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NER-AMTA General Membership Meeting
American Music Therapy Association National Conference
Hyatt Regency
Minneapolis, MN
23 November 2019

President Adrienne Flight called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Carol Smolenski, graduate student at Lesley University, began the meeting with an interactive, group musical experience.

Adrienne welcomed the meeting attendees and thanked NER members who are presenting at this conference. Board and Assembly Members were recognized. Adrienne reported that extra delegates were added this year to ensure that we can feel NER's allotted seats.

2. Approval of Minutes from Regional Conference

Meredith Pizzi entertained a motion to approve the general membership meeting minutes from the NER Regional Conference on March 29, 2019. Linda Bosse seconded the motion. With no discussion, the minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Financial Update

Adrienne reported on the current financial state of the NER as submitted by treasurer Bekah DeMieri in the following report:

Bank Account Balances:

Checking: \$24,508.08

Savings: \$50,464.47

NERAMTAS checking: \$1064.37

Year-to-Date Expenses/Income:

Expenses:

Conference: \$111

Membership Support: \$400

Website: \$44.75

Professional Membership Scholarships: \$750

Student Membership Scholarships: \$285

Board Insurance: \$774

Income:

AMTA Quarter Checks: \$209.25

Fundraising: \$16.28 (AmazonSmile)

Interest: \$5.11

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4. Strategic Plan

Adrienne presented the strategic plan of the NER, speaking to commitment in three areas: membership, financial, and professional issues. Adrienne reviewed these three areas.

5. Membership and NER Initiatives

Adrienne reported that there will not be a membership dues increase for 2021. Membership continues to be a focus for us as a region. We have dedicated a significant amount of money to the Pay-it-Forward campaign.

Mark Fuller of the Membership Committee spoke about the following updates:

1. NEW E-COURSE MEMBER BENEFIT
 - a. The membership committee will roll out a new membership benefit in January 2020 that will allow members access to online CMTE courses that will be included in their membership benefits. For the upcoming year there is approximately 30 credits available, and more to come in the years to come.
2. Welcome to the Profession Packets for coupons off your first 3 years of Professional expenses <https://www.musictherapy.org/careers/packets/>
 - a. The membership committee is continuing to promote and bring awareness to the welcome to the profession packet to ensure eligible music therapists and students are receiving their packet.
3. Paying Professional membership in installments https://www.musictherapy.org/members/paying_amta_membership_in_installments/
 - a. The membership committee will continue to provide options for those who need to pay for their membership in installments. Currently there are options for 4 or 6 installments.
4. Other Support options for paying for membership https://www.musictherapy.org/about/membership_support_options/
 - a. The membership committee has provided resources for people to know their options of support both regionally and nationally to increase access to membership.
5. Scholarships and grants for AMTA members <https://www.musictherapy.org/careers/scholars/>
 - a. The membership committee continues to promote and bring awareness to scholarships and grants for AMTA members.

6. NER-AMTAS & SAAB Updates

Shari Hallas, AMTAS President, Diana Cortes, AMTAS President Elect, and Kayla Daly, SAAB Representative, addressed the meeting attendees. Shari reported on the success of the recent Passages 20 conference. She highlighted the celebration of Kynvi, and reported that the thank you video created by the students will be available to view after this meeting. Shari reported that there has been a focus on the history of the profession. Shari read a prepared statement regarding the safe spaces concern and the feeling of a communication disconnect for students. She asked on behalf of the AMTAS board for clear communication and updates going forward so that the AMTAS can stand with the student body going forward. Kayla recognized and thanked the AMTAS board.

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The following report was submitted:

1. 2018-2019 Regional Project Update: NER-AMTAS 3rd Annual Advocacy and Fundraising Open Mic took place on March 2, 2019. We've Got the Beat: Music Therapy Awareness Concert and Open Mic Fundraiser was held at The Bebop near Berklee College of Music. 40 music therapy students, professionals, and guests mingled and shared music and music therapy information and stories with the public in this happily crowded dining pub venue. SAAB Rep Kayla Daly and Anna Maria College Adjunct Alli Fox headlined the event, with both student and public open-mic performers engaging the audience throughout the night. Raffle donations came in from area professionals and brought in a total of \$275 for the evening. NER-AMTAS gave away a regional conference scholarship of \$50 and five 2018 NER-AMTAS T-shirts.
2. 2019-2020 Regional Project: Music Therapy Game Night! To gather the NER-AMTAS community and host a game night in an open venue, for the purpose of sharing MT information and creating awareness of resources with the general public. This event also aims to provide education about AMTAS to the NER student body and create an opportunity of positive engagement and connection for students with the local general public. The idea is to adapt familiar games to having MT-related questions and/or activities that promote advocacy and share MT resources.

Additions Since the Spring Report 2019:

1. Passages 20, the 20th Anniversary of Passages Student and New Professional Music Therapy Conference, took place at Lesley University, Cambridge, MA, on October 26, 2019. The 97+ attendees included students, new professionals, professionals from across NER and guests. Students from Harvard University, Northeastern, Boston University and Western New England University also attended. Two decades of Passages history were celebrated by honoring founder Lisa Kynvi and the many NER professionals who assisted in helping to launch the beginnings of this now national conference, which originally started at Lesley University in 1999. Opening Ceremony included Kynvi's reflections on why and how Passages was created. A surprise video of thank yous to Kynvi from NER students and faculty, as well as from SW-AMTAS and MAR-AMTAS was well received. NER Music Therapy Department heads Joy Allen, Lisa Summer and Rebecca Zarate led a vocal experiential that set the tone for openness of mind and spirit, sending attendees into a full day of sessions. 20 presenters, both students and new professionals, engaged attendees in sessions from 10 am - 4 pm. Lunchtime and closing experientials offered a chance for attendees to share music therapy goals for the future through visual art and a giant drum circle. New Passages 20 t-shirts, pins and stickers sold well, with only 15 shirts remaining. Besides merch sales, donations towards a Passages digital time capsule and raffle items brought in a total of \$773.70 in fundraising. Passages 20 lobby interaction included a Passages history slideshow, as well as vendors for instrument sales, a regional music therapy business, and an AMTA representative. Passages 20 was a busy, memorable day!
2. 2019 scholarships totaling \$450 were given: three AMTA Membership Scholarships (\$50 each) to Kayla McBrien, Katie Paker, and Corinne Waters; and three Regional Conference Scholarships, one (\$50) to Brittany Leonard, and two (\$125 each) to

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- Casey Marsh and Shari Hallas. This was an increase in scholarship giving from 2018 by \$50.
3. Other Community Engagement Initiatives:
 - Student Community Engagement polling: The goal is to increase opportunities for students from the three area schools to come together and learn from each other. A polling question was added to Passages 20 registration to determine student interest. 60% of registered attendees said “Yes” they wanted more information about student engagement opportunities. NER-AMTAS will invite interested students to help run the upcoming Regional Project, currently titled a “Music Therapy Game Night.”
 - Social Media: NER-AMTAS is actively re-posting area and national music therapy events and information, including scholarship availability both regionally and nationally.
 4. Annual Business Meeting, 3-29-19, NER-AMTA Conference 2019:
 - Attendance: Estimated 40 students from the NER region schools attended. School breakdown was about even between Berklee and Anna Maria (estimated 19 each), with 2 students from Lesley.
 - Bylaws Changes: 7 bylaw changes were approved. Most significant was an added section that supports the continuance of the two committees started this past year: Video Masterclass Committee and Student Engagement Committee. Since these committees are in their infancy and not yet assigned to any board position, this statement gives the 2019-20 NER-AMTAS Board the flexibility to clarify what these committees require and determine who would best chair each committee.
 - NER-AMTAS 2019-20 board elections: All 10 positions were filled. School/student breakdown: Berklee, 5; Anna Maria, 3; and Lesley, 2. Board members are listed below.
 5. Safe Spaces Communication Statement (by President Shari Hallas at AMTA NER Regional Meeting 11-23-19): The AMTAS student board is bringing the national student body and regional student boards together with a new level of connection this week. 10 Berklee students and 3 Lesley students are here and made great connections at last night’s AMTAS first business meeting with students from 6 other regions. I brought to the SAAB meeting Thursday morning (11-21) a concern I had just received from one of our NER students about the topic of safe spaces. This meeting was the first time myself and many of the other regional presidents had heard about recent events in the AMTA community around this issue. My statement right now is to simply ask on behalf of the NER-AMTAS student board to be provided updates as they become available about the progress in this area so that we may communicate and stand with the NER student body as fully as possible. We are grateful for the ongoing support this region’s professional family gives to our students, as evidenced by the amazing history we have here.

2019-20 NER-AMTAS Executive Board

President: Shari Hallas, shallas@lesley.edu

President: Elect, Diana Cortes, dcortessanchez@berklee.edu

Treasurer: Camryn Gallagher, cllgallagher@amcats.edu

VP Anna Maria: Liz Hastings, eshastings@amcats.edu

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VP Berklee: Julia Dwyer, jdwyer@berklee.edu
VP Lesley: Carol Smolenski, csmolens@lesley.edu
Secretary: Delia Regan, daregan@amcats.edu
Advocacy Chair: Erin Haney, ehaney@berklee.edu
Public Relations: Judy Nie, jnie@berklee.edu
Parliamentarian: Corinne Burch, cburch@berklee.edu

7. Regional Conference Update

Adrienne stated that we are dedicated to maintaining safe spaces in the NER. This will be an ongoing discussion while planning the regional conference.

Kathlynn Sell, NER Vice President Elect and Conference Co-Chair presented the following report:

This year's conference titled Restoring the Music in You, will be held at the Stoweflake Resort and Conference Center in Stowe, VT April 23rd – 25th. Conference is moving along according to schedule and we are in line with our current budget, no money has been spent since the deposit. We are keeping registration fees for conference the same this year.

We have Colin Lee booked as our keynote speaker, he will additionally be leading a CMTE on Thursday.

We had 9 submissions for CMTEs/Concurrent sessions our first early bird deadline (October 13th). Our second early bird deadline for call for papers concludes November 17th for a \$15 discount on registration (we currently have 3 qualifying submissions). The final deadline for call for papers is December 8th.

Registration has transitioned to the CVENT platform as Regonline has since been sold to CVENT. I think we will find this platform to be very user friendly and make check in smoother this year. We have been grandfathered into the Regonline pricing so no expenses will change. Registration development is currently underway and set to open once CMTE's have been selected at the conclusion of the call for papers. We are aiming for a January 1st registration opening, with early bird registration concluding March 22nd, 2020.

In light of the recent discussion about safe spaces and lack of communication, Adrienne asked the meeting members if everyone has heard about the safe spaces concern. For clarification, Adrienne read aloud the AMTA timeline regarding safe spaces at the present conference for affinity groups. The AMTA Board of Directors has offered a profound apology for the events that have taken place, acknowledging that they underestimated the impact that the decision would have on members. This year, the sessions that were initially designated as closed have gone on as scheduled. The word "closed" was removed due to legal concerns. The AMTA Board recognized that the timeline did not allow for stakeholder discussion, and that the communication was insufficient.

Adrienne reported that with all of this in mind, the NER will be committed to providing safe spaces and protecting those who have been historically marginalized. Linda Bosse

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commented that it is important that we intend to provide the safe spaces at our regional conference, but also cautioned that we do not trigger a violation of the law. Dory Stapleton questioned whether we are bound by the same law in the NER as AMTA. Michele Forinash reported that they have consulted a different legal team and provided a second opinion. The public Accommodations Law is supposed to protect the marginalized community, and ultimately was used against this community. Adrienne invited anyone with concerns about this conversation to e-mail her, Brian, Kathlynn, or Channing. If you feel as though you are not getting communication, please reach out so we can do better going forth. Kristen Korda reported that as a student she appreciates this present meeting space to talk about these difficult conversations so we can learn more. Sarah Pitts reported on conversations with other professionals, commenting that it is important for us to know that certain spaces are not intended for everyone and respecting that space. Kayla Daly commented on the students' eagerness to have guidance about this topic. The students were already overwhelmed about being at conference and meeting Jeanne Ellinport for the first time. None of the AMTAS Presidents were aware of the safe spaces concern coming into conference. Judy Nie reported that as a student she is glad to have a space to talk here, and she expressed comfort knowing that everyone is moving to make change. Eva Vukich expressed disappointment in not seeing representation from the closed groups themselves. Rather than speaking circles around this issue, there has not been an outlet for the people who have been directly affected to voice their concerns publicly. Jen Sokira reported that there was a time for gallery members to speak during one of the Assembly meetings. Joy Allen reported that anyone can go to the Assembly meetings whether you are a delegate or not. Heather Wagner reported that the delegates represent your voice—go to them with any issues.

Diana Cortes brought up the lack of communication felt by students, reporting that they do not know what is going on at conference in general. For example, she did not know if she was allowed to speak at Assembly meetings as a student. Linda Bosse, Assembly Parliamentarian, clarified that anyone can be recognized to speak at Assembly. Kayla put forth the idea of having a student meeting outlining all of the opportunities available to students at conference. Joy added that this would be helpful for professionals as well, as many people do not know the structure and functioning of AMTA itself. Meredith shared information regarding Assembly functioning, reporting that Assembly members do not receive the approved agenda until the time of the first meeting because changes happen up until the start of the meeting. Adrienne commented that we should post a chart on our website for everyone, potentially revisiting this topic at regional conference for everyone who is not here at the national conference. Jen affirmed the energy and desire of so many people wanting to be part of AMTA. Brian took responsibility as a faculty member that they did not talk about these issues in class prior to conference. As he will be a stain-in at Assembly, Brian invited people to speak to him and ask questions. Michele reported that at the business meeting this afternoon, there will be more statements put forth and there will be a time to speak. Caryl Beth Thomas talked about looking at our structure and reported that we are going to be doing things at every regional conference about how to be involved. It has always been a mystery, but it doesn't need to be. Cynthia of the Latin American Music Therapy Network expressed the hurt in regards to what has been happening, and thanked the current room for the recognition that we need to communicate better in the future. Linda

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Bosse commented that it is important for her to see the involvement in the room along with the excitement of wanting to be involved and informed.

8. Committee Updates

Reimbursement Committee

Tom Hayden gave a report on the reimbursement committee.

Clinical Practice Networking Committee

Eva Vukich reporting:

1. Clinical Practice Networking Committee representatives work to expand networking and mentoring opportunities by organizing and supporting networking events at regional conferences. In 2019, our regional reps have coordinated with regional conference planning committees to provide new and innovative formats for these regional networking events.
2. In acknowledgement of the important role of affinity groups and other networking groups that meet during national conference, the CPNC re-structured our networking event at annual conference to consist of an evening Mix & Mingle event to enable broader networking among participants and minimize conflict in timing with other networking groups. The Mix & Mingle event will be held this evening (Saturday) from 6 – 7pm, welcomes professionals and students alike, and incorporates topics sourced from the membership. The CPN committee will continue to monitor, coordinate and support networking and mentoring efforts at the national and regional level, and advocate for effective dissemination of this information to the membership.
3. Members of the CPN committee will work during the coming year to identify successful mentoring initiatives within the regions that could serve as models for other regions.
4. Please dialog with your CPN Committee regional representative to convey your perspectives on how AMTA can facilitate and support networking and mentoring opportunities in meaningful alignment with today's technology.

Academic Program Approval Committee

Heather Wagner reporting:

1. APAC has, as a primary task, to approve new programs and re-approve existing academic programs:
 - At the moment there are 88 approved programs in music therapy: 34 offer bachelor's and master's degrees, 48 are bachelor's only, and 5 are master's only. Ten of those programs also offer a doctoral degree
 - To date, in 2019, six new bachelor's degrees and one new online master's degree have been approved:
 - BM, Marietta College, OH
 - BS, Roberts Wesleyan, NY
 - BM, with equivalency, Washington Adventist, MD
 - MMT, Loyola University, LA
 - BM, University of Rhode Island, RI

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- BM, West Chester University, PA
 - BMT, with equivalency, Valparaiso University, IN
 - One new program application are under review
 - Three re-approvals were granted, for Sam Houston State, Anna Maria College, Florida State
 - One re-approval is in process
2. APAC has proposed 13 changes to the Standards of Education and Clinical Training. These will be reviewed by the Board and brought to the Assembly on Saturday.
 - Proposed new section requiring schools to publish and share with students their policies regarding transparency of the requirement for immunizations, background checks, and drug screens for students
 - Proposed to add a 3 year check-in to support new program development. This would not affect the 10-year review cycle
 - Suggested elimination of a rationale in support of online learning formats
 - Suggested changes in wording to promote clarity and transparency of academic learning formats and residency requirements
 - Added a requirement for evidence of training in online pedagogy and delivery methods for all instructors teaching online or hybrid courses as defined by NASM.
 - Many additional recommendations centered on the clarity of differences between national roster and university affiliated internships. Links to policies and procedures for each will be included in numerous places for easy referral.
 3. Our committee work is year-round so we have adapted our meeting schedule and processes better address ongoing needs. We met online in the spring as well as for subcommittee work and decisions on pressing topics throughout the year.
 4. We are working toward updating the application and re-approval processes. This will include new policies and procedures for electronic submission and could shorten our turnaround time.

Heather also spoke about what has been done at assembly including an approval of some amendments to the Ethics code and adoption of a new anti-harassment policy.

Professional Advocacy Committee

Maggie Connors reporting:

The membership has been provided methods to evaluate representations of music therapy in various media and in public.

The committee has an updated webpage, including pictures of committee representatives and three topical videos for members titled: Responding to Misrepresentation on Social Media, Shifting Correction to Connection, and Avoiding Advocacy Burnout.

The committee has provided several regional and national advocacy related presentations to disseminate committee information and on gaining public support of music therapy.

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The committee continues to work on a set of guidelines outlining best practice when responding to music-based apps that resemble music therapy scope.

The committee compiles and maintains a resource file of various instances of misrepresentation and advocacy support provided to members. Continue to reach out to your regional representative to receive consultation about education and advocacy issues and for the committee to document for trend related issues.

Maggie also commented that as a Vermont state task force member, they are hoping to have a Hill Day in conjunction with the conference taking place in Vermont this year.

Government Relations Committee

Nicole O'Malley reporting:

1. In 2019, **15 states** had active state recognition legislation. Congratulations to CA, which had music therapy title protection signed into law, bringing our total to 10 states that have some form of official recognition of the MT-BC credential.
2. Twenty states and two regions hosted Hill Days, advocacy trainings, or presented testimony at legislative hearings this year.
3. We anticipate 21 possible state recognition bills in 2020.
4. We will be implementing the use of Voter Voice in 2020, an online platform purchased by AMTA for engaging advocates in state and federal calls-to-action.
5. AMTA and CBMT sponsored a joint exhibit at the National Conference of State Legislators in Nashville in August. The national team connected with 46 state legislative offices from 28 different states during the event. Many of the legislators and staff stopped to discuss music therapy and our state recognition efforts.
6. The committee would like to seek a session slot or meeting time during each of the 2020 spring regional conferences to host a presentation or roundtable discussion about the relationship between State Task Forces and State Associations, to assist with communication and coordination of advocacy efforts.
7. Don't forget to participate in the Advocacy Scavenger Hunt and turn in your checklist at the Advocacy Booth in the Exhibit Hall before 4:30 today to be eligible for the drawing for a \$100 Amazon Gift Card during the business meeting this afternoon. A drawing will be held for students and professionals. You must be present to win!
8. The National Arts Advocacy Summit will be held March 30th and 31st, 2020 in Washington, DC. AMTA is a national partner for this event and serves on the legislative planning committee. Information about event registration will be posted on the AMTA website in December.

Regional Update:

Maine: Task force is forming, developed website and now discussion legislation.

