

# AMTA Presidential Update 2016 Regional Conferences



President Jennifer Geiger, MA, MT-BC

Get Centered in the Heartland



Music Therapy: Researching the Possibilities

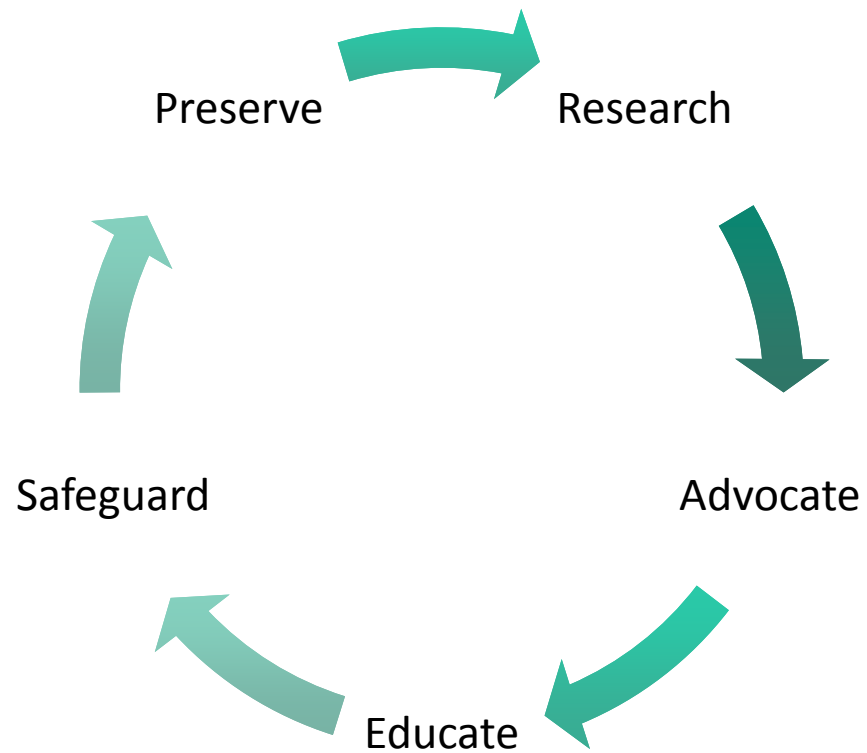
An Ocean of Knowledge, a Sea of Experiences

# The Mission of AMTA

- “To advance public awareness of the benefits of music therapy and increase access to quality music therapy services in a rapidly changing world.”



# Fulfilling the Mission



# Challenges to the Profession

- Inside the profession
  - Growth of the profession
  - Variety of clientele, work settings, practices
  - One-third of MTs are AMTA members
- Outside the profession
  - Misrepresentation
  - Recognition

# Addressing the Challenges Together

- Inside the Profession
  - Members
  - Committee Structure, Support and Work
  - Assembly of Delegates
  - Board of Directors

# AMTA Board of Directors

➤ President:

Jennifer Geiger (WR)



➤ Past President:

Amy Furman (GLR)



➤ President Elect:

Amber Weldon-Stephens (SER)



# AMTA Board of Directors 2016-2017

➤ Vice President:

Jean Nemeth (NER)



➤ Vice President Elect:

Kristen O'Grady (MAR)

➤ Executive Director:

Andrea Farbman, *ex officio*



# Assembly Representatives

- Speaker of the Assembly: Angie Snell (GLR)
- Assistant Speaker: Michael Silverman (GLR)
- Assembly Delegate: Debbie Bates (GLR)
- Assembly Delegate: Tracy Richardson (GLR)





# Appointed Positions



- Secretary/Treasurer: Alicia Clair (MWR)
- Historian/Parliamentarian: Bryan Hunter (MAR)
- Regional President Representative:

Debbie Benkovitz (GLR)



# Council Coordinators

➤ Council Coordinator for Association Services:

Annette Whitehead-Pleaux (NER)



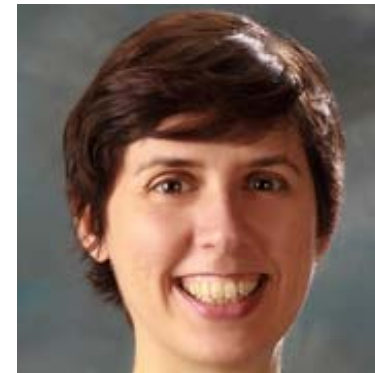
➤ Council Coordinator for Education & Training:

Ed Kahler (SWR)



➤ Council Coordinator for Professional Practices:

Nicole Hahna (MAR)



# Assembly of Delegates

- Great Lakes Region - 15
- Mid-Atlantic Region - 16
- Midwestern Region - 6
- New England Region - 5
- Southeastern Region - 9
- Southwestern Region - 6
- Western Region - 9

# Council on Association Services Committee Chairs

- Affiliate Relations Committee – Meganne Masko
- Clinical Practice Networking Committee – Clair Ghetti
- Diversity & Multiculturalism Committee\* – Melita Belgrave & Seung-A Kim
- International Relations Committee – Flossie Ierardi
- Membership Committee – Patina Jackson & Angie Elkins
- Professional Advocacy Committee – Emily Bevelaqua & Leslie Henry
- Workforce Development & Retention Committee – Gretchen Chardos Benner & Kyle Wilhelm

# Council on Education & Clinical Training Committee Chairs

- Academic Program Approval Committee – Kamile Geist & Christine Leist
- Association Internship Approval Committee – Eve Montague & Lauren DiMaio
- Continuing Education Committee – Laurie Keough & Tracy Leonard-Warner

# Council on Professional Practices Committee Chairs

- Government Relations Committee – Judy Simpson & Rebecca Preddie
- Reimbursement Committee – Judy Simpson & Rebecca Preddie
- Research Committee – Deb Burns & Cindy Colwell
- Standards of Clinical Practice Committee – Ellary Draper
- Technology Committee – Kristin Veteto



# Additional Boards

- Education & Training Advisory Board – Beth Schwartz
- Ethics Board – Betsey King & Carol Shultis
- Judicial Review Board – Julie Andring
- Student Affairs Advisory Board – Jeffrey Wolfe

# Work Groups

- Autism Strategic Priority:
  - Moving Forward
  
- Faculty Forum
  - Tony Meadows, facilitator
  
- Master's Level Entry Subcommittee:
  - Mary Ellen Wylie, Chair
  
- Music & Memory<sup>SM</sup> Work Group:
  - Regina Dennis & Erin Spring, co-chairs
  
- Pediatric Work Group
  - Christine Neugebauer & David Knott



# National Office Staff

- Executive Director: Andrea Farbman
- Conference Planning & Communications:  
Al Bumanis & Cindy Smith
- Government Relations: Judy Simpson & Rebecca Preddie
- Membership: Angie Elkins & Cindy Smith
- Education & Training: Jane Creagan
- Administrative Support: Dianne Wawrzusin, Tawna Grasty & Jennifer Peter

# Consultants

- Kim Bell, Information Specialist
- Patti Catalano, Wilson Trust Project, Regional Mgr
- Barb Else, Sr. Advisor Research & Policy
- Maria Hricko Fay, Government Specialist
- Cathy Knoll & Dwight Knoll, Podcast & E-course Producers
- Myrna Mandlawitz, Special Education Policy
- Char Patterson, Accountant
- Jennifer Simpson, E-mail monitoring
- Travis Smith, Warehouse Manager



# AMTA Collaborations

- National Standards Board for Therapeutic Musicians
- Child Life Council
- Americans for the Arts
- Music & Memory<sup>SM</sup>

# Hot off the Press!

NCCIH Clinical Digest  
for health professionals

Autism &  
Health A

## Autism Spectrum Disorder and Complementary Health Approaches

Share:



April 2016

Estimates of the prevalence of autism in the United States vary, but the most recent U.S. Government statistics estimate that about 1 in 68 children (or 1.5 percent of 8-year-old children) have autism spectrum disorder (ASD). There is no cure for ASD, but research shows that early diagnosis and interventions, such as during preschool or before, are more likely to have major positive effects on symptoms and later skills. Many parents choose complementary health approaches for their children with ASD to help **manage symptoms**; however, despite this use there is a paucity of high-quality research focused on complementary approaches for ASD. Of the ASD research that has been conducted, most has been in the pediatric population; very few trials of complementary health approaches have been conducted in adults with ASD.

The existing evidence base indicates that **melatonin** may be beneficial for sleep disorders associated with ASD. **Music therapy** may have a positive effect on social interaction, and communication and behavioral skills in those affected by ASDs.



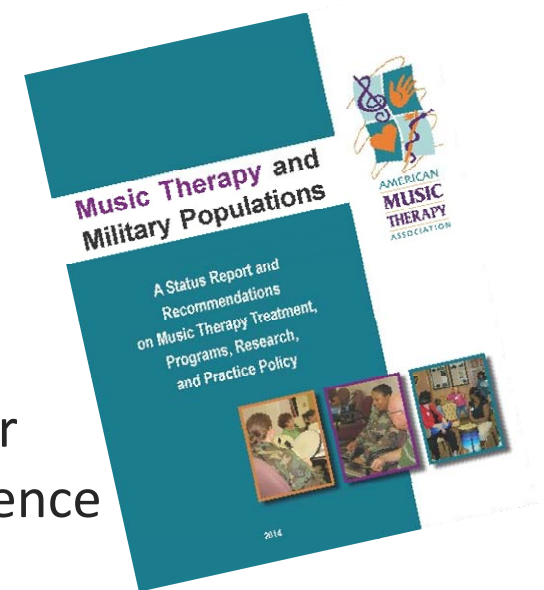
Music Therapy is in the monthly e-newsletter of the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health of the National Institutes of Health

# AMTA Protecting & Safeguarding

- AMTA Wilson Trust Initiative
- Music & Memory<sup>SM</sup>
  - “Alive Inside” film
- Child Life Council & Pediatrics
- “Artists in Healthcare Certification”
- NIH – National Institutes of Health/NCCIH - National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health
- NEA – National Endowment for the Arts
- NOAH – National Organization for Arts in Healthcare

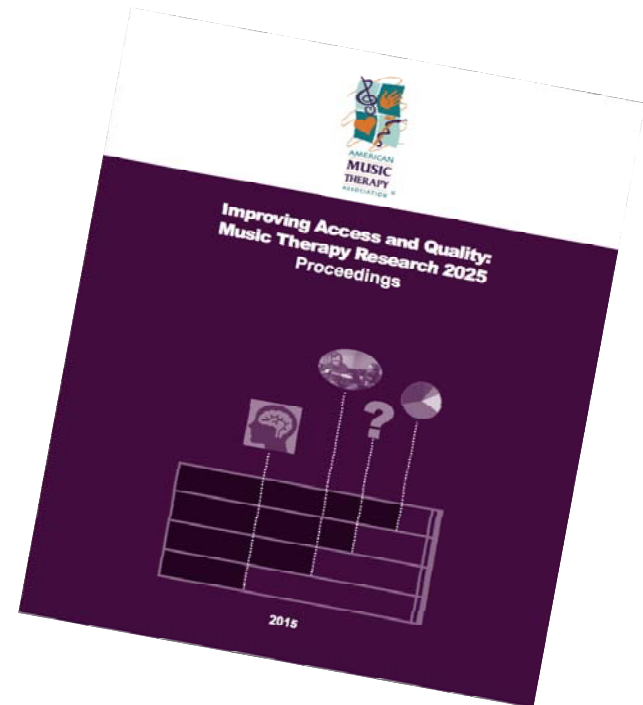
# AMTA & the Military

- "Music Therapy & Military Populations"
  - AMTA Whitepaper (2014)
- Military Collaborations:
  - National Endowment for the Arts
  - Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Programs, National Intrepid Center on Excellence
  - Ft. Belvoir (NICoE Satellite)
  - Air Force



