINCE THE FORMATION OF AMTA IN 1998 UNTIL 2017 (20 YEARS), THE PROFESSIONAL MEMBER DUES RATE HAS REMAINED THE SAME FOR 15 YEARS AND BEEN INCREASED ONLY SIX TIMES.

Dues Background Information:
Professional and Associate member dues rates from 1997-2018

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 = $95 for undergraduate students and graduate students

6. NMTR REGISTRY FEES (RMTs/CMTs/ACMTs)
We feel that the decline of the registry numbers and related income has leveled off. The number of registrants as of 2/1/17 is 228, 26% of whom are AMTA members.
Number of Registrants as of 2/17 = 228 (decrease from FY16 to FY17 = 9%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/16 = 250 (decrease from FY15 to FY16 = 7%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/15 = 268 (decrease from FY14 to FY15 = 6%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/14 = 284 (decrease from FY14 to FY13 = 5%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/13 = 300 (decrease from FY12 to FY13 = 9%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/12 = 329 (decrease from FY11 to FY12 = 12%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/11 = 375 (decrease from FY10 to FY11 = 4.3%)
Number of Registrants as of 2/10 = 392 (decrease from FY09 to FY10 = 8.6%)

N.B. The number of registrants as of 10/1/16 = 239, consistent with the 2/1/16 and the slow decline.

NMTR fee payments tend to cluster around September and June. Though fees are distributed throughout the year, they are not equally distributed, which is why there is variance between the calendar year numbers and fiscal year numbers. Notices are being sent to all registrants, reminding them of the 2020 termination of NMTR.

7. GRANTS & DONATIONS

$60,000 [6/16 $81,508 (includes one-time gift from Eastern Star Chapter in MD; 6/15 $129,469 (includes one-time Ott gift for MTR); 6/14 $89,689; 6/13 $91,894; 6/12 $52,681; 6/11 $479,637 [6/11 includes $400,000 from Wilson Trust Fund; 6/10 $70,694]

Between annual donations, which have remained constant, the perpetual annual Fultz Fund donation, and the other scholarships, etc., this estimate is conservative.

$10,000 Annual Gifts -- Keeping pace with predictions
(includes individual donations given annually to the General Fund, Research Fund, etc. and the Combined Federal Campaign, which is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign providing federal employees with myriad donation options)

$8,000 Scholarships & Grants
Meyer Scholarship (new in 2014) $1,000 annually
Edwina Eustis Dick Internship Scholarships (2) @ $500 = $1,000
Conference Scholars (3) @ $500 = $1,500
Past Presidents’ Conference Scholars (2) @ $500 = $1,000
Student Conference Scholars (2) @ $250 = $500
Smith (1) @ $500
Kyllo (3) @ $500 = 1,500
Tyson (1) @ $500
Gaston (1) @ $500

$15,000 Fultz Fund (perpetual annual donation that is an AMTA pass-through to grant recipients per guidelines; payments to recipients are phased in based on grant timelines so the amount of expenses varies annually.)
$15,000 -- Conference/Corporate Sponsorships—Jane and Cindy continue to do an excellent marketing job for conferences. Last year they brought in over $15,000. This year’s projection continues to be conservative because of economic realities for businesses but we hope to be pleasantly surprised again based on their excellent work.

$12,000 Miscellaneous donations

See the Financial Action Plan, the Frunners Fundraising Group ($5,000), led by Andrew Knight, Michelle Kennemer and others is rededicating itself to raising funds for AMTA.

8. SPECIAL PROJECTS (Board-based Projects)—E-Courses

$25,000 [6/16 $19,865; 6/15 $9,545; 6/14 $8,525; 6/13 $5,325; 6/12 $3,032 for pass-through funds for a military families project—not a board project]

This line item is typically allocated to Board-based revenue (N.B. In FY 2012, this line was used for pass through funds for a military families project).

The majority of this revenue is based on E-Courses taking off! Also, as part of the Financial Action Plan, Board members will be assisting with the development of E-courses by making suggestions and inviting others to develop E-courses to serve member needs and generate revenue. This special project is part of the Board’s fund-raising responsibility and each member should be committed to assisting in some way to ensure the success of this win-win project and its line item.

9. PUBLICATIONS


We have succeeded in creating a culture in which generous and scholarly members are donating intellectual property to AMTA as evidenced by the number of new manuscripts offered annually. AMTA completes extensive IRS paperwork to ensure that donors’ gifts are administered properly. The staff time is well worth the investment.

AMTA owes a big “Thank you” to our authors for donating manuscripts to AMTA.

GRAND TOTAL BELOW = $160,000

Published in FY 2015 = $ 6,000
Published in FY 2013 & FY 2014 = $ 3,000
Publications FY2010 & FY2011 = $42,000
Publications FY2008 & FY2009 = $68,000
Publications FY2003-FY2007 = $37,000
Long standing Publications = $4,000

Published in early FY 15
$6,000 Medical Music Therapy, Gooding editor
Standley edition revenue 6/09-6/14
[6/16 $6,484; 6/15 $7,394; 6/14 $1,272; 6/13 $4,834; 6/12 $2,465; 6/11 $8,418; 6/10 $3,570; 6/09 $5,653]

Published in FY 2013 and early FY 2014 = $3,000

$2,000 "Bright Start Music: Developmental Program for Parents and Teachers of Young Children" — DeLoach (Summer 2013)
[6/16 $2,219; 6/15 $2,680; 6/14 $5,619]

$1,000 The Sounds of Emerging Literacy — Register et al. (Fall 2012)
[6/16 $1,249; 6/15 $821; 6/14 $610; 6/13 $4,450]

Publications in FY2010 - FY2011 = $42,000

$7,000 Music Therapy & Geriatric Populations, Belgrave, Darrow, DeLoach & Wlodarczyk (Summer 2011)
[6/16 $7,675; 6/15 $9,574; 6/14 $7,973; 6/13 $13,235; 6/12 $10,530; 3/12 $9,655]

$3,000 MT & Premature Infants, Standley & DeLoach, second edition (Fall 2010; Fall 2003)

$28,000 Music in Special Education, Adamek & Darrow second edition (Fall 2010; Fall 2005) DVD package
[6/16 $27,528; 6/15 $31,689; 6/14 $28,776; 6/13 $36,270; 6/12 $34,739; 6/11 $36,3818; 6/10 $38,289; 6/09 $32,819]

$4,000 Medical MT & Adults in Hospitals, Hanson-Abromeit & Colwell (Fall 2010)
[6/16 $6,158; 6/15 $4,556; 6/14 $5,832; 6/13 $10,188; 6/12 $5,710; 6/11 $1,781]

Publications in FY2008 - FY2009 = estimate $68,000

$6,000 Medical MT & Pediatrics, Hanson-Abromeit & Colwell (Fall 2008)
[6/16 $6,918; 6/15 $5,583; 6/14 $6,948; 6/13 $7,808; 6/12 $5,636; 6/11 $5,009; 6/10 $4,333; 6/09 $4,355]

$2,000 Pediatric MT & CD-ROM—Wolfe & Waldon (Summer 2009)
[6/16 $1,092; 6/15 $2,214; 6/14 $2,288; 6/13 $4,522; 6/12 $2,957; 6/11 $3,768; 6/10 $6,215]

$5,000 Therapeutic Uses of Music with Older Adults, second edition—Clair & Memmott (Summer 2008) ($55/$40 @ 375 copies)
$55,000  Introduction to Music Therapy 3rd edition—Davis, Gfeller & Thaut  
(late Summer 2008) (as of 9/30/08 sold approximately @ 1200 copies, 95% of 
which were at the non-member rate of $65  
[6/16 $60,482; 6/15 $61,220; 6/14 $55,806; 6/13 $65,003; 6/12 $61,626; 6/11 
$70,916; 6/10 $92,647; 6/09 $111,686]

Research Jump Drive III = $0  

EXISTING INVENTORY (2003-2008)

Publication estimates based on Year-end Actuals = $37,000

$1,000  SIMPSON Music Therapy Reimbursement, Simpson  
[6/16 $1,720; 6/15 $1,368; 6/14 $2,150; 6/13 $4,104; 6/12 $2,180; 6/11 $3,306;  
6/10 $3,906; 6/09 $3,068]

$12,000  DARROW (second edition 2008) Approaches to Music Therapy, Darrow editor  
[6/16 $12,991; 6/15 $12,562; 6/14 $13,402; 6/13 $13,763; 6/12 $15,591; 6/11 
$8,604; 6/10 $17,373; 6/09 $11,661]

$6,000  CROWE Mental Health monograph Colwell series (Fall 2007)  
[6/16 $7,572; 6/15 $6,982; 6/14 $11,124; 6/13 $12,547; 6/12 $8,563; 6/11 
$10,324; 6/10 $11,095; 6/09 $7,533]

$3,000  REUER Percussion Guide and DVD, Reuer et al. (Fall 2007)  
[6/16 $3,078; 6/15 $2,596; 6/14 $2,732; 6/13 $3,520; 6/12 $2,615; 6/11 $3,527;  
6/10 $2,819; 6/09 $4,309]

$7,000  STANDLEY Music Techniques, Standley & Jones (Winter 2007)  
[6/16 $11,690; 6/15 $9,874; 6/14 $1,272; 6/13 $5,366; 6/12 $9,740; 6/11 $7,957;  
6/10 $10,410; 6/09 $9,243] (originally published by MMB)

$1,000  LOWEY/FRISCH Caring for the Caregiver, Lowey & Frisch-Hara  
(Fall 2007)  
[6/16 $2,985; 6/15 $480; 6/14 $155; 6/13 $725; 6/12 $6,940; 6/11 $2,735; 6/10 
$4,345; 6/09 $603]

$3,000  HUMPAL Early Childhood monograph, Humpal (Fall 2006)  
[6/16 $2,523; 6/15 $5,224; 6/14 $3,232; 6/13 $5,786; 6/12 $7,402; 6/11 $7,923;  
6/10 $8,470; 6/09 $6,003]
$3,000  WONG  A Guide to Adult Physical Rehabilitation Settings for Music Therapists, Wong (Fall 2004)

$1,000  ROBB Music Therapy and Pediatric Healthcare, Robb editor (Fall 2003)
[6/16 $1,401; 6/15 $874; 6/14 $2,713; 6/13 $6,133; 6/12 $3,300; 6/11 $5,192; 6/10 $6,036; 6/09 $5,655]

Existing publications sales = $4,000
(alphabetical order) sales as of 6/16
   $ 1,000 =  [$ 590] Brochures [New brochures being designed annually]
   $   500 =  [$3,520] Effectiveness book
   $   500 =  [$2,543] (Miscellaneous older publications)
   $  1,000 =  [$1,820] Music & Medicine (Dileo)
   $  1,000 =  [$1,500] Music Therapy in Schools (Wilson)

10. ANNUAL CONFERENCE/SPECIAL EVENTS/ADVERTISING/EXHIBITS
$511,000  [6/16 $531,762; 6/15 $487,184; 6/14 $409,101; 6/13 $439,602; 6/12 $404,277; 6/11 $394,411; 6/10 $311,940]

Background Comparison Data and Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OH (Estimate 2/16)</th>
<th>OH (Actual 1/17)</th>
<th>ST. LOUIS (Estimate 1/17)</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total Registration Revenue =</td>
<td>$403,000</td>
<td>$422,639</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Other Conference Revenue =</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>$156,943</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CONFERENCE =</td>
<td>$518,000*</td>
<td>$579,582</td>
<td>$511,000</td>
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</table>

*Includes estimate/actual for refunds
**AMTA Annual Conference Paid Attendance Figures 1997-2016:**

*Nineteen Years of Data*

*The World Congress of Music Therapy in 1999 is not included so as not to skew the other data.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference location</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Non-Members</th>
<th>Student Members</th>
<th>Student Non-Members</th>
<th>Single Day</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles (1997)</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>$209,896</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cleveland (1998)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>$1327</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Louis (2000)</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>$1230</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pasadena (2001)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$843</td>
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<td>Atlanta (2002)</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td>Minneapolis (2003)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>481</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austin (2004)</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$1024</td>
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<td>Orlando (2005)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1012</td>
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<td>Kansas City (2006)</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1181</td>
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<td>Louisville (2007)</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1238</td>
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<td>St. Louis (2008)</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>521</td>
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<td>$1248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference location</td>
<td>Members</td>
<td>Non-Members</td>
<td>Student Members</td>
<td>Student Non-Members</td>
<td>Single Day</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego (2009)</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1072</td>
</tr>
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<td>76</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1380</td>
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<td>$394,411</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta (2011)</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>160</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1343</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$404,277</td>
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<td>St. Charles, IL (2012)</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*50 Institute-only</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$439,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAX (2013)</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>96</td>
<td></td>
<td>1131 paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>168 comp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$409,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville (2014)</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1266 paid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>182 comp</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>$487,184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas City (2015)</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>612</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>1234 paid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>340 comp</td>
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<td>$540,042</td>
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<td>as of 4/30/16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalahari Sandusky,OH (2016)</td>
<td>623</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>690</td>
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<td>1340 paid</td>
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<td>Actual</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>232 comp</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$532,762</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>as of 1/31/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis (2017)</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>650</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Actual numbers are as of 4/30/16 for Kalahari Sandusky, OH and as of 1/31/17 for St. Louis.
2017 Rates

The following Professional Conference registration fees apply:
Professional member Express: 80% of 600 = 480 @ $370 = $177,600
Professional member Earlybird: 20% of 600 = 120 @ $470 = $56,400
Professional member Regular (not included for this estimate)
Professional non-members Express: 20 @ $620 = $12,400

GRAND TOTAL PROFESSIONALS $246,400

Students members Express & Earlybird: 650 @ $235 = $152,750
Student member Regular (not including)
Student non-members (not including)

GRAND TOTAL REGISTRATIONS = $399,150*
*Rounded to $400,000

2017 Hotel Rates Recommendation:
Singles $165, Doubles $190, Triples $215, and Quads $235

The total 2017 rebate for the Hyatt Union Station in St. Louis is estimated to be $70,000, based on last year’s room nights and our contracted number of complimentary rooms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Estimate 2016 Conf (FY17)</th>
<th>Actual 2016 Conf (FY17)2017</th>
<th>Estimate Conf (FY18)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
<td>$38,455</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>$5,545</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chance Bidding</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,896</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Commission</td>
<td>$83,000</td>
<td>$110,498</td>
<td>$70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. Sales</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$424</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refunds</td>
<td>($11,000)</td>
<td>($875)</td>
<td>($11,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Revenue</td>
<td>$115,000</td>
<td>$156,943</td>
<td>$111,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of 1/31/17

11. CONTINUING EDUCATION (CMTE) COURSE PROGRAM
A diverse and robust offering of CMTE courses is planned for the 2017 conference. The Free Institute is an excellent service for members but it does reduce continuing education income (see # 12)
12. INSTITUTES & SPECIALIZED TRAININGS
$30,000 [6/16 $32,740; 6/15 $80,470; 6/14 $13,795; 6/13 $100,375; 6/12 $19,855; 6/11 $20,645; 6/10 $25,828]
Multiple Institutes considered. Offering a free institute will decrease income, but we believe that it is a huge effort of “good will” and that conference attendees might take a CMTE course because they will be there a day early to take advantage of the free institute. In addition, we will probably accrue more hotel nights if attendees come in earlier for the institute. This ‘gift’ encourages a few non-members to become members.

13. AMTA PRODUCTS
$5,000 [6/16 $7,223; 6/15 $3,256; 6/14 $4,495; 6/13 $4,355; 6/12 $5,028; 6/11 $11,977; 6/10 $2,223]
Products include music therapy tools, novelty items, and accessories.

14. AMTA DVD PRODUCTS
$500 [6/16 $100; 6/15 $120; 6/14 $120; 6/13 $240; 6/12 $495; 6/11 $616; 6/10 $645]
AMTA DVDs include *Satellite Broadcast*, *History of Music Therapy*, *Public Relations*, and *Senate Hearing*.

15. SUBSCRIPTIONS
$52,000 [6/16 $51,432; 6/15 $50,363; 6/14 $47,434; 6/13 $91,292; 6/12 $94,248; 6/11 $92,997; 6/10 $91,848]
Estimated net income from OUP partnership for subscriptions for *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives*. Please note that this income appears to be half of what we used to accrue under our contract with Allen Press. This revenue, however, is net of expenses so you will note that the expenses for printing and postage also have been dramatically reduced. Now that we are in the third year of our OUP contract, we are confident about this partnership and pleased with the products and increased access in the US and around the world, especially in developing countries.

16. LABELS & LISTS
$3,000 [6/16 $2,690; 6/15 $6,130; 6/14 $3,638; 6/13 $7,400; 6/12 $2,818; 6/11 $3,349; 6/10 $2,673]
Includes mailing labels and email lists purchased by members and vendors. Income from labels and lists varies based on the number of large vendors purchasing AMTA mailing lists.

17. ADVERTISING (NON-CONFERENCE)
$5,000 [6/16 $6,334; 6/15 $4,268; 6/14 $10,316; 6/13 $7,569; 6/12 $4,708; 6/11 $6,425; 6/10 $8,959]
Sources: MTP, and eNews. We are exploring other possible online advertising options, which have expanded with the new website. Unrelated Business Tax (UBIT) repercussions must be considered.
18. CONSULTATION PROJECTS
$0 [6/16 $0; 6/15 $0; 6/14 $0; 6/13 $0; 6/12 $195; 6/11 $2,080; 6/10 $4,290]
Previously provided NCCATA technical assistance for various legislative and regulatory
coordination tasks, including coordination of Joint Commission representatives.

19. ACADEMIC PROGRAM FEES
$83,500 [6/16 $79,100; 6/15 $2,800; 6/14 $2,300; 6/13 $2,200; 6/12 $1,300; 6/11 $2,300; 6/10
$600]
The implementation of the first-ever annual maintenance for AMTA-approved academic
programs began last year in FY 16. Fee payment was 100%. For this fiscal year, we also are
projecting 100% payment @ $80,000 and an additional $3,500 for at least one new program
application.

20. NON-AFFINITY ROYALTIES
$0 [6/16 $381; 6/15 $908; 6/14 $14,539; 6/13 $9,513; 6/12 $8,635; 6/11 $10,618; 6/10 $5,868]
Royalties from JMT & MTP journal databases, etc., are now included with the OUP revenue.

21. AFFINITY ROYALTIES
$5,000 [6/16 $1,701; 6/15 $4,384; 6/14 $4,705; 6/13 $6,008; 6/12 $2,153; 6/11 $7,026; 6/10
$7,784]
Professional liability HPSO contract fee and Amazon sales provide royalty income. Royalties
from AMTA affinity credit card ended as of 6/30/11 so category is decreased from prior years.

22. MISCELLANEOUS & RETURNED ITEMS
$0 [6/16 $3,681; 6/15 $1,182; 6/14 $3,425; 6/13 $10,267; 6/12 $74; 6/11 ($160); 6/10 $140]
Other relatively small (i.e., usually less than $1,000) sources of income that do not fit under any
existing revenue categories, as well as refunds and other fees, such as returned check fees.

23. INTEREST INCOME
$15,000 [6/16 $37,686; 6/15 $18,176; 6/14 $16,478; 6/13 $14,555; 6/12 $1,116; 6/11 $27,094;
6/10 $3,856]
Interest income has ebbed and flowed over the years along with the market. AMTA’s conservative
investments have fared well. In FY 2005 we made just over $4,000 in interest, whereas in FY
2007, we had a high of over $40,000; and now we’re back to nearly $38,000. We reallocated our
portfolio and moved it to M & T Bank Wealth Management; we continue to carefully monitor our
portfolio. Fees are required but the portfolio is slowly growing. Though the market is doing
somewhat better, the low risk interest rates remain minimal, which is frustrating to all of us.
$16,000—Wilson Trust Overhead
Wilson Trust budget included 25% overhead expenses for AMTA; we agreed to share the overhead expenses, so AMTA will provide 12.5% and receive 12.5% or $16,000 per year for three fiscal years (2012, 2013 so far). The Board may decide to allocate the third and final year of Wilson Trust overhead in FY 18, but that has not been budgeted thus far. Wilson Trust expenses will be reported separately.

End of 2018 Revenue Notes (4/17)
5. SALARIES (part-time, full-time and temporary)

$890,000 [6/16 $806,238; 6/15 $774,057; 6/14 $742,676; 6/13 $722,932; 6/12 $695,861; 6/11 $679,120; 6/10 $658,708]

The FY 2018 includes an overall increase of 3% to be used for cost of living increases and merit increases. In addition to the overall COLA increase, a supplemental amount of 1% is included for temporary staffing and staffing transitions anticipated in FY 18.

AMTA has had the good fortune of retaining a talented and experienced cadre of national office staff. Last fiscal year AMTA accommodated a maternity leave by full time staff pitching in and some part time staffing hours. Next fiscal year, we are facing a transition of our full-time Membership & Meetings Associate to a part-time consultant. This represents the first major full-time staffing transition since our Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson, was hired over 17 years ago!

AMTA is operated and managed by an amazingly talented, creative, knowledgeable, long-standing, and stable group of professionals. It has been more than 10 years since AMTA had a full time Director of Development. In that time, we have rearranged and reconfigured full-time and part-time staff. We have continually added more responsibilities to each job description and incorporated a number of consultants to fill in the gaps. However, the fact of the matter is that we have the same number of staff doing 5 or 10 times the amount of work; it is difficult to quantify the workload in 2017 as compared with 2010 or even 2000, for example. Reviewing tasks in Board books, however, reveals significantly deeper and broader job responsibilities. Though computers and the Internet promised to expedite and streamline our workloads, in reality it expanded the work and created expectations for a reduced amount of time to complete tasks!

Current Status as of April, 2017

FULL TIME STAFF
Executive Director-full time
Director of Communications & Conferences
Director of Government Relations
Director of Membership and IT
Director of Professional Programs
Federal Programs Analyst (Government Relations)
Membership & Meetings Associate-full time equivalent @ 35 hours per week (87.5%)
Administrative Services Coordinator-full time equivalent @ 35 hours per week (87.5%)
Senior Administrative Assistant-full time equivalent @ 35 hours per week (87.5%)
PART TIME STAFF
Staff Assistant—part time @ 20 hours per week (50% annually)
Storage Site Manager and Conference assistant—part time as needed @ 100+ hours per year

CONSULTANTS Consultant fees are expensed in line #6. However, two consultants are performing ongoing work so their time allocations are presented here for information only. Please note that by outsourcing these functions, we have professionals working independently to perform necessary functions without the overhead costs.
Online Technical Assistance Consultant and Social Media Coordinator @ 16-20 hours per week (25% annually)
Senior Research Consultant @ 1200-1560 hours per year (60-75+% annually)
Other consultants as needed—see line #6.

TEMPORARY
Other part time staff as needed for special projects such as seasonal book orders, etc.

Comparable salary increases for the Washington area
The salary line item is increased by 4% over the revised FY 2017 budget. Since the federal government is the single largest employer in the Washington area, it is instructive to analyze its salary trends. There is a comparable proposed increase for federal government employee salaries in this year’s federal budget, which is comparable to our request. It is important to note, however, that federal employees also regularly receive “step” increases, which are based on longevity, are over and above the cost of living increase and bonuses. The average amount of a step increase is approximately 2.5% and each federal agency has a pool of money to use for bonuses. Therefore, what is being proposed for our budget is in line with the norm for Washington area government employees who are a dominant market force in the area.

For your information, federal government salaries for the Washington area are amongst the highest in the nation. The federal government’s Office of Personnel Management provides salary listings by category and location.

AMTA benefits greatly by having dually qualified professionals
We currently are honored to have MT-BCs fill four of the Director level positions, two consultants and our Administrative Services Coordinator. It is important to note, however, that the salaries for these positions, which are set by the Executive Director, are in line with, but on the lower side of local and national norms for association professionals, i.e., meeting planners, government relations professionals and membership and IT professionals, etc. AMTA employee salaries, therefore, are continuously norm referenced against comparable association-wide norms, not salaries of practicing music therapists. Our salaries have not kept up with associations that compare with ours and our salaries are on the low side; they should be re-evaluated.
Staff Retention and the High Costs of Staff Replacement

As mentioned previously in my report, our last full-time director-level hire was our Director of Government Relations, Judy Simpson, nearly 17 years ago.

Numerous experts have studied the high costs of staff replacement. See:

https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/labor/report/2012/11/16/44464/there-are-significant-business-costs-to-replacing-employees/


According to ERE Media, a large forum for recruiters, “When you consider all of the costs associated with employee turnover – including interviewing, hiring, training, reduced productivity, lost opportunity costs, etc. – here’s what it really costs an organization:

- For entry-level employees, it costs between 30-50 percent of their annual salary to replace them.
- For mid-level employees, it costs upwards of 150 percent of their annual salary to replace them.
- For high-level or highly specialized employees, you’re looking at 400 percent of their annual salary.”

According to Heather Boushey and Sarah Jane Glynn, of the Center for American Progress: "Thirty case studies taken from the 11 most-relevant research papers on the costs of employee turnover demonstrate that it costs businesses about one-fifth of a worker’s salary to replace that worker. For businesses that experience high levels of turnover, this can add up to represent significant costs that can potentially be avoided by implementing workplace flexibility and earned sick days at little or no cost at all. Indeed, it is costly to replace workers because of the productivity losses when someone leaves a job, the costs of hiring and training a new employee, and the slower productivity until the new employee gets up to speed in their new job. Our analysis reviews 30 case studies in 11 research papers published between 1992 and 2007 that provide estimates of the cost of turnover, finding that businesses spend about one-fifth of an employee’s annual salary to replace that worker.

Specifically, the economic studies we examined reveal a number of patterns about the cost of turnover:
- For all positions except executives and physicians—jobs that require very specific skills—across the remaining 27 case studies, the typical (median) cost of turnover was 21 percent of an employee’s annual salary.

This brief documents that the cost of employee turnover for businesses is high, regardless of the level of wages being paid to the departing or incoming employees. Companies typically pay
about one-fifth of an employee’s salary to replace that employee. While it costs businesses more to replace their very-highest-paid employees, the costs for most employers remain significant and does become less significant for those with low earnings.”

The average length of employment for associations is approximately 3 years; the AMTA average for full-time staff is over 20 years with a total number of years of service of over 170! AMTA benefits greatly from having long-term employees in terms of depth and historical perspective of the association and the profession. Additionally, not replacing employees saves time, learning curves, and money.

AMTA has indeed been fortunate to have retained its senior level employees for decades. The reality, however, is that over the next decade many staff transitions are likely and will be costly.

6. CONSULTANTS
$135,000 [6/16 $116,225; 6/15 $102,010; 6/14 $110,604; 6/13 $122,502; 6/12 $108,897; 6/11 $109,840; 6/10 $84,916]

AMTA’s use of consultants greatly benefits our organization by having a wide array of experts independently working part-time and not having to bear the costs of benefits and other overhead.

Includes miscellaneous consultants:
$12,000 Journal Management—for JMT and MTP.

$1,000—President Geiger to use as needed to replace lost income.

$3,000 Graphic design and Desk-top publishing (new publications and conference pubs).

$20,000 AMTA technical assistance consultant, Kim Bell to reply to and distribute incoming emails from “info@musictherapy.org.” and to do more in-depth responses for government relations and public relations.

$4,800 Government relations consultant (An attorney-advocate to advise on special education and other matters).

$17,000 Additional technical assistance for state occupational regulation work.

$52,000 Research and Senior consultant (outsourcing these tasks gives AMTA tremendous value for its investment). This results in approximately 60% effort. A comparable full-time staff position salary would be at least three times this amount plus 25% in benefits. This includes work performed on MTR 2025, the military summit, publisher selection, disaster relief, research strategic priority, grants management, government relations, numerous special projects and other senior writing is indispensable.

$5,000 AMTA. Pro Podcast Program Consultants to continue developing and producing podcasts.

$5,000 E-course Producers to continue with eCourse Initiative.
$5,000—Contract with videographer for selected film production.

$7,000 Conference Consultants includes Exhibit security and production assistance for Opening Night, Plenary Session and Business meetings.

$3,200 Miscellaneous other expenses (including unanticipated technical and/or part-time assistance)

7. **HONORARIA**

$5,000 [6/16 $4,891; 6/15 $29,000; 6/14 $2,250; 6/13 $25,974; 6/12 $0; 6/11 $0; 6/10 $3,550]
Annual Conference--Outside Speakers; other conference trainings and special events, etc.

8. **PAYROLL TAXES/BENEFITS**

$195,000 [6/16 $189,546; 6/15 $165,472; 6/14 $169,016; 6/13 $152,730; 6/12 $147,218; 6/11 $133,595; 6/10 $131,940]
Approximately 22% of salary above (rounded) --Includes federal, state and local taxes and all employee benefits, i.e., health insurance, life insurance, retirement, workers’ compensation, etc. Retirement includes a 5% AMTA yearly contribution into a SEP-IRA retirement program for all qualified employees. **Employees received a 10% reduction in paid health insurance premiums or reimbursements for FY 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016 and in 2017. In FY 2013 it was a 20% reduction. A 10% reduction is incorporated into FY 2018.**

9. **ADVERTISING**

$1,000 [6/16 $823; 6/15 $0; 6/14 $2,784; 6/13 $907; 6/12 $1,410; 6/11 $1,500; 6/10 $1,248]
Includes advertising AMTA publications and membership in other publications.

10. **COMPUTER/DATA PROCESSING/INTERNET/MAINTENANCE**

Web site- Avectra & On-line services = $24,000
Maintenance = $1,000
Equipment replacement = $5,000
Software = $3,000
Technology Consultants & Misc. = $2,000

This line includes all hardware and maintenance agreements for computer equipment. Other expenses include updates and enhancements for software and hardware. The funds budgeted for the web site and consultant include anticipated costs for programming services necessary for enhanced web access for members and the general public. We are continuously upgrading office computers to maximize productivity; we have opted for some tablets, and laptops with extra memory and separate screens and keyboards to serve dual functions. We replaced our server in 2016.
11. EQUIPMENT/MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS /CONFERENCE AV
Conference Audio Visual = $23,500 (includes LCDs, etc.)
Maintenance contracts = $7,500
Conference Rental of fax machine, copy machine, computer equipment, etc. = $0
Repairs = $1,500
Other misc. equipment = $2,500

Maintenance and repairs of existing equipment, i.e., copier, fax machine, postage machine, telephones, etc. Conference audiovisual equipment, and instruments and other equipment rental are included.

12. FINANCIAL
$65,000  [6/16 $71,787; 6/15 $65,462; 6/14 $62,840; 6/13 $64,941; 6/12 $62,455; 6/11 $55,727; 6/10 $50,319]
Auditors and monthly CPA = $27,500 (Regions contribute toward group tax preparation)
Includes $13,000-$15,000 for yearly audit, tax preparation and consultation of 3-5 hours with accountants and approximately 8 hours of financial assistance per month. Due to changes in the IRS 990 tax reporting requirement, audit fees have been increased.

Miscellaneous bank charges (Returned check fees, etc.) = $5,000
Payroll services = $2,500
Non-conference credit card commission fees paid by AMTA= $10,000
Conference credit card commission fees paid by AMTA = $14,000
Miscellaneous = $6,000

AMTA credit card commission fees are fees we pay as a merchant accepting credit cards. We negotiated with the bank to lower our commission rate for a savings of approximately $2,000 annually several years ago.

13. LEGAL SERVICES
This budgeted amount includes approximately 12 hours of general legal consultation. It is difficult to predict what will occur in a given fiscal year. For example, the Board approved funds in FY 16 to file a consumer claim against an individual advertising himself and his services as “music therapy” and for a pending trademark opposition case. With the exception of FY 2013, we have incurred modest legal expenses over the years.

14. INSURANCES
$10,000  [6/16 $8,213; 6/15 $6,464; 6/14 $4,910; 6/13 $11,844; 6/12 $12,247; 6/11 $10,305; 6/10 $10,819]
Office insurance, Directors and Officers Liability, and Worker’s Compensation = $10,500
(Regions are covered under AMTA policies and they contribute toward the cost of insurance, which offsets the expense.)
Conference cancellation insurance = $3,500
The events of 9/11 caused insurance coverage, i.e., liability and conference cancellation, to increase. This line includes insurance for AMTA and NMTR.