New Hampshire: Legislation has been submitted stay tuned for updates!

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Vermont: In the process of completing sunrise review and planning to submit legislation for the 2020 session. Hill day in process.

Massachusetts: Stay tuned for updates.

Rhode Island: Recognition event for legislative efforts in the spring.

Connecticut: Stay tuned for updates.

Research Committee

Joy Allen reporting:

Main Order of Business

Primary order of business of the Research Committee is to encourage and promote research of all types of research methodology in music therapy primarily through taking responsibility for the research sessions at national conference and by developing and implementing a variety of ongoing educational opportunities and supportive mechanisms to assist novice and experience researchers/clinicians to develop research projects and programs.

Key Successes

- Secured one Research CMTE for 2019 AMTA National Conference: Case Study Research Design (Heiderscheidt, Murphy, Jackson)
 - (Sadly, this was cancelled at the last minute due to low enrollment)
- Secured four Research Concurrent Sessions, *Research Committee Presents*:
 - Submitting a Manuscript to Music Therapy Journals: A Conversation with the Editors-in-Chief (LaGasse & Beer)
 - The Content, Layout, and Technology of Creating Stand-out Posters and Presentations (Behrens & Cohen)
 - Access please! Searching for research articles when working outside of academia (Allen, McGraw Hunt, & Wagner)
 - Research Agenda Development as a Navigational Tool Supporting the Tenure Process (Fiore, [Laymen], Olszewski, Colwell)
- Accepted 39 research posters for the AMTA 2019 Research Poster Session
 - Posters have been invited to be up from 9:00 to 4:30 with designated session for researcher meet and greet and discussion still 2 to 4 pm
- Accepted four oral research sessions for the AMTA 2019 Research Poster Session
 - Lucy Forrest: Evaluating a palliative music therapy program in an acute trauma hospital (Alfred Health)
 - Kamile Geist, Peggy Zoccola, & Eugene Gesit: The impact of music and movement parent or caregiver stress levels (Ohio University)
 - Margaret Scheppmann: Factors influencing music therapy career choice in the United States-A study of student values and expectancies (University of Kentucky)

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- Marshall Yoes & Michael Silverman: Application of Vroom's Expectancy Theory of Motivation to substance use disorder treatment-Implications for music therapy (University of Minnesota)
- Provided a Research Committee member to the AMTA Concurrent Session Review Committee
 - Annie Heiderscheit
- *Music Therapy Matters*
 - Research Committee was asked to be a featured committee for October 2019
 - Format was provided and brief overview including membership was provided
- Awarded the 2018-2019 Clinician-based Research Grant: Erin Fox
 - Research Project Title: Music Therapy Assessment of Imminently Dying Hospice Patients: A Grounded Theory Analysis of Clinical Practice
- Two undergraduate and two graduate student proposals were sent to MTP for consideration for their student research award (abstract included in a future issue of MTP). Awaiting information from MTP.
 - One graduate student was given this honour
 - Barb Else has prepared an 'award ribbon' for all three co-authors; certificate will be in the name of the primary investigatory who is the student.
 - Award presented at the Saturday business meeting
 - *Trends in Music Therapy Preprofessional Supervision: A Systematic Review* Laurie Peebles, Philip Beatty, Kimberly Sena Moore (mentor), University of Miami

Association Internship Approval Committee

Brian Jantz reporting:

1. A National Roster Supervision CMTE was held at the NER Regional Conference on 3/28 from 12:30-5:30pm led by Brian Jantz. There were ten attendees, and not cost for attendance. The training was updated for the AMTA conference CMTE on 11/21/19. We are considering submitting a proposal for the NER conference in April 2020.
2. Reminder that National Roster Guidelines state that once a student is offered an internship site, they have 30 days to give an answer.
3. Faculty, please remind students of relevant guidelines, like the one mentioned above, and help them understand that they may get offered a site 30 days after someone else was offered it.
4. We are putting together a survey for students to get their opinion on the 30-day guideline mentioned above. Please help us distribute it at the beginning of the year.
5. We hope to have templates/examples by spring for several key components of the NRI application to help with the process of applying.
6. Currently have a total of 188 Active NRI sites and 15 inactive sites.
7. We continue to support 5 national roster internship sites in the New England region. Roman Music Therapy (MA), Birch Bay Village (ME), Jewish Home for the Elderly (CT), Riverview/Albert J. Solnit Ctr (CT), Season's Hospice (MA). Connecticut Juvenile Training Ctr (CT - *closed as a site as of 6/18*). All NER approved national roster sites currently take one intern at a time.