# Membership Resources

- Publications
  - Partnership with Oxford University Press
  - MTR2025 Proceedings
- Products
  - E-courses
  - fact sheets
- Services
  - infoPods
  - AMTAPro,
  - Membership Toolkit
- Scholarships/Grants
  - Gaston
  - Fultz
- Welcome to the Profession Packet



# CMTEs via E-Courses at [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

## ➤ 5 CMTE Credits:

- MT Reimbursement: Sources & Steps to Success
- MT & Dementia: Protocols for Managing Problem Behaviors
- MT in Early Childhood: Meaningful Music from Infancy to Kindergarten
- MT Intern Supervision

## ➤ 3 CMTE Credits:

- Advocacy for MT: Engage in the Process
- MT & Military Populations
- Ethics & Copyright, An Overview for MTs





# AMTA/CBMT State Recognition Operational Plan



**Dena Register, Ph.D., MT-BC**  
*CBMT Regulatory Affairs Advisor*



**Judy Simpson, MPH, MT-BC**  
*AMTA Director of Government Relations*



**Kimberly Sena Moore, Ph.D., MT-BC**  
*CBMT Regulatory Affairs Associate*



**Maria Fay, LSW, LCAT, MT-BC**  
*AMTA Government Relations Specialist*

# States with Legislation in 2016

| State          | Recognition      |
|----------------|------------------|
| Colorado       | Title Protection |
| Connecticut    | License          |
| Florida        | Registry         |
| Iowa           | License          |
| Minnesota      | License          |
| Missouri       | License          |
| New Jersey     | License          |
| Ohio           | License          |
| Oklahoma       | License          |
| Pennsylvania   | License          |
| South Carolina | License          |
| West Virginia  | License          |

# MTR2025



# MTR2025 Symposium Big Ideas & Themes

- Consumer Impact
- Clinical Involvement
- Diverse Methodologies
- Theory
- Research Capacity Building
- Economic Analysis
- Expanding Partnerships



# MTR2025 Implementation Planning

- **Do** MT Research
- **Use** MT research
- Foster **team science**
- Build **research capacity** – researchers & infrastructure
- Grow **sources of funding** for MT Research





AMTA  
Leadership



Regions



Ed. & Training  
Faculty



Clinicians &  
Consumers



Investigators



Students

Images: colorado.edu; nyu.edu;  
GeogeCenter.com; phillipmartin.com

# Our Journey Continues Together

- We are all researchers
  - #MTR2025
  - #PowerofTeam
  - #PowerofTeamScience
  - #mtadvocacy
  - #mtresearch

||: I'm a music therapist  
**and**  
music therapy scholar :||  
What's your superpower?

[MTResearch2025@musictherapy.org](mailto:MTResearch2025@musictherapy.org)



# Master's Level Entry Subcommittee

- Mary Ellen Wylie, Chair
  - Ron Borczon (WR)
  - Jim Borling (MAR)
  - Cynthia Briggs (MWR)
  - Jane Creagan (Staff)
  - Marcus Hughes (former Student Rep)
  - Bryan Hunter (MAR)
  - Amy Furman (Immediate Past President)
  - Michelle Hairston (SER)
  - Ed Kahler (Council Coordinator for Education & Training)
  - Ronna Kaplan (GLR)
  - Eve Montague (NER)
  - Christine Neugebauer (SWR)
  - Angie Snell (Speaker of the Assembly)



# Update from the MLE Subcommittee

- Two surveys developed & sent in February
  - Educators & Internship Directors
- Purpose:
  - Gather info about MT Educational & Internship Programs
  - Learn views toward proposed Master's Level Entry
- University Affiliated supervisors will be surveyed in March

# Survey Analysis Has Begun

- Working with descriptive data
- Open-ended questions
- Preliminary data shared at regionals
- Analysis will lead to a report
- Additionally, working on “Not Yet Investigated” list

# AMTA National Conference

- “Under the Canopy: The Music Therapy Profession”
  - November 10-13<sup>th</sup>, 2016
- Kalahari Resorts, Sandusky, OH
- April 18<sup>th</sup> – Deadline for Proposal Submissions

The logo for Kalahari Resorts, featuring the word "Kalahari" in a white, rounded, sans-serif font on a black rectangular background. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the end of the word.

Kalahari®

# #WeAreAMTA

➤ Jennifer Geiger, MA, MT-BC

➤ Linked In, Facebook

➤ @jennifermtbc

➤ Twitter, Instagram & Pinterest

➤ [jennifermtbc@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermtbc@gmail.com)

➤ [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)



## Regional Conference Script Spring, 2016

### Slide 1: Intro

I had the pleasure of traveling to 5 out of the 7 regional conferences this spring. This was made possible due to the support of my family and the generosity of the Western, Mid-Atlantic, Southwestern, Midwestern and Great Lakes regions.

### Slide 2: Mission

Around the country, AMTA serves as the clearinghouse of information for those wanting to know more about the power of music to change lives. An army of volunteers and our National Office staff handle many things of concern to music therapists, students, clients, their families. In all things, the mission is our guide. We strive to educate the public so that we can increase services for music therapy in this world that is changing more quickly than our operating systems!

### Slide 3: Fulfilling the Mission

Our mission-related work might look something like this wheel as we consume and apply Research to help us Advocate to consumers and government officials; Educate family, friends, and the media about MT; Safeguard our profession from those who profess to do that which we do, but without the proper education and training; and finally, Preserve not only our ability to practice music therapy but maintain our historical archives, preserving the intellectual property of our profession.

### Slide 4: Challenges to the Profession

Depending upon your perspective, challenges can present opportunities. The chance to advocate and educate; the opportunity to get involved and invest in yourself and our profession by being a member of AMTA. This is a struggle if only one-third of practicing music therapists nationwide are members. Outside the profession, we are sometimes challenged by the media with an inaccurate portrayal or remark about what it is that they think we do.

### Slide 5: Addressing the Challenges Together

Through the work of the various task forces, committees, and volunteer mechanisms in place, through our collaborative work with each other and other professions, WE are part of the solution to these challenges. This work is done by an army of members, of volunteers from the Board of Directors, Assembly Delegates, Committee members, members of the additional boards.

### Slide 6: Introduction of the Board of Directors

Allow me to introduce you to some of these incredible people:  
These Board positions are elected by the membership every 2 years:  
President – Jennifer Geiger  
Past President – Amy Furman  
Congratulations to President Elect – Amber Weldon-Stephens

### Slide 7: Our conference planners

Vice President – Jean Nemeth  
Vice President Elect – Kristen O’Grady, also newly elected  
Andrea Farbman sits on the board by virtue of her status as Executive Director

### Slide 8: Assembly Representatives

Last fall, Assembly Delegates were elected by the Assembly to the Board of Directors. They serve as:  
Speaker of the Assembly – Angie Snell

Assistant Speaker – Michael Silverman

Assembly Delegate – Debbie Bates

Assembly Delegate – Tracy Richardson, who is brand new to the Board

#### Slide 9: Appointed Positions

The voting members of the Board approved the appointments of the following individuals:

Treasurer – Alicia Clair

Historian – Bryan Hunter

Regional President Representative – Debbie Benkovitz

#### Slide 10: Council Coordinators

As well as our Council Coordinators, who serve as liaisons between the various committees and the Board

Council Coordinator – Ed Kahler

Council Coordinator – Annette Whitehead-Pleaux

Council Coordinator – Nicole Hahna who is brand new to the Board.

We have at least one person from each region seated on the 16-members Board of Directors. There is a nice mix of clinicians and educators.

#### Slide 11: Assembly of Delegates

One of the many reasons why membership is so important is that the number of delegates for each region depends on the total number of members from that region. The more members in the association, the greater the collective voice, experience and wisdom! This body of dedicated volunteers spends time reading, listening and asking questions in order to make Policy decisions for our organization.

#### Slide 12: Council on Association Services

All committee chairs serve for a 2-year term and will complete their term of service at the conclusion of 2017.

We welcome new committee leaders and thank them for continuing the work accomplished by their predecessors: Meganne Masko, Gretchen Chardos Benner and Kyle Wilhelm.

For several years, a task force met on the topic of diversity. In November, the membership voted to create a new committee on Diversity & Multiculturalism. Each region will provide a representative to work with Melita Belgrave & Seung-A Kim on the tasks set forth by the task force and approved by the Board of Directors.

#### Slide 13: Council on Education & Clinical Training

Thanks to our new committee leaders: Eve Montague, Lauren DiMaio, as well as Christine Leist, and Laurie Keough for taking the reigns alongside those who served so faithfully last term.

#### Slide 14: Council on Professional Practices

Thanks to all of our consistent leaders and welcome to Cindy Colwell who joins Deb Burns as co-chairs for the Research Committee. A big shout-out to the Technology Committee for the helpful member benefit of the AMTA Tech Stop! If you haven't checked it out yet, I encourage you to do so under the Member Toolkit at

[www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

#### Slide 15: Additional Boards

Serving specialty purposes, we welcome the leadership of Beth Schwartz, Julie Andring and Jeffery Wolfe.

More information about the important work of these boards can be found by asking your regional rep and referring to information at [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

Each region has representation on each of these AMTA Standing Committees. It is important to pay attention to the information shared by your regional rep so that you can also be informed of how your association is

working for you! We appreciate the dedicated, active involvement of these individuals who make a difference in our profession.

#### Slide 16: Work Groups

Work groups and task forces serve specific, time-limited purposes. We currently have members in place studying and working on a variety of topics to serve the needs of our members and the public.

#### Slide 17: National Office Staff

The nuts and bolts work happens not only across the country by our members but also in Silver Spring, MD, where our National Office staff work. Members all over rely on their guidance and expertise.

#### Slide 18: Consultants

In addition to the full time staff, some business is attended to by the specific use of consultant experts who enhance the camaraderie, dedication and the duties of the office staff.

#### Slide 19: Collaborations

Here is where we address some of our challenges by seeking information outside of our profession. We have used our resources to continue to build collaborations across populations and settings.

#### Slide 20: Hot off the Press!

Music therapy is featured THIS MONTH in the monthly e-newsletter of the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health of the National Institutes of Health, the Federal focal point for medical research in the United States. It offers evidence-based information on complementary health approaches, including scientific literature searches, summaries of NCCIH-funded research, fact sheets for patients, and more. According to the article, "The evidence base on efficacy of music therapy for children with ASD consists of several studies and a recent Cochrane systematic review."

#### Slide 21: Protecting & Safeguarding

From coast to coast, AMTA is working for every music therapist to protect and safeguard our profession; in a variety of ways and with a myriad of organizations. We have been monitoring the National Organization for Arts in Healthcare, which has morphed from previous arts organizations. We are concerned about their pursuit of a "certification" for artists who wish to serve in direct healthcare with little to no education or training in the area.

#### Slide 22: AMTA & the Military

Through our partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, we've been able to advocate for MT by assisting with its expansion of music therapy in military settings. There are presently two full-time contract Music Therapists on the campus of Walter Reed National Medical Military Center and the NICoE, and at Ft. Belvoir in Virginia. We understand that there may be more positions opening up this year around the country. In addition, we are optimistic that a brand new partnership will be forged with the US Air Force that may result in the involvement of the Air Force Bands and an emphasis on the power of music and music therapy. Stay tuned.

#### Slide 23: Membership Resources Highlights

Supporting members is done in a variety of ways: from providing research through our Partnership with Oxford University Press and informational resources to products for promoting the profession and providing information. From continuing education and conference offerings to a variety of scholarships and support of students and new professionals. It is interesting how many questions can be answered by reading the information that is provided by AMTA. This can take an investment of time in reading the new monthly MTM

online, which comes directly to your in-box! Make sure you check your information in the member directory to ensure receipt of timely communications and so that members of the public can easily access your services for referrals.

#### Slide 24: E-courses

In addition to continuing education offerings at annual conferences, a library of E-courses is available on pertinent information. Since 2012, topics have been added to the library of courses that include audio portions to listen on-the-go as well as reading and writing assignments.