15. POSTAGE & DELIVERY
$30,000 (subject to postal increases) [6/16 $21,323; 6/15 $25,314; 6/14 $42,977; 6/13 $39,574; 6/12 $45,899; 6/11 $ 63,329; 6/10 $62,813]
Conference = $5,000
Postage = $13,000
UPS = $3,000
FedEx = $3,000
Shipping = $4,000
Handling = $2,000 (includes charges for mail house services for large mailings)

16. PRINTING/DUPLICATING
$35,000 (subject to final estimate of how many new pubs. and reprints.)
Includes all association printing and reprinting:
$21,000 Monographs, brochures, fact sheets, Board materials, Assembly materials, committee materials, membership packets, etc.
$14,000 Conference programs, copying/duplication
Journal printing expenses are now netted against income and appear under the Subscription Revenue category.

17. AMTA MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION & PRODUCTS
$11,000 [6/16 $9,933; 6/15 $10,572; 6/14 $12,560; 6/13 $3,607; 6/12 $7,301; 6/11 $11,757; 6/10 $7,227]
A few new AMTA products or conference products are developed annually. Funds also will be used for membership marketing and membership drives.

18. OFFICE AND STORAGE SPACE COSTS
Executive Director Farbman successfully renegotiated the AMTA lease for 7 years (starting in October 2011) at a total savings of over $100,000 over the term of the lease. The annual costs are approximately $96,000 with each year including an additional fee for maintenance and tax increases. We received $30,000 worth of renovations in the form of new carpet, paint, etc., in FY 2013.

We have downsized to two off-site Storage spaces, decreasing costs by $8,000 to store excess publications, journals, financial documents, and other necessary materials.
19. **SUPPLIES**  
$15,000 [6/16 $15,270; 6/15 $12,963; 6/14 $12,254; 6/13 $30,843; 6/12 $26,688; 6/11 $17,569; 6/10 $16,737]  
Includes all general office supplies, computer supplies, paper, conference supplies, etc. Given how many orders we are processing, our cost for supplies has increased greatly. N.B. FY 2013 included expenses related to office renovations.

20. **SUBSCRIPTIONS, LIBRARY, DUES**  
$12,000 [6/16 $10,908; 6/15 $10,037; 6/14 $10,087; 6/13 $11,320; 6/12 $11,605; 6/11 $10,177; 6/10 $9,521]  
Dues for NCCATA ($850), WFMT ($150) and CARF ($1,000), CCD ($500), NAPSO ($150), JCAHO ($200), HPN ($500) and the remainder for other memberships and/or subscriptions, etc.

21. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**  
$12,000 [6/16 $12,675; 6/15 $11,270; 6/14 $12,173; 6/13 $11,538; 6/12 $16,078; 6/11 $18,881; 6/10 $17,140]  
Includes monthly local and long distance phone charges, email, and web site hosting, fax, and cell phone charges. We have greatly reduced this category by using our in-house conference call line and by using other web-based “free conference call” services to lower costs.

22. **TRAVEL & LODGING**  
$105,000 [6/16 $122,499; 6/15 $117,190; 6/14 $101,650; 6/13 $88,049; 6/12 $87,463; 6/11 $95,685; 6/10 $79,576]  
These expenses include travel, hotel, meals, and related expenses for the President and Board for mid-year travel; and for the President and staff throughout the year, including special projects, trade shows, etc. This line item is increased due to spiraling travel costs; it continues to creep up every year. The FY 15 & FY 16 budgets include one-time costs for MTR 2025 that were expensed against the grant; in FY 17 have additional mid-year meeting costs as well as a separate MLE retreat.

23. **ANNUAL CONFERENCE VENUE & MISC. COSTS**  
$5,000 [6/16 $2,667; 6/15 $2,313; 6/14 $4,144; 6/13 $9,520; 6/12 $300; 6/11 $11,756; 6/10 $7,610]  
Entertainment = $1,000  
Local arrangements = $500  
Conference Venue = $0 (includes rental for Conference Center, etc., when applicable)  
CBMT Continuing education fees $3,000  
Miscellaneous = $500

24. **DUES TO REGIONS**  
$49,000 [6/16 $45,472; 6/15 $44,312; 6/14 $42,526; 6/13 $42,856; 6/12 $43,137; 6/11 $40,953; 6/10 $42,410]  
Please note: Dues are received by the National Office and include membership in the regions, as well as the national organization. As of January 1, 2012, regions receive 6.5% of the professional member dues. AMTAS, the student organization, also receives $3.00 per student member. Dues to the regions are sent on a quarterly basis from the National Office to each regional Treasurer.
25. **EXHIBIT FEES (2013 Annual Conference)**

$8,000 [6/16 $18,995; 6/15 $6,582; 6/14 $8,363; 6/13 $9,621; 6/12 $5,937; 6/11 $ 8,497; 6/10 $7,443]

Includes AMTA Conference exhibit fees charged by the decorating firm. No exhibit fees from other related trade shows included.

26. **ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL PROJECTS**

$0 Funds are allocated as needed for digitizing and to cover a part-time assistant for Dr. Bill Davis for archival preservation. In FY 16, $5,631 was spent and is accounted for in the audit under restricted funds. As of FY 17, $8,906 remains in the Archive fund.

27. **MISCELLANEOUS**

$3,000 [6/16 $733; 6/15 $1,712; 6/14 $1,845; 6/13 $1,132; 6/12 $3,223; 6/11 $2,673; 6/10 $202]

28. **AWARDS, THANK YOUS and CONDOLENCES**

$10,000 [6/16 $9,219; 6/15 $4,192; 6/14 $10,046; 6/13 $5,601; 6/12 $3,754; 6/11 $6,006; 6/10 $4,193]

Association annual awards and appreciation gifts to members and others. Condolence flowers and donations are also included as are “get well” packages. Additional funds have been added to honor the work of selected state task force members who go ‘above and beyond’ while working on state regulation/licensure efforts.

29. **SCHOLARSHIPS**

$23,000 [6/16 $11,720; 6/15 $35,674; 6/14 $14,675; 6/13 $32,562; 6/12 $25,509; 6/11 $23,875; 6/10 $18,625]

Please note that actual amounts vary yearly based on the timing of award payments and progress on individual programs. Fultz Fund awards are restricted and paid out according to the guidelines as researchers make progress on their projects.

Includes scholarships and grants listed under Revenue section # 7.

30. **DISASTER RELIEF**

As needed

$5,500 spent in FY 14 was a “pass through” grant from the D’Addario Foundation to music therapists in Conn. to work with those affected by the tragedy in Newtown, CT.

31. **WILSON TRUST AWARDS**

Budgeted amount for FY 18—To Be Determined based on program assessment and needs in the Puget Sound region. Offset by Wilson Trust Fund.

[6/16 $12,207; 6/15 $51,610; 6/14 $3,875; 6/12 $61,465]
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR FY 2018 = $1,753,000
TOTAL INCOME FOR FY 2018 = $1,819,000

TOTAL EXPENSES OVER INCOME FY 2018 = ($66,000)

*Depreciation Estimate for FY 2018
$15,000-$20,000 RANGE
[Listed as item on Annual Audit. Not included in annual budget. It is estimated that depreciation will range between $15,000 - $20,000.]

End of 2018 Expense notes (4/17)
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312
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<td>Amy Rodgers Smith</td>
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<td><strong>Rebecca Preddie (Co-Chair, AMTA staff)</strong></td>
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<td>Emily Wangen</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England</td>
<td>Jennifer Sokira</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southeastern</td>
<td>Rachel Coon-Arnott &amp; Jamie George</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwestern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western</td>
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<td>Western</td>
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<td>Western</td>
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1. **Membership Special Projects: Kristen O’Grady & Amy Furman, Point**
   A. Refine next steps.
   B. Develop a time line for tasks with persons in charge and expected outcomes.
   C. Provide other relevant information.
   D. Other?

2. **Donations: Angie Snell, Point**
   A. Determine goals and means to meet them.
   B. Define tasks.
   C. Develop a timeline for tasks with persons in charge and expected outcomes.
   D. Provide other relevant information.
   E. Other?

3. **Publications: Ed Kahler, Point (Divide tasks among work group members)**
   A. Develop a plan for author development, e.g. who to invite to write and what to write by when. 
   Determine materials particularly targeted for clinicians.
   B. Provide information to include on the website for self-identified authors, e.g. how to author an AMTA publication.
   C. Post author proposal information on the website.
   D. Post author incentive information on the website, e.g. tax benefits to donated manuscripts.
   E. Should AMTA publish a book on ethics? If so, who should write it?
   F. It seems an E-book on arts in healthcare tied to the Whitepaper recently produced could be beneficial. Outline the tasks for making it happen.
   G. Which books to translate, into what languages: Prepare a ranked order listing of relevant publications with the most important translations listed first. Prioritize languages for translations.

4. **E-courses and Video Development, Debbie Benkowitz-Williams**
   A. Develop marketing materials and approaches to push sales.
   B. Identify Board members who have not provided an E-course either by authoring it or identifying/encouraging others to author one and encourage them to engage.
   C. Discuss potential E-courses with the production team to develop a timeline for completion.
# American Music Therapy Association-Balance Sheet: April 30, 2017

## ASSETS

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<th>Current Assets</th>
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| **Total Assets**                     | **$1,319,894.49** |

## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

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| **Total Liabilities**                | **437,290.18** |

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| **Total Liabilities & Net Assets**   | **$1,319,894.49** |

---

Unaudited - For Management Purposes Only
# American Music Therapy Association

**Income Statement – Compressed Last Year/This Year**

For the Ten Months Ending April 30, 2017

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<tr>
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| **Net Income**       | $196,100.72      | ($68,150.00)     | $188,621.74      | ($66,500.00)     |

For Management Purposes Only
CONTENTS

Executive Summary ................................................................. 2
Circulation ................................................................................. 3
AMTA Journals Online .............................................................. 7
Impact Factor ............................................................................. 13
Marketing .................................................................................. 15
Production ................................................................................ 20
Conclusions .............................................................................. 23
Appendices ................................................................................. 24
Circulation ................................................................................. 24
Online Usage ............................................................................. 26
JMT Impact Factor .................................................................. 30
Marketing .................................................................................. 34
Production - Page Budgets ...................................................... 36

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each year OUP analyzes JMT and MTP’s past performance on various metrics and, in conjunction with the goals of the editorial offices and the perennial goal of expanding the journals’ readership and reach, we develop a Marketing Plan that outlines strategic focuses for the year and plans to implement them. This report provides an overview of where Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives are currently situated within this strategy, and by analyzing metrics associated with our focuses of usage and journal profile, describes our plans forward for the remainder of 2017 and beyond.

Into our fourth year of the AMTA-OUP partnership, we are very happy with our early and current level of growth. At a glance, a few of the highlights from 2016 and 2017 include:

Circulation
Circulation numbers for both journals remain strong, with consortia numbers increasing at a healthy rate, and only small attrition in traditional subscriptions for JMT (MTP saw an increase). In line with industry-wide trends, we see customers increasingly opting for online and consortia-based access over print.
- **2016 Institutional customers:** 197 (JMT)/72 (MTP)
- **2016 Consortia customers:** 2,077 (JMT)/1,961 (MTP), 8%/6.5% increases over 2015 totals

Online Usage
Online readership continues to steadily increase for both journals. As the new online platform changes users’ journeys, we expect to see increased use of HTML articles over PDF. Early 2017 data is anomalous due to traffic from site testing and third-party automatic indexing.
- **2016 Full-text views:** 80,551 (JMT)/46,785 (MTP), 11.2%/23.3% increases over 2015 totals
- **2016 Average monthly views:** 6,713 (JMT)/3,899 (MTP)
- **2017 Average monthly views:** 14,929 (JMT)/8,339 (MTP)

Citation and Impact Factor
JMT’s Impact Factor decreased to 0.786 in 2015. This type of periodic variation of Impact Factors is not uncommon, especially for journals that publish on a quarterly basis. 2016 Impact Factors will be released later this summer. MTP is being submitted for application into the nascent ESCI database in 2017, a first step towards being considered for an Impact Factor in the future.
- **JMT 2015 Impact Factor:** .789
- **JMT ranking, ‘Rehabilitation’ category:** 47/71

Marketing
JMT and MTP articles have appeared five times on the OUPblog since January 2016, and have been collected into four distinct virtual issues to further drive online readership. Additionally, we continue to see increasing numbers of Advance Access and Electronic Table of Contents Alert registrants. Collaboration between OUP and the journals’ social media teams began in 2017 to build a multi-platform community for each journal.
- **Collection usage:** 6,447 total article views during the promotion of four virtual issue collections
- **Current E-alert registrants:** 865 (JMT)/669 (MTP), a 30%/24% increase on previous year

Production
Author feedback for the journals remains positive, and publish-ahead-of-print speeds are far under the target goal of 10 weeks for 2016 and 2017 to date.
- **Average publication time:** 5.0 weeks (JMT)/5.3 weeks (MTP) from receipt to advance article publication for the whole of 2016.
- **2016 JMT issues** were all published within 1 day of scheduled publication date.
- **2016 MTP issues** were all published within 11 days of scheduled publication date.
**CIRCULATION**

*JMT* and *MTP* have continued to see significant circulation growth throughout the first years with OUP. In line with current industry-wide trends we have seen a decrease in traditional subscriptions, but this has been more than made up for in reach and in revenue with the growth of consortia sales, which continues to increase steadily.

As seen in the chart and tables below, in 2016 *JMT* saw 207% increase and *MTP* saw 213% increase in total sites with access (including developing countries sites), mostly due to the increase of developing countries sites with potential access. Taking into account only paid subscription growth through consortia or traditional subscriptions, *JMT* saw a 6.7% increase and *MTP* saw a 6.3% increase, due primarily to increases in consortia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Only</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Only</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print &amp; Online</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Full Rate Institutional</strong></td>
<td>234</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consortia Sites</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migrated Subscriptions</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Consortia Sites</td>
<td>1,704</td>
<td>1,789</td>
<td>1,927</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>1,905</td>
<td>1,747</td>
<td>1,805</td>
<td>1,919</td>
<td>1,956</td>
<td>1,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Sites with Consortia Access</strong></td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>1,922</td>
<td>2,077</td>
<td>2,089</td>
<td>2,039</td>
<td>1,780</td>
<td>1,842</td>
<td>1,961</td>
<td>1,997</td>
<td>1,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing Countries</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1,619</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1,619</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
<td>5,500†</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of May 9, 2017
** As of April 28, 2016
†2016 introduced a change in the Developing Countries model; see the corresponding section below
It should be noted that circulation numbers continue to be in flux throughout the calendar year due to ongoing sales and renewals waiting to roll over to the following year, so when looking at mid-year statistics, numbers can actually appear higher than they will at the end of the year. With renewals and rollovers resolved, end of year numbers are the most fully accurate.

**Developing Countries**

OUP is committed to ensuring that non-profit research institutions in developing nations have access to critical research. We participate in a number of free or heavily-reduced rate developing country access initiatives, including INASP, eIFL, and Research4Life, as well as our own Developing Countries Offer.

In 2015, OUP conducted an annual review of our developing country initiatives. As a result of this exercise OUP now offers its entire journal collection to participating institutions, reaching over 5,500 sites in over 100 countries, broadening and diversifying the potential readership of *JMT* and *MTP* dramatically. We promote the offer through a variety of geo-targeted channels, including native language promotions and partnerships with regional and global initiatives. Due to this, *JMT* and *MTP* are both available for online access across these 5,500 sites; however, as this is not an “opt-in” service, there may be sites that have access that do not actually use the journals.

**Abstracting & Indexing Databases**

Both *JMT* and *MTP* are included in a number of Abstracting & Indexing services – online resources that compile abstracts and links to articles across a wide number of journals and index all content for easy searching. This further extends the discoverability of the journals to the broad academic community, and helps ensure *JMT* and *MTP* content is used at the forefront of research. While prior to the partnership with OUP the journals were included in ProQuest, PubMed, and EBSCO, as of May 2017 both journals are now included in the following hosts' databases:

- Baidu
- Chongqing University
- CNKI
- CNPIEC
- EBSCO
- ExLibris
- Informatics Global
- Meta
- OCLC
- PubMed
- ProQuest
- Wanfang Data
- Yewno

Each host or service uses various indexing databases to present the included journals. It is difficult to reliably list each database a given journal is included in, but some notable databases that index *JMT* and *MTP* include PsycINFO, PsycFIRST, PubMed, SCOPUS, and Dietrich's.

**ProQuest Cancellation**

In June 2016 the agreement with ProQuest as an online vendor of AMTA full-text journal content was terminated due to conflicts in sales strategy and business model. As a result we hope to see increased journal subscriptions, as librarians move to the Oxford Academic platform to view AMTA content online; however, there may likely be a short-term decrease in revenue next year due to this change. We will have a better picture of the results of this change once 2017 full-year subscriptions are finalized in early 2018. Content is still available through EBSCO in OUP's negotiated deal. This cancellation of ProQuest as a full-text supplier does not remove the journals from ProQuest’s Abstracting & Indexing service mentioned above.
Consortia

Consortia are groups of libraries that purchase whole collections of journal content, as opposed to purchasing on a title-by-title basis. They only receive online access to content and are required to maintain full-rate subscriptions to any title to which they are already subscribed (these are identified as “migrated” subscriptions in the figures and tables above). This provides libraries the opportunity to make more content available to their patrons than they would as an individual library, and it provides the journals with both guaranteed revenue and additional sales that might have been otherwise unrealized.

Although consortia agreements sell journals in groups, to offer the most nimbleness and relevant content to our customers, OUP’s consortia agreements allow for libraries to choose bespoke collections. As such, some customers’ collections include only JMT or MTP, but not the other, explaining the small difference in Primary site consortia access between the two journals.

Analysis and Projections

In addition to increasing the journals’ circulation, consortia agreements continue to greatly expand their reach outside of North America. This is evidenced by the “circulation by region” pie charts in the appendices on pages 25-26, which show the increased reach that JMT and MTP have outside North America through consortia agreements over that of traditional full rate subscriptions. The tables above those pie charts show the countries that the journals reach through consortia agreements, and their changes from 2015 to 2016.

As seen in the consortia sites by country table in the circulation appendix (pgs. 24-25), for both JMT and MTP, Japan was the country with the single highest increase in consortia sites from 2015 to 2016. With a virtual issue containing Japanese-translated abstracts and a manned booth promoting the AMTA at the 15th World Congress of Music Therapy in Tsukuba, Japan this summer, we hope to further raise the visibility of JMT and MTP and increase upon the current interest.

Global Market Trends & Events

- The North American market saw growth in collection sales, with very few cancellations of collections, mostly related to extreme budget cuts at the institutions. Our activity level directly with customers is extremely high, and we are engaged in conversations with the library and consortia community about journals publishing and our sales models, which has enabled us to maintain our sales stability through our fair, flexible, and transparent pricing policies.
  - This led to 5% and 9% increases of consortia sites in the US for JMT and MTP, respectively, with minor attrition of 3 sites total in Mexico and Canada.
- Lingering effects of the SWETS’s bankruptcy continued to affect traditional subscriptions in the UK/Ireland during 2016; some institutions re-assessed their subscriptions following the bankruptcy and in some cases this led to increased cancellation. In most cases cancellations were based on cost per use. However, the increased number of collection sales protected many of the existing subscriptions and allowed the rescue of any recently cancelled.
  - Both journals saw an increase of nearly 20 consortia sites in the U.K.
- Latin America has been a challenging market with the strength of the US dollar impacting budgets significantly. Brazil, the largest purchaser of OUP content in the region, has been in the midst of both political and economic upheaval, and the government funded CAPES consortia that controls...
the majority of spending on journals has seen cuts to its budget. Overall the region declined 5% in OUP subscription and collection sales, which is modest in relation to the currency changes which result in double digit drops in value in some countries.

- **As a result, both journals saw all Brazilian consortia sites drop off in 2016**
  - Policy change in the Middle East: Since the price of oil per barrel fell to an all-time low in 2015 we have experienced a number of government led budget cuts across Gulf states, Qatar has been particularly affected with a $1.3bn reduction in spending across the wider education sector, resulting in a slowdown of spending across Online Books and further review of Journals deals. Saudi Arabia is another region adversely affected, as the region continues to support a budget deficit across all sectors.
    - After these events, both journals added 18 consortia sites in Qatar and four more in the UAE in 2016
  - The ANZ (Australia and New Zealand) market has made a strong recovery following the weak exchange rate in 15/16. The 2017 CAUL collection deal renewed with 0% cancellations and has grown to 46 member institutions. The OUP journal collection is considered a core database for all universities across Australia and New Zealand.
    - *JMT and MTP*'s consortia presence grew in both Australia (by 13%) and New Zealand (by 18%) in 2016

**Sales Developments in 2017**

- Auto Renew pilot: a small pilot has been launched in several key markets including US, UK, and ANZ to auto-renew traditional subscriptions. The pilot is designed to make renewing journals easier for customers while limiting attrition and administrative work for both customers and OUP. It is too early to report our findings, though we are currently considering a wider roll out for 2018 renewals.
AMTA JOURNALS ONLINE

Industry reports show that 85% of librarians consider usage statistics/cost per view to be the number one factor in choosing whether or not to renew a subscription to a journal. OUP thus makes driving readers to our online journals and tracking online usage a central part of our Marketing and Sales programs. We continue to see strong year-on-year growth.