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8. Thank you to everyone who completed the Annual Report. Please send reports to your regional representative (Brian Jantz, bjantz@berklee.edu), as well as the AMTA national office (Jane Creagan, creagan@musictherapy.org) if you have yet to submit this information.
9. Please send all site updates to Jane Creagan and copy Brian Jantz.

Committee Reports Paused for Guests to the Meeting

Speaker of the Assembly Angie Snell introduced herself and Assistant Speaker Michael Silverman. Angie introduced AMTA's new executive director Jeanne Ellinport, and invited Jeanne to address the NER meeting attendees. Jeanne reported that her time is our time, and she is here for us to answer our questions. She began by thanking us for what we do as music therapists and for attending the current conference. She is trying to meet as many people as possible. She loves communications, inviting anyone to call or e-mail her with concerns at any time. Jeanne then opened the floor to our concerns. Adrienne reported that we have had a productive conversation about safe spaces during this meeting, relaying the disappointment and heaviness on our hearts and requesting clearer communication going forth.

Jeanne reassured that there will be clearer communication going forth. She cannot do anything about what happened in the past, but she is committed to making sure that people feel safe moving forward as we work towards making the field more diverse. This won't change overnight, but there are goals, tactics, and timelines going to be put in place to move forward. For example, the Black Music Therapist Network is cataloging all of the research they have done within their population—what were the outcomes, and how can we use those outcomes to effect positive change. This will be a much longer conversation going forward, not simply one. Her hope is that we start seeing incremental changes happen within the profession. Angie clarified that Jeanne's time is very limited in the moment due to other meeting obligations, not wanting meeting members to think they are rushing Jeanne prior to addressing all concerns. Diana Cortes presented concerns from students who were not able to come to conference. Their main concern is about the unpaid internship and targeting minorities, as they are usually the students who cannot afford an unpaid internship. There need to be resources to help minorities afford internships and membership in AMTA itself. She expressed the difficulty of minority students pursuing their dreams of becoming music therapists because of financial difficulties.

Jeanne reported that this is a great opportunity to set up grants within the AMTA to help students with internship costs. The topic of unpaid internships will be going on the board in her office, and she will be taking a look at other professions and industries to see what they are doing. They will then come up with solutions to help our situation in AMTA. Jeanne addressed the website itself, commenting that this will be an ongoing process which will take a good amount of time and money to revamp. Cynthia voiced frustration with the very rushed communication that happened very regarding safe spaces leading up to this conference. It happened in the past, but it has still hurt the marginalized communities. She questioned how this will impact our decisions in the future as music therapists in providing a space for affinity groups to come together. She maintained that if we are going to support equity, we have to support marginalized groups and foster increased communication.

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Nicole voiced concerns regarding preexisting plans and commitments for the years 2020 and 2021 in regards to government relations. She expressed that legislation takes years of work and effort. She wants to make sure we are considering all of the commitments that we have already made. Jeanne clarified that the AMTA decision to focus on 10 states comes from a budgetary standpoint. This does not mean that we aren't going to move resources around if and when legislation opportunities come up in other states. Other states will not be forgotten. This plan is about trying to maximize our resources the best we can. Joy commented that many people have left AMTA because of lack of transparency.

Resuming of Committee Reports

International Relations Committee

Julie Andring reporting on behalf of Meg Capon:

The World Federation of Music Therapy conference will be held in South Africa next summer, 2020, from July 7-11.

All are to invited to attend the Global Perspective Session (GPS) on Saturday at 12:45. The GPS is sponsored by AMTA and there will be some delicious treats.

Judicial Review Board

Julie submitted the following report:

1. Definition of JRB according to AMTA Bylaws:

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. The President and Judicial Review Board are responsible to ensure that the appeal procedures, processes, and mediation provisions are appropriately supported, and enforced.

2. Difference between JRB and Ethics:

The Ethics Board is responsible for education and guiding members in the resolution of ethical concerns. The JRB is charged with hearing and appeals regarding official association decisions.

3. JRB is working on reworking the current procedures for filing a concern with JRB to be in line with the procedures of the Ethics board.

Ethics

Jen Sokira invited members if you ever have an ethical question, ask! Keep in mind that the Code of Ethics is a living document. If you see something that is glaringly missing, this is something that we can continue to revise so that it best supports our members.

The following reports were submitted by committee members in absentia:

Diversity and Multiculturalism Committee

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Marisol Norris submitted the following report:

The board approved the DEI recommendations for percentages of accepted concurrent sessions and CMTEs for national and regional conferences beginning in 2020. The DEI recommends that 15% or more of concurrent sessions contain information related to cultural and/or diversity training and 10% or more of CMTEs contain information related to cultural and/or diversity training. List of keywords and topics to look for in submissions which meet the criteria of including cultural and diversity training:

- Culture
- Cultural bias
- Cultural competency
- Cultural humility
- Cultural identity
- Cultural sensitivity
- Diversity
- Equity
- Inclusion
- Intersectionality
- Multiculturalism
- Privilege
- Oppression
- Social Justice

At the 2019 national conference, 20% of concurrent sessions, 16% of CMTEs were related to cultural and/or diversity training. The DEI has worked with other committees such as Music Therapy Perspectives Editors and the Interprofessional Collaborative Resources Committee (ICRC) Fact Sheet Review to review language and content of documents to make sure that they are culturally sensitive and responsive.

Standards of Clinical Practice Committee

The Standards of Clinical Practice Committee is on pause as the Board reviews committee tasks and the overlap between the Standards and 21st Century Commission for Education & Clinical Training. After review, further directions and tasks will be given on updating the Standards of Clinical Practice.

Technology Committee

Cassandra Mulcahy submitted the following report:

- Come visit us at our technology booth with any tech questions we can support you with or suggestions for further technology education.
- We continue to work on assessing the needs of the membership to understand what members would like from us and how to better serve members through education and resources.
- We are working with the board to reassess our goals and tasks to make sure they are in alignment with current technology practices and needs.

DRAFT

Workforce Development and Retention Committee

Sarah Gagnon submitted the following report:

WDR met today at national conference with all regions represented.

WDR is working on workforce development in several ways. We are looking to develop a database for students to easily find “observable” music therapists based on one in Minnesota. Secondly looking towards how to continue to develop prospective student and conference outreach sessions. Nationally occurring tomorrow WDR is hosting a virtual session for prospective students, “Insight into the Music Therapy Profession”. Special thanks to panelists: Fei-Lin Hsiao, Kelly Carlson and Larue Peebles. Finally, we are looking forward to working with local committees to develop the prospective music therapy student track at regional conferences.

WDR is also looking to shift focus from development to retention in order to address the concerns, questions and ideas from professional music therapists. This involved collaborating with the Research Committee to implement a Retention Survey as charged by the BOD.

I personally look forward to submitting for another conference presentation focused around retention in music therapy for Spring 2019 in Vermont as my task for reaching out and listening to membership at conference about key issues to then report back to WDR committee.

Special thank you to Adrienne for her advice and leadership this year while working to determine best practice for outreach in NER WDR development.

9. Good and Welfare

Joy Allen reported that Heather Wagner is running for VP Elect of AMTA.

Jen Sokira reported that Connecticut music therapy services is currently hiring.

Michele Forinash reported that AMTA Vice President Kristen O’Grady will be going to the AMTAS business meeting.

10. Adjournment

Linda entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Kathlynn seconded the motion.

There was no discussion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecilia Burns, MMT, MT-BC
Secretary, NER-AMTA