#### Slide 25: State Recognition Operational Plan

Speaking of examples of safeguarding and protecting, government advocacy is at the top of the list. One of the most comprehensive benefits of being an AMTA membership is having the power of the knowledge and experience that comes from the National Office in the form of the teamwork of Judy Simpson, Rebecca Preddie & Maria Fay along with our National Team, which includes members Dena Register & Kimberly Sena Moore from CBMT. Along with the AMTA team of Judy & Maria, they are fondly known as JuDenBerLia.

#### Slide 26: States with Legislation in 2016

One look at this listing of legislative activity throughout the country and you get only a glimpse of energy and efforts expending on our behalf. There are 44 active state task forces and this chart shows legislative activity in 12 states! Thank goodness for the Joint State Recognition Operation Plan, which celebrated 10 years last year.

#### Slide 27: MTR2025

Last July, a nearly 60 professionals from across the country gathered to discuss the current state of music therapy research. The objective of the symposium was to identify over-arching research themes to advance MT research over the next decade.

#### Slide 28: MTR2025 Big Ideas

The proceedings were published and made available to all conference attendees last November and are available for public download at [www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

Some big ideas and themes from this symposium are: consumer impact, clinician involvement, diverse methodologies, theory, research capacity building, economic analyses and expanding partnerships.

#### Slide 29: MTR2025 Implementation Plan

We need to build capacity for practitioners to DO research; disseminate research to a broad spectrum of audiences to USE research; provide forums for researchers to share their research and foster team science; build research capacity and growth of funding sources; and increase research opportunities.

#### Slide 30:

We urge the regions to look at how you may include, align, and fit MTR2025 into your grants, committees, and regional work. The Pre Phase I work has already begun at the national level, in the National Office, and with the AMTA leadership as we examine a variety of functions with respect to alignment with MTR2025. This includes some committees and functions of the organization as well as annual conference planning.

#### Slide 31:

Our journey continues and MTR2025 is an initiative that depends on *you – on us*. The participants at MTR2025 made an incredible contribution this past summer. Now let's move MTR2025 forward because we are all researchers and MT scholars.



### Slide 32: MLE Subcommittee

As far back as the Education & Training Commission, constituted as part of unification in 1998, Master's Level Entry was listed as an issue for future consideration. About 9 years ago, the Education & Training Advisory Board began to look into the topic of Master's Level Entry for the music therapy profession. In 2012, the AMTA Board of Directors created the MLE Subcommittee to delve further. Since then, much has been discussed, information has been provided and yet many questions remain unanswered. The original 9-member subcommittee of the Board of Directors was broadened this past year to increase regional representation, broaden areas of expertise and to spread out the workload. They welcome your feedback, questions, suggestions and comments.

### Slide 33: Update from the MLE Subcommittee

The MLE Subcommittee distributed two surveys in February, one for educators and the other for internship directors. The purpose of the surveys is twofold – to gather information about music therapy educational programs and internship programs, and to learn the views of educators and internship directors toward the proposed Master's Level Entry.

### Slide 34: Survey Analysis Has Begun

The Subcommittee has begun to analyze the descriptive data. There were several open-ended questions on the surveys, and the MLE Subcommittee is working with a faculty member/survey expert from Nazareth College to work with that data. A report of the surveys will be created by June. Over the next several months the Subcommittee will also work to develop responses to unanswered questions on their "Not Yet Known" list.

### Slide 35: AMTA Annual Conference 2016

Have you heard the news? We are convening at the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky, Ohio in November. Some lucky carpoolers will reap the benefits of free parking. We ALL will benefit from FREE Wi-Fi, rooms with refrigerators and microwaves to help in cost savings. Many of us will be flying in and our conference organizers have been working diligently to secure cost-effective transportation options from the Cleveland airport. SO – please join me at the Kalahari Resort and mark your calendars!

### Slide 36: #WeAreAMTA

I look forward to connecting with you in person as well as online. Please contact me with questions or comments regarding this presentation. I'd like to hear from you and work with you for the betterment of our profession. Because together, WE ARE AMTA.