Due to that platform migration (see Oxford Academic platform section below) we are experiencing usage anomalies. While both journals have experienced yearly usage growth, we do not expect that the large increase in 2017 to-date usage is an accurate representation of dramatically increased readership, but rather caused by one-off events such as site testing and Google bot re-indexing of content. We are working to clarify these events for future usage reporting to get a clearer picture of real usage during this time.

Usage Breakdown – Journal of Music Therapy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Searches</th>
<th>Table of Contents</th>
<th>Abstract</th>
<th>HTML</th>
<th>PDF</th>
<th>Total Full-text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>40,257</td>
<td>28,634</td>
<td>155,271</td>
<td>1,647</td>
<td>46,940</td>
<td>48,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>63,858</td>
<td>30,453</td>
<td>193,465</td>
<td>4,859</td>
<td>67,584</td>
<td>72,443</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>78,184</td>
<td>30,981</td>
<td>224,286</td>
<td>6,529</td>
<td>74,022</td>
<td>80,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2016*</td>
<td>29,356</td>
<td>12,062</td>
<td>80,002</td>
<td>2,240</td>
<td>26,165</td>
<td>28,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2017**</td>
<td>29,653</td>
<td>17,627</td>
<td>57,541</td>
<td>38,802</td>
<td>20,915</td>
<td>59,717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of May 1, 2016
**As of May 1, 2017

FULL-TEXT VIEWS BY YEAR - JMT
Usage Breakdown – Music Therapy Perspectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Searches</th>
<th>Table of Contents</th>
<th>Abstract</th>
<th>HTML</th>
<th>PDF</th>
<th>Total Full-text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>15,307</td>
<td>12,560</td>
<td>61,497</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>25,703</td>
<td>26,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>25,197</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>77,966</td>
<td>3,620</td>
<td>34,325</td>
<td>37,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>28,027</td>
<td>12,255</td>
<td>98,963</td>
<td>7,128</td>
<td>39,657</td>
<td>46,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2016*</td>
<td>10,935</td>
<td>4,531</td>
<td>36,940</td>
<td>2,380</td>
<td>13,971</td>
<td>16,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2017**</td>
<td>13,722</td>
<td>8,527</td>
<td>19,883</td>
<td>20,531</td>
<td>12,825</td>
<td>33,356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of May 1, 2016
**As of May 1, 2017

It is important to note that JMT publishes two more issues a year than MTP, and that is one of the primary reasons that JMT has higher usage figures than MTP. Additionally, while JMT launched in 1964, MTP only started publishing in 1982; JMT thus has eighteen more years’ worth of content in its archive than MTP. This also contributes to its higher overall usage statistics.
Oxford Academic Platform

2017 saw the launch of JMT and MTP on the new Oxford Academic online platform which now serves as the new host for the journals online. Benefits of this move include a new, modern and modular customizable design, enhanced, smoother hosting and integration of multimedia content, rich thematic indexing of all journals content for ease of research, and enhanced discoverability of journal content both within the site and from referral sources such as Google.

With this complex transition to the new platform came a number of minor interruptions in the first months of 2017, including refining homepages to each journal’s preferences, managing supplementary data and ensuring its correct display, and providing seamless access for AMTA members. These issues have largely been addressed, and the previous problems with multimedia display for MTP articles have been fully fixed and enhanced. As we move forward on this new platform in the coming months we will continue to work with the editors and AMTA staff to correct any lingering difficulties.

Altmetric

Altmetric ([www.altmetric.com](http://www.altmetric.com)) is an article-level metric that differs from the traditional metrics based on citations and online usage. An ‘Altmetric Score’ is calculated for each journal article, and if the score is non-zero a ‘donut’ icon is displayed on the article’s web page.

The Altmetric Score is a measure of the amount of attention an article has received online, in social media and from news sites, from early 2012 to date. It is not a good measure of article quality, nor is a focus of librarians for purchasing or renewal decisions, but the information can be of interest in showing the impact of journal articles for analytical purposes, which can help in raising the overall profile of a journal. It can further have causal implications on usage: if an article gets circulated in mainstream media or widely reposted on social media, it may bring increased online readership to the journal. We observe that the articles with the highest Altmetric Scores are those with findings that are humorous or of general public interest. This score is the number that appears in the center of the Altmetric donut. The colors of the donut indicate the source of the attention, as can be seen in the image on the next page.
Each mention that an article receives in one of the included sources contributes a positive amount to the Altmetric Score. Each contribution is weighted according to the attributes of the source, so that a Facebook post is not weighed as heavily as a mention in the *New York Times*.

The following are the articles in each journal that have received the highest total Altmetric Score, since Altmetric started measuring in early 2012. Each donut can be clicked for further information on the score’s calculation for each article via the Altmetric website.

### Articles with Highest Altmetric Scores - *JMT*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td><em>The effect of personality type and musical task on self-perceived arousal.</em></td>
<td>6/20/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td><em>Music Therapy as Procedural Support for Young Children Undergoing Immunizations: A Randomized Controlled Study</em></td>
<td>8/17/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td><em>Relaxing Music Prevents Stress-Induced Increases in Subjective Anxiety, Systolic Blood Pressure, and Heart Rate in Healthy Males and Females</em></td>
<td>8/15/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td><em>The Effect of Music on Decreasing Arousal Due to Stress: A Meta-Analysis.</em></td>
<td>1/28/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Articles with Highest Altmetric Scores - *MTP*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><em>Music Therapy Within Brain Injury Rehabilitation: To What Extent is Our Clinical Practice Influenced by the Search for Outcomes?</em></td>
<td>1/1/1999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis and Projections

While the usage anomalies in early 2017 currently prevent an exact analysis of performance in this period, both journals have seen strong year-on-year growth in usage for nearly every month since the partnership between OUP and the AMTA began. This steady growth is very encouraging, and we fully expect that early 2017 has continued the trend. As usage is such an important factor in libraries renewing subscriptions, this has positive implications for maintaining and increasing the journals’ circulation and reach throughout the world. Numerous marketing efforts that focus on online readership, such as virtual article collections and posts on the OUPblog (detailed in the Marketing section below), have directly contributed to this growth, and we will continue to develop these and new promotions to ensure the upward readership trend continues.

One major opportunity for growth is increased utilization of the features of the new Oxford Academic platform. As is evident in the ‘views by year’ graphs above, with the move the Oxford Academic platform we are experiencing changes in ways users interact with the site. With users preferentially directed towards the feature-rich HTML versions of articles rather than PDF, we have seen and expect to increasingly see users engage more with HTML articles.

This is beneficial because the HTML versions of articles offer possibilities for much enhanced reading and digestion of articles. Whereas PDF versions are basically “digital print,” the HTML articles allow for increased interaction with an article by means of citation linking and downloading, audio/video accompaniment, and ease of sharing articles with colleagues and the public online.

The multimedia capabilities are especially promising for music therapy. Many articles, in MTP especially, lend themselves to audio and video accompaniment. As we continue to develop the platform we are looking to better integrate media players in line with article text for an enhancing, non-distractive, way to engage with the content. Further, because multimedia particularly lends itself to being shared online, an increased focus on incorporating audio and video in articles could be leveraged to bring increased interest and readership to the journals.

As the AMTA and OUP collaborate to increase the journals’ social media presence (discussed in the Marketing section), the sharing of in-article multimedia on various social media platforms can be an area of
focus to further grow online usage in established and new populations in the coming months and years. We will track this using Altmetric scores and breakdowns. The *JMT* article with the highest Altmetric score has been picked up by news outlets, but also tweeted 35 times and reposted on 5 institutional Facebook pages. Increasing exposure and visibility on social media, especially with eye-catching multimedia, will serve to further increase usage of *JMT* and *MTP* and raise their public attention.
JMT’s Impact Factor declined from 1.185 in 2014 to .786 in 2015, ranking it 47/71 in ISI’s Rehabilitation category.

Declines of this nature are common. Especially in quarterly publications, in which there are many fewer articles per year than monthly or bi-monthly publications, a single highly-cited article can greatly influence the Impact Factor for its two-year citation window, leading to ebbs and flows of rankings. Additionally, because JMT articles are applicable for much longer than two years, and continue to receive many citations far after their Impact Factor citation window closes, Impact Factor does not paint a fully accurate picture for this journal. The 5-year Impact Factor, shown for comparison in the chart below, is more reliable in this sense; however, as evident, it still is subject to similar ebbs and flows due to the amount of content included.

The 2016 Impact Factor will be available later this summer, and we will update you with that information as soon as it becomes available to us.

**2015 Impact Factor Calculation**

Impact Factor is calculated taking the number of citations received in the IF year to articles published in the preceding two years, and dividing that number by the total number of applicable items from those two years. Applicable items are generally articles and reviews pieces, but the final determination of applicable “denominator items” is left to the Impact Factor calculation board. A demonstration of the 2015 Impact Factor calculation is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citations in 2015</th>
<th>Citable content in 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>to items published in 2014: 6</td>
<td>Articles published in 2014: 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to items published in 2013: 16</td>
<td>Articles published in 2013: 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>22 Citations</strong></td>
<td><strong>28 Articles</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\frac{22 \text{ Citations}}{28 \text{ Articles}} = 0.786
\]
In comparison, the 2014 Impact Factor is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citations in 2014</th>
<th>Citable content in 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>to items published in 2013: 7</td>
<td>Articles published in 2013: 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to items published in 2012: 25</td>
<td>Articles published in 2012: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32 Citations</td>
<td>÷ 27 Articles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Music Therapy Perspectives ESCI Application**

In 2017 *MTP* is being submitted as an applicant for indexing in the Emerging Sources Citation Index. The ESCI is a relatively new index in Web of Science, which increases discoverability and measures citations, but does not calculate an Impact Factor. With Web of Science’s current, years-long backlog of applicants for an Impact Factor, inclusion within the ESCI provides a strong first step into that process, while still providing access to useful analytics and introducing no negative effects. We will monitor *MTP*’s application and provide updates when they are available to us.

**Analysis and Projections**

While citations are an important measure of a journal’s impact on the field, the Impact Factor only views citations given two years (or five years in the case of the 5-year Impact Factor) after an article’s publication as relevant to its score, which is not a sensible evaluation for most fields outside of medicine or bioscience. However, it has cultural cachet within many institutions and thus plays a part in a journal’s overall standing, making the Impact Factor an unfortunately important benchmark. For this reason we are submitting *MTP* as an applicant for the ESCI as a first step in getting an Impact Factor.

