

Society for Ethnomusicology, Southern California and Hawai'i Chapter
(SEMSCHC)

General membership business meeting minutes

February 25, 2012
Loyola Marymount University
Los Angeles, CA

Submitted by Shanna Lorenz, Secretary-Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 3:41 by president Jonathan Ritter. President Ritter thanked members of the Local Arrangements Committee (Paul Humphreys, Charlotte D'Evelyn, Elizabeth Macy and Mary Talusan) and the Program Committee (Timothy Taylor, Anthony Perman, Ruth Hellier-Tinoco, and Angeles Sancho-Velázquez. He also thanked the society's officers including Kimasi Brown (incoming President); Shanna Lorenz (Secretary-Treasurer); Chris Adler and Charles Sharp (Web Editors); and Jason Busniewski and Kathryn Alexander (Student Representatives). Regrets were extended from those who unable attend, including David Novak and Katherine Hagedorn.

Dr. Ritter noted that the minutes from the previous year (2011) had been posted online and were also available in hardcopy at the current meeting. The minutes were approved pending further comments, which were to be sent electronically by March 15, 2012.

The Chapter is happy to have no necrology to record this year.

--The President's report was delivered by outgoing president Jonathan Ritter. He noted that the chapter had introduced many changes during the past year, particularly calling attention to the efforts of Web Editors Chris Adler and Charles Sharp. He expressed his concern that attendance at the conference is sometimes disappointingly low when we meet at less centrally located schools. He went on to affirm that the chapter is, none-the-less, in excellent condition financially, and concluded by thanking the members for allowing him to serve.

--The Vice President's report was delivered by outgoing VP, Kimasi Brown. He read the following prepared statement:

Each year, the Ki Mantle Hood Prize is awarded for the most distinguished paper read by a student at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology Southern California and Hawai'i Chapter. This year's recipient of the Ki Mantle Hood Prize read a paper at last years meeting on February 20, 2011 at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa CA. This paper focused on the liminal space of interethnic cultural exchange during the Anglo-Indian colonial encounter, this student scholar complicates previous descriptions of British imperialism and cultural repression. Specifically, this case study in historical ethnomusicology uncovers an early phase of British/South Asian musical exchange

involving multiple European and Indian genres. This is an important topic in that it sheds light on the very complex relationships between the colonizer and the colonized. This paper illustrates how music can be a privileged medium through which the dynamics of some of these complexities may be observed. The Prize Committee commends such meticulous and creative use of historical sources and encourages the continuation of this line of fascinating research. We also suggest the pursuit of a more robust theoretical frame to further study the complex coalescence of colonial intentions that have so eloquently described here.

For his paper titled: "Fascination and Cultural Fermentation in Early British India." Please join me in congratulating the recipient of the *2011 Ki Mantle Hood Prize*: **Jason Busniewski**, of the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

The SEMSCHC 2011 Ki Mantle Hood Prize Committee included Shanna Lorenz (Occidental College), Angeles Sancho-Velazquez (CSU Fullerton) and Kimasi L. Browne (Azusa Pacific University).

--The Secretary/Treasurer's report was delivered by Shanna Lorenz. The chapter's financial report was projected on screen, and the healthy balance of \$3680.32 was noted.

--The Web Editor report was delivered by Charles Sharp. He noted that the society has a new web page, calling particular attention to the new space for student concerns, and invited the chapter members to give him feedback. Extensive discussion about the continued use of "The Little Man" icon ensued, which was prompted by recent SEM discussions about retiring the logo. Members expressed several opinions: Kenneth Habib suggested leaving the logo until the issue had been resolved at the national level. Amy Corin questioned whether the logo was the best representation of the society. Tim Cooley reminded the membership that there had, as yet, been no chapter-level mandate from the national society. Jason Busniewski suggested we leave the logo for the time being and put out a call for a replacement icon during the upcoming year. This last suggestion was voted on and passed by the membership with 15 in favor and 2 abstentions. Finally, the Web Editor agreed to consolidate the chapter's two facebook pages.

--The Student Concerns Committee report was delivered by co-representatives Jason Busniewski (UCSB) and Kate Alexander (UCR). They reported that at their meeting earlier in the day, students had suggested that the one day conference format made it difficult for them to meet, particularly when they were expected to walk to lunch during their allotted meeting time. For the following year's Student Concerns Committee round table, they agreed to take up the question of our dual roles as ethnomusicologists and musical performers. Finally they announced the election of George Blake (UCSB) as the chapter's student officer (he will replace Jason who is moving on to serve as secretary of the SEM Student Concerns Committee).

--Election of New Officers: Nominations for a new Vice President were taken from the floor, with Ruth Hellier-Tinoco, Mary Talusan and Charles Sharp accepting nomination. Each candidate made a short statement, and secret ballots were distributed. Charles Sharp

was elected, and will serve as Vice President from 2012-2014, then as President from 2014-16.

Nominations were opened to elect a new Secretary/Treasurer to replace Charles Sharp and Eric Schmidt agreed to be nominated. The floor was opened for other nominations or self-nominations. There were no further nominations. Eric Schmidt was elected unanimously to serve a three-year term as Web Editor.

--Old Business: The chapter members revisited the question of whether to host a one or two day conference. Several concerns about the one-day format surfaced including the concerns that it made it harder to procure funding for those coming from Hawai'i and that more students would be turned away. However, there was also some agreement that the cost of a two-day conference could ultimately tap the chapter's resources more than we would like, and that it should ultimately be left up to individual local arrangement committees to decide (in collaboration with the chapter officers) regarding the length of the conference.

--New Business: Scott Marcus raised concerns about the due date for abstracts, suggesting that the deadline should not fall during the winter break when professors are unavailable to supervise their students. The members unanimously agreed to move the abstract deadline to early December.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm