

# MUSIC THEORY MIDWEST

[www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw/](http://www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw/)

## PRESIDENT

Julian Hook  
Indiana University Jacobs School of Music  
1201 East Third Street  
Bloomington, Indiana 47405-7006  
[juhook@indiana.edu](mailto:juhook@indiana.edu)

## SECRETARY

Stanley V. Kleppinger  
229 Westbrook Music Building  
University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0100  
[skleppinger2@unl.edu](mailto:skleppinger2@unl.edu)

## TREASURER

Gretchen C. Foley  
230 Westbrook Music Building  
University of Nebraska–Lincoln  
Lincoln, NE 68588-0100  
[gfoley2@unl.edu](mailto:gfoley2@unl.edu)

---

## MTMW Spring 2010 Newsletter

### 2010 Conference

We extend our warmest invitation to attend Music Theory Midwest's twenty-first annual conference to be held May 14–15, 2010 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. The conference program is enclosed. Thanks go to Karen Bottge (University of Kentucky), who chaired the program committee, and to its other members: Timothy Best (Indiana University); Jason Britton (Luther College); Kevin Holm-Hudson (University of Kentucky); Julian Hook (Indiana University), *ex officio* (as MTMW President); and Jan Miyake (Oberlin College Conservatory).

Claire Boge (Miami University), our chair of local arrangements for this conference, is delighted to welcome everyone to Oxford. Our sessions will be held in newly remodeled Presser Hall, with parking nearby. The university is in intersession that week, so all will be blissfully quiet—the perfect counterpart to the stimulating program that has been planned.

Located midway between Dayton and Cincinnati, and close to the Indiana border, Oxford is a 2 1/2-hour drive from Indianapolis and Columbus, and about a five-hour drive from Chicago and Cleveland. Oxford is equidistant from the Dayton and Cincinnati airports, so if you plan to fly, check fares to both locations. Unfortunately, there is no limo service from the airports, so air travelers will need to plan to rent a car. Driving time is about 60 minutes from Cincinnati, 75 from Dayton. Driving directions will be posted on the MTMW website.

A block of rooms has been reserved May 13–15 at the Miami Inn on campus, at the special conference rate of \$99 per night for a double room (we have virtually the entire place to ourselves). Call the Inn directly at 513-529-2104. A secondary block of rooms has been held at the Baymont Inn (513-523-2722), about a 10-minute drive to campus, also at \$99 per night for a double, and the management has agreed to allow up to four graduate students to share a room with rollaway beds. Both locations include breakfast with the cost of lodging. Mention Music Theory Midwest (or if that doesn't work, the Miami University Music Department) to get the special rates. The Inn is about a 10-minute walk from Presser (5-6 blocks); there will be a van to transport daily from the Inn to Presser in the morning and back in the evening. Parking at the Inn is free, and arrangements are being made to provide complimentary parking at Presser as well for daytrippers. Hotel rooms are reserved until April 12, at which point they will be released.

The Miami University Art Museum will be open during the conference, and everyone is encouraged to take the short walk down the road to view exhibits after sessions end on Saturday. The Museum is open until 5:00, and a docent tour of current exhibits can be arranged (please contact Claire Boge if you're interested). Exhibits include 1) Art Glass: Sculpture and Possession; 2) Adornment and Excess: Jewelry in the 21st Century; and 3) Consuming Clay: Porcelain Wares from the 18th and 19th Centuries.

---

### AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Leigh VanHandel (Michigan State University)  
Steven Rings (University of Chicago)  
Robert Cook (University of Iowa)  
Elizabeth Margulis (University of Arkansas)

### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Mitch Ohriner (Indiana University)  
Jessica Barnett (University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music)

### WEBMASTER

David Loberg Code (Western Michigan University)

Of special note is this year's plenary session highlighting MTMW members from the early years: Joseph Kraus, Anne Marie de Zeeuw, Marianne Kielian-Gilbert, and Justin London. Joe will begin with his colorful remembrances of the society's beginnings (from the pre-MTMW Central Midwest Theory Society and the first conference in Evanston); Anne Marie will talk about the sense of community and support in the society; Marianne will speak about areas of research that started out less conventional but have become an integral part of the profession; and Justin is planning to address how MTMW has served as a model in bringing emerging scholars into the field and how this might continue and broaden in the future. The panel will then serve as a springboard for discussion about everything MTMW—from what it was like when theory was an emergent profession, through the importance of establishing an independent societal (and tax-exempt) identity, to what we can further do in theory outreach and support for our members in the future. Bring questions, ideas, and your most curious and creative insights! Immediately following the plenary session, we will take our conversations to the Miami Inn Tavern for a reception hosted by Miami's School of Fine Arts.

On Saturday, the traditional MTMW buffet banquet will close our festivities. The cost of the banquet will be \$25 for members, and once again we are providing a discount for students (cost \$20). Please make sure to reserve your place by May 11.

Oxford provides a variety of locally owned and operated restaurants at moderate prices, as well as the expected franchises, immediately adjacent to campus. A restaurant list will be posted online and an array of menus will be available at both hotels. Some places of particular interest include Rohan India, which serves an all-you-can-eat Indian buffet for \$10 during weekday lunch hours; Smokin' Ox barbeque, which features pulled pork you season to your delight; Maid-Rite Sandwiches, an old-fashioned loose meat offering for a whopping \$2; Fiesta Charra, authentic Mexican where you can practice your Spanish; Steinkellers, a basement *Bierhaus* featuring a fabulous selection of domestic and imported beers with traditional German food; and Stella's, an upscale restaurant that is vegan-friendly. Many places deliver, so if you're not up for exploration, your dinner can come to you. Campusmenus.com and Urbanspoon.com (<http://tinyurl.com/oxford-restaurants>) are good for pre-conference research.

Oxford in May often displays spring beautifully. The Inn is located across from a formal garden, and there are several walking tours of the Georgian-inspired campus (including a tree tour assembled by the botany department and featuring a 200-year-old sweetgum tree). Bicycles are available at the Marcum Center for those who are staying at the University. A historic house tour passes by many of the local eateries, and we'll provide some guides for the walkers (weather permitting). Please do note that Miami University is a smoke-free campus.

We look forward to welcoming you to Oxford in May. Please feel free to contact Claire Boge ([bogecl@muohio.edu](mailto:bogecl@muohio.edu) or [claireboge@me.com](mailto:claireboge@me.com)) with questions, requests, and the like.

## 2010 Membership

You may begin or renew your membership in MTMW as you complete the conference registration form enclosed with this newsletter. (If you cannot attend the conference but wish to maintain your membership for 2010, simply complete the relevant portions of the registration form.) Annual dues are \$20 for regular membership, \$30 for joint membership, \$15 for emeritus membership, and \$10 for student membership. Donations to the Arthur J. Komar Student Award are always welcome. ***Please renew soon to ensure the continued financial health of our organization and to be eligible to vote in the elections.***

## Elections

During 2010, the terms of Secretary, Area II Representative (IL, IN, WI), Area IV Representative (MO, KS, OK, AR, TN), and Student Representative for Areas I and III (KY, MI,

OH; IA, MN, NE, ND, SD) will expire. The Nominations Committee has prepared a slate of candidates to fill these positions; biographies of the candidates are enclosed. Members of MTMW are encouraged to participate in elections in one of two ways:

- You may vote online at the Music Theory Midwest web site:

<http://www.wmich.edu/mus-theo/mtmw> (Follow the link for "Online Elections.")

or

- Current and recent members will find a ballot attached to this newsletter. Complete it and mail it to Music Theory Midwest Elections c/o Stan Kleppinger, secretary; 229 Westbrook Music Building; University of Nebraska–Lincoln; Lincoln, NE 68588-0100. **Please include a return address on the envelope.**

Ballots must be postmarked by **May 1. You must be a current member of MTMW to participate in elections.** Renewing your membership by May 1 will allow your vote to be counted.

Many thanks to the members of our Nominations Committee for their efforts in assembling this slate of candidates: Nicole Biamonte, chair (University of Iowa); Sigrun Heinzelmann (Oberlin College Conservatory); and Melissa Hoag (Oakland University).

### **Proposed Changes to MTMW's Bylaws**

In accordance with Article IX of Music Theory Midwest's bylaws, President Jay Hook has proposed the following amendment of those bylaws. This amendment has already been seconded by four other members of the Executive Committee (as required), and will be an agenda item for our business meeting at the May conference.

The last paragraph of Article V of the MTMW Bylaws currently reads:

All officers and representatives shall be elected for a term of two years. A member of the Executive Committee may run for reelection, but not serve for more than two consecutive terms. The President, Treasurer, Area Representatives I and III, and the Student Representative for Areas I and III will be elected during even-numbered years; the Secretary, Area Representatives II and IV, and the Student Representative for Areas II and IV will be elected during odd-numbered years. Elections will be held by mail according to procedures and schedules determined by the Executive Committee, and each newly elected Executive Committee member will take office the following September 1. The Executive Committee will appoint replacements for any vacancies arising between elections.

Proposed revision (changes underlined):

All officers and representatives shall be elected for a term of two years. A member of the Executive Committee may run for reelection, but not serve for more than two consecutive terms. The President, Treasurer, Area Representatives I and III, and the Student Representative for Areas II and IV will be elected during odd-numbered years; the Secretary, Area Representatives II and IV, and the Student Representative for Areas I and III will be elected during even-numbered years. Elections will be held by mail or electronically according to procedures and schedules determined by the Executive Committee, and each newly elected Executive Committee member will take office the following July 1. The Executive Committee will appoint replacements for any vacancies arising between elections.

Rationale:

The proposed revision to the paragraph's third sentence, describing which committee members are elected in which years, is a correction. The revised version reflects current

practice, in effect since the areas served by the student representatives were realigned in 2003. The bylaws revisions made at that time were apparently recorded incorrectly.

In the next sentence, a provision is added to allow for the possibility of electronic voting.

The change of date from September 1 to July 1 brings the bylaws into closer accord with current practice, by which the responsibilities of new officers effectively commence immediately following the conclusion of the spring meeting. It is probably undesirable to reference the spring meeting explicitly in this context, because of the possibility of unforeseen variance in meeting dates. (According to Article VII, meetings shall be “normally in the spring.”) The effect of the change is small in any case, since the officers and Executive Committee have few duties during the summer months.

**MUSIC THEORY MIDWEST'S TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
MIAMI UNIVERSITY | OXFORD, OHIO | MAY 14–15, 2010**

**FRIDAY, MAY 14**

**8:00**                      **Registration**  
**9:00–9:15**            **Introduction and Welcome**

**9:15–10:45**

**Arco**

“Yearning for What is Absent: Time and Meaning in Britten’s Third Suite for Cello, Op. 87”

**Clare Sher Ling Eng**  
**Yale University**

“The Presence of an Absence in Stravinsky’s *Élégie*”

**Scott C. Schumann**  
**University of Texas at Austin**

“Textural Prominence, Information Entropy, and Formal Function in Early String Quartets of Haydn and Beethoven”

**Ben Duane**  
**Northwestern University**

**Around the World in 90 Minutes**

“Rentaro Taki and the Birth of Japanese Art Song: An Analytical Study of the Transition from Folk Tune to the Westernized Song”

**Akane Mori**  
**University of Hartford**

“Poetic Image and Tonal Disorientation: The Curious Case of Benjamin Britten”

**Michael A. Vidmar-McEwen**  
**The College of Wooster**

“Disruption and Reconciliation in the Formal, Tonal, and Pitch-Class Organization of Ginastera