Several events can lead to an Impact Factor drop. Increasing the number of published articles in a given year can increase the denominator of the Impact Factor fraction, or publishing a single highly cited article can raise a journal’s Impact Factor for the two years it is considered, resulting in a drop the following year. However, in the case of *JMT*’s drop in 2015, the article count stayed relatively stable and there was no single article that led to the drop. Rather, there were simply a number of articles that received two citations in 2014, while the majority of articles included in the 2015 IF received one citation, as can be seen in the tables in the Impact Factor appendix (pgs. 30-33). This incremental change led to a 10 citation difference between 2014 and 2015, which, given a relatively small count of total articles, resulted in the Impact Factor decline. This is a normal result of yearly differences in published content; however, we will continue to promote articles through article collections and individual article promotions in an effort to raise visibility and increase the chance for citations.
MARKETING

Marketing campaigns are strategically planned and carried out in order to advance the key objectives of raising usage and increasing the journal profile in various areas. These goals and objectives are discussed and developed with the journals’ editors via an annual Marketing Plan, along with a calendar roadmap for the year’s upcoming promotions and events.

This section outlines a summary of marketing activities for *Journal of Music Therapy* and *Music Therapy Perspectives* from January 2016 to May 2017.

**Core Marketing Objectives**

**Objective 1: Driving Usage**

- **Goal:** Increase *JMT’s* and *MTP’s* total full-text article views by 10% by the end of 2017
- **Goal:** Support the growth of *JMT’s* and *MTP’s* total email alert registrants

**Objective 2: Increasing Profile**

- **Goal:** Support each journal’s social media growth on Twitter, as well as the journals’ joint Facebook platform
- **Goal:** Increase high-value interactions at conferences
- **Goal:** Implement a cross-promotional campaign with medical and psychology journals, books, and online products to support an expanded reach (upcoming; planned for Q3 2017)

**Objective 1: Driving Usage**

**Content Promotion**

Key tactics for increasing the journals’ full-text usage include thematic article collections, virtual issues, social media, and blog posts. Promoting article collections using a variety of marketing outlets serves to grow the online usage of *MTP’s* and *JMT’s* content by increasing included articles’ dissemination to wider audiences.

In 2016 and 2017 YTD, four collections of AMTA journal articles were created, two individual articles freed and promoted, and five OUPblog posts by AMTA journal authors were published. Each was heavily promoted by social media, online advertisements, and print materials, detailed below.

**Arts Advocacy Day Virtual Issue**

In honor of Arts Advocacy Day, we created a virtual issue of articles from *JMT* and *MTP* for event attendees. Clinical topics in this virtual issue focused on clinical music therapy with a) veterans, b) persons with Alzheimer’s and dementia, and c) caregivers.

The three *MTP* articles and three *JMT* articles received a combined 515 **full-text views** during the time the collection was freely accessible from March 7 – March 31, 2016. Articles included and individual results can be found in the Marketing appendix (pg. 34).
Top Articles in Music Therapy in 2014 and 2015 Collection

A collection of highly cited JMT articles and most-read MTP articles was released in June 2016 and made freely available to read through August 2016. A landing page that included introductory text, information about each journal, and links to the featured articles was created to host the collection.

The eight JMT articles and two MTP articles received a combined 2,137 full-text views during the time the collection was live from June 20 – August 31, 2016. Articles included and individual results can be found in the Marketing appendix (pg. 34).

Conversation Starters in Music Therapy Research Virtual Issue

A virtual issue was created in October 2016 on the topic of conversation starters in music therapy. The JMT and MTP articles included in the virtual issue were made freely available through the end of 2016.

The four MTP articles and two JMT articles received a combined 3,719 full-text views during the time the collection was live from October 2016 – March 2017. Articles included and individual results can be found in the Marketing appendix (pg. 34).

National Child Health Day Reading List

JMT and MTP articles were featured in a reading list on the Oxford Academic Tumblr. The reading list was released on National Child Health Day on October 3, 2016. Along with Tumblr, the reading list was promoted via the Oxford Psychology Facebook and Twitter. During the week of promotion, the articles received a 68% increase in usage with 76 full-text views compared to 45 the week prior.
**Article-specific Promotion**

- The MTP article *Theoretical Considerations of Spirit and Spirituality in Music Therapy* was included in a #FestiveFriday collection via the Oxford Psychology social media channels.
  - During the week of promotion, the article received a 280% increase in usage with 19 full-text views compared to 5 the week prior
- The MTP article *Forever Young: Music and Aging; Hearing Before the Senate Special Committee on Aging* was promoted via the Oxford Psychology Facebook and Twitter.
  - During the week of promotion, the article received a 1,380% increase in usage with 74 PDF views compared to 5 the week prior

**OUPblog**

The OUPblog is one of the most widely read academic blogs in the world, with more than 6,500 subscribers and 100,000 visitors per month. Five blog posts based on AMTA content, by AMTA authors, were featured on the OUPblog recently – three in 2016 and two, thus far, in 2017. On each blog post a link is included to the associated full-text AMTA article or article collection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post Date</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Post Title</th>
<th>Views*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2016</td>
<td>Jane Edwards</td>
<td><em>Music therapy and Arts Based Research</em></td>
<td>1,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 2016</td>
<td>Kimberly Sena Moore</td>
<td><em>A new (musical) direction for healthcare?</em></td>
<td>1,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 2016</td>
<td>Kimberly Sena Moore &amp; Noah Potvin</td>
<td><em>Conversation starters in music therapy research</em></td>
<td>787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2017</td>
<td>Laurel Young</td>
<td><em>Challenging assumptions about how music helps</em></td>
<td>2,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2017</td>
<td>Kimberly Sena Moore</td>
<td><em>Johnny had Parkinson’s… and music helped him walk</em></td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of May 15, 2017

**Email Alert Promotion**

E-alerts encourage regular readership of a journal, and are a vital tool in helping us achieve our aims of increasing engagement and usage. Due to this fact, increasing the number of e-alert registrants is a key objective for us and we consistently encourage sign-ups at conferences, with online advertisements, and within other promotions that we conduct throughout the year. The tables below show the number of registrants signed up to receive e-alerts from the AMTA journals.

**NEW ISSUE ALERTS (formerly eTOC ALERTS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>May 2016</th>
<th>May 2017</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>JMT</em></td>
<td>401</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>43.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>MTP</em></td>
<td>316</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADVANCE ARTICLE ALERTS (formerly advance access alerts)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>May 2016</th>
<th>May 2017</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>JMT</em></td>
<td>264</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>MTP</em></td>
<td>224</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although the United States accounts for 26% of the total new alert registration for *JMT* and *MTP*, as of May 2017, 45 different countries are represented by at least one subscriber in each. This reflects a broader international interest in the AMTA journals.
Objective 2: Increasing Profile

Journal-level Social Media Platforms

Social Media Marketing Collaboration
Beginning in 2017, the AMTA journals launched individual Twitter accounts for *JMT* and *MTP*, as well as an Instagram account for *JMT* and a specialized blog for *MTP*, in order to spur further engagement and cross-communication between each journal, OUP's social media accounts, and the AMTA platforms. These new accounts are managed by associate editors Kimberly Sena Moore and Noah Potvin, respectively.

OUP is actively supporting these efforts with our own marketing and social media presence. Moving forward, support to strengthen these channels will remain a continual, prioritized facet of OUP's marketing strategy; as number of followers and level of engagement with social media posts continue to increase, the more general consumers, academics, librarians, and researchers the content will reach. Current and future strategies to support the journals’ channels include consistent retweeting/re-sharing of content across channels, crafting advertising campaigns to dive traffic and followers to the new accounts, and sending direct email notifications to journal e-alert registrants notifying them of the new channels. The journals' accounts will also be continually included in conference materials and other promo from OUP.

To support the growth of each journal’s social media presence on Twitter, as well as the journals’ joint Facebook account, we created online advertisements directing viewers to the respective channels. These ads currently run as banner advertisements on all *JMT* and *MTP* webpages and are featured snippets on both journal homepages.

*Upcoming Promotions*: In Q3/Q4 of 2017, we will drive traffic to the social media platforms via Facebook and Twitter advertising campaigns, as well as send a direct email announcing the platforms.

Printed Publicity

- An insert was included in conference packets at the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association annual conference in 2016. The insert featured the two 2015 virtual issues on Alzheimer’s disease & dementia and autism.
- A full-page program advertisement for *JMT* and *MTP* was created for AMTA 2016.
- *JMT* and *MTP* were included in the ‘Music Therapy’ section of an advertisement for OUP’s Global Music Catalogue.

Advertising Exchange

Advertising exchanges are essentially cooperative efforts with other societies, organizations, or publications to trade advertising space, digital and print. OUP utilizes exchanges to target particular new audiences that have a known interest in the larger field. In October 2016, we organized an advertising exchange with The College Music Society. An advertisement directing to *JMT*’s and *MTP*’s virtual issue on conversation starters in music therapy research appeared on the College Music Symposium homepage for three months. The advertisement received 104,076 impressions and 204 clicks.
Conference Publicity

- A virtual issue on music therapy and social work was created in June 2016 to coincide with the National Association of Social Workers 2016 conference. The articles included in the virtual issue were freely available from late June until mid-August 2016, and the virtual issue was promoted with booth posters and fliers with links to the issue.
- A booth backdrop, tabletop, flyers and an iPad stand/display for e-alert registration were sent to the AMTA 2016 conference for display at the OUP booth.

Conferences

We have promoted the journals at relevant conferences throughout 2016 and 2017 to-date. Conference presence is either in the form of an OUP branded booth/stand, or in some cases via a shared publisher’s display. Sample copies of the journal are displayed, along with promotional materials. A full list of conferences that JMT and MTP were promoted at can be found in the Marketing appendix (pg. 35).

In July 2017, OUP and AMTA will have an in-person booth presence at the 15th World Congress of Music Therapy in Tsukuba, Japan. Promotional items and journal copies will be distributed. In addition, an online virtual issue will be created in conjunction with the meeting. This collection will be promoted via print collateral at the congress, and digital promotions, such as geo-targeted advertisements, social media posts, and direct emails. The virtual issue will also include translated abstracts, which will appeal to members of the journals’ international audience. Given the increase of worldwide circulation and in Japan specifically, we hope to use this conference to increase the journals’ presence internationally.

Upcoming/Ongoing Promotions

All 2017 promotions and timelines are laid out in the 2017 Marketing Plan. Upcoming campaigns include:

- Inclusion in a virtual issue on Parkinson’s Disease for Parkinson’s Awareness Month (promotions currently underway)
- The 15th World Congress of Music Therapy (planning currently underway)
  - A virtual issue specifically for the World Congress, with abstracts translated into Japanese
- Advertising campaigns supporting social media growth
- A cross-promotional campaign with other medicine and psychology journals around Mental Illness Awareness Week and World Mental Health Day

Additionally, in Q3/Q4 of 2017, we plan to run two pay-per-click advertising campaigns via LinkedIn and Google AdWords. The translated abstracts, new virtual issue, messages about the journal, and calls for submission can be promoted through such campaigns to an international audience. Discussion on specific promotion and selection of the campaign(s) focus will take place with select members of the journals’ editorial board.

To directly promote circulation growth, ongoing librarian outreach will continue throughout 2017, which includes promotion at global conferences – such as ALA, UKSG and CALIS – and highlights in librarian e-newsletters distributed to all existing institutional customers.
**PRODUCTION**

Consistent timely publication and author satisfaction with the production process are two additional ways that affect the academic and therapeutic communities’ perceptions of the journals. Thus, maintaining timeliness and quality are essential both for the journals themselves and for the journals’ stature in the public eye. Further, issue timeliness has implications for citations: it is taken into account by Clarivate as a factor in granting or continuing a journal’s Impact Factor, and on-time publication of articles results in the most possible time within the relevant two-year citation window for the Impact Factor, allowing for more citations to be counted in that metric.

We are happy to report that production targets for online publication have largely been met across both journals, publishing on time or early for most issues, although there have been some minor delays at the printer in the past year, and authors remain highly satisfied with the process.

**Speed Through Production**

Speeds for manuscript publication were consistently faster than the 10-week target for both titles in 2016, with manuscripts for *JMT* posting online within an average of 5.0 weeks after receipt of final files in OUP Production, and manuscripts for *MTP* posting online within an average of 5.3 weeks. Speeds for *JMT* in 2017 have even improved over last year, with articles now going online in an average of 4.8 weeks from receipt in production. *MTP* is still well within the 10-week target year to date as well, with manuscripts posting online an average of 6.3 weeks after acceptance.

**Issue Publication Schedule**

For *JMT*, mail dates have been slightly late three times since 2016, with the latest delay in March of this year also falling over a weekend. Publication online for both 2016 and 2017 have met or exceeded the scheduled online target dates.

For *MTP*, 34/1 posted online late due to multiple corrections, but subsequent issues have published online early.

Minor delays with the printer across both titles are being investigated but they have not unduly impacted subscribers’ receipt of issues.

*Journal of Music Therapy*

**2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume/Issue</th>
<th>Scheduled Online</th>
<th>Actual Online</th>
<th>Scheduled Print</th>
<th>Actual Print</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>53/1</td>
<td>11-Mar-16</td>
<td>7-Mar-16</td>
<td>16-Mar-16</td>
<td>17-Mar-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53/2</td>
<td>13-Jun-16</td>
<td>6-Jun-16</td>
<td>16-Jun-16</td>
<td>14-Jun-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53/3</td>
<td>19-Sept-16</td>
<td>2-Sept-16</td>
<td>22-Sept-16</td>
<td>16-Sept-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53/4</td>
<td>15-Dec-16</td>
<td>15-Dec-16</td>
<td>20-Dec-16</td>
<td>21-Dec-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality – Author Surveys

OUP surveys its authors after the final article has been published online. We ask authors to rate us on quality, service, speed, and communication on a 5 point scale, and also to leave comments regarding their experience during the publication process in order for us to continually improve our services. Average ratings and author comments are listed below.

Journal of Music Therapy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Avg. Quality</th>
<th>Avg. Service</th>
<th>Avg. Speed</th>
<th>Avg. Communication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 YTD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Authors left the following comments:

2016
- The communication between OUP and me was clear and efficient.
- Copy editing resulted in many errors in the manuscript. It was also difficult to review the copy edited ms since no track changes is used so we had to review the manuscript word by word to identify all the errors introduced by the copy editor.*

2017
- Quick response.
The author left no identifying information provided which could allow us to investigate this comment. However, the author still rated OUP equal to other publishers.

**Music Therapy Perspectives**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
<th>Avg. Quality</th>
<th>Avg. Service</th>
<th>Avg. Speed</th>
<th>Avg. Communication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 YTD</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Authors left the following comments:

**2016**
- Looks sharp!
- Efficient. Responsive to questions. Helped solve problems. Looks great!
- Speedy and prompt.
- I felt that the services were wonderful. I'm not familiar with the speed of publication, but I felt that it took a little longer than I had expected.
- Communication at this stage was clear and timely.

**2017**
- I did not receive the automated messages from the system prompting me to look at the proof, or providing for me the article’s DOI or the link to the final published version of the article. I was able to communicate directly with production staff regarding the proofs, but have yet to receive the DOI of the final published version of the article.*

*Due to the change in the Web platform in 2017, automatic delivery of toll-free links to completed manuscripts online has been suspended and links must be delivered manually. We have been sorting emails and sending out the links upon request this year; however, this author did not leave his name nor any other identifying information that would allow direct investigation or follow-up to this response. The included reference to a missing DOI most likely refers to the link again. This comment above is from March.
CONCLUSIONS

With continuous growth in circulation and online readership, both Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives are strongly situated for continued improvement in 2017 and beyond. Currently, we see the most promising two avenues of growth in the collaboration between OUP and Kimberly Sena Moore and Noah Potvin’s social media campaigns, as well as the introduction of further customization and media integration on the new Oxford Academic platform. Continued promotion of both with help to form a stronger online community around the two journals, while helping to drive readership and, by extension, increased reach and circulation. Further expansion of the journals to international audiences will also serve to introduce new readers and hopefully to encourage submissions and citations from international research communities.

As we move forward in our relationship between OUP and the AMTA, we would like to continue and expand effective strategy sessions at the yearly AMTA conference with each editorial board, as well as introduce regular marketing catchups throughout the year. These meetings provide an invaluable chance to review the past year, and discuss areas for focus, innovation, and growth. The output from these sessions helps to define OUP’s strategies that carry over to the yearly Marketing Plan, OUP’s chief strategy document.

Thank you to Sheri Robb, Tony Meadows, and the entire editorial teams of JMT and MTP for all their hard work in the past year, and to Andi Farbman, Angie Elkins, and Barb Else for their vital support and oversight.
## Appendices

### Circulation

**2015-2016 Comparative Consortia Sites by Country**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016 Sites</th>
<th>2015 Sites</th>
<th># Increase</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016 Sites</th>
<th>2015 Sites</th>
<th># Increase</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>13%</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Oman</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-33%</td>
<td>Paraguay</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-2</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>52</td>
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<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Chile</td>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Republic of Ireland</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-3</td>
<td>-23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>Republic of Serbia</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td>13%</td>
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<td>-6</td>
<td>-100%</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
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<td>0%</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>5%</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>0%</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mexico</td>
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<td>-2</td>
<td>-4%</td>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Primary sites only (Excludes Migrated Subscriptions and Developing Countries)

### Geographic Breakdown of Institutional Subscriptions

- **UK**: 28% (63% of total)
- **Europe**: 25% (14% of total)
- **N. America**: 10% (1% of total)
- **Rest of World**: 7% (11% of total)

### Geographic Breakdown of Primary Consortia Sites

- **UK**: 22% (30% of total)
- **Europe**: 30% (10% of total)
- **N. America**: 25% (7% of total)
- **Rest of World**: 28% (11% of total)
### 2015-2016 Comparative Consortia Sites by Country*

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* Primary sites only (Excludes Migrated Subscriptions and Developing Countries)

#### Geographic Breakdown of Institutional Subscriptions

- **UK**: 11%
- **Europe**: 73%
- **N. America**: 9%
- **Rest of World**: 3%

#### Geographic Breakdown of Primary Consortia Sites

- **UK**: 21%
- **Europe**: 32%
- **N. America**: 10%
- **Rest of World**: 7%

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**2016 Circulation by Region - MTP**
# Online Usage

### JMT – Top Articles Viewed in 2016

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<td>Effects of a Music Therapy Group Intervention on Enhancing Social Skills in Children with Autism</td>
<td>A. Blythe LaGasse</td>
<td>(2014), Vol. 51, Iss. 3, 250-275</td>
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<td>Relaxing Music Prevents Stress-Induced Increases in Subjective Anxiety, Systolic Blood Pressure, and Heart Rate in Healthy Males and Females</td>
<td>Wendy E. J. Knight</td>
<td>(2001), Vol. 38, Iss. 4, 254-272</td>
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<td>Coping with Work-Related Stress through Guided Imagery and Music (GIM): Randomized Controlled Trial</td>
<td>Beck, BD</td>
<td>(2015), Vol. 52, Iss. 3, 323-352</td>
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<td>Effects of Group Music Therapy on Quality of Life, Affect, and Participation in People with Varying Levels of Dementia</td>
<td>Carme Solé</td>
<td>(2014), Vol. 51, Iss. 1, 103-125</td>
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<td>Parents and Young Children with Disabilities: The Effects of a Home-Based Music Therapy Program on Parent-Child Interactions</td>
<td>Yang, YH</td>
<td>(2016), Vol. 53, Iss. 1, 27-54</td>
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<td>Effect of “Developmental Speech and Language Training Through Music” on Speech Production in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders</td>
<td>Hayoung A. Lim</td>
<td>(2010), Vol. 47, Iss. 1, 2-26</td>
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<td>The Effect of Musical Attention Control Training (MACT) on Attention Skills of Adolescents with Neurodevelopmental Delays: A Pilot Study</td>
<td>Varvara Pasiali</td>
<td>(2014), Vol. 51, Iss. 4, 333-354</td>
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<td>Elizabeth L. Stegemöller</td>
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<td>Noah Potvin</td>
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<td>The Effect of Reminiscence Music Therapy Sessions on Changes in Depressive Symptoms in Elderly Persons with Dementia</td>
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<td>Effects of Lyric Analysis Interventions on Treatment Motivation in Patients on a Detoxification Unit: A Randomized Effectiveness Study</td>
<td>Michael J. Silverman</td>
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<td>Deanna Hanson-Abromeit</td>
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<td>Assessment-Based Small-Group Music Therapy Programming for Individuals with Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: A Multi-Year Clinical Project</td>
<td>Keough, Laurie A</td>
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<td>Music Therapy with Offenders in a Substance Abuse/Mental Illness Treatment Program</td>
<td>Lisa M. Gallagher</td>
<td>(2002), Vol. 20, Iss. 2, 117-122</td>
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<td>Client Experiences In Music Therapy In The Psychiatric Inpatient Milieu</td>
<td>Scott MacDonald</td>
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<td>Rachelle Norman</td>
<td>(2012), Vol. 30, Iss. 1, 8-16</td>
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<td>Toward Understanding Music Therapy as a Recovery-Oriented Practice within Mental Health Care: A Meta-Synthesis of Service Users' Experiences</td>
<td>Solli, Hans Patter</td>
<td>(2013), Vol. 50 Iss. 4</td>
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<td>A Systematic Review on the Neural Effects of Music on Emotion Regulation: Implications for Music Therapy Practice</td>
<td>Moore, Kimberly Sena</td>
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<td>Silverman, Michael J.</td>
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Journal of Music Therapy

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Music Therapy Perspectives

2016

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2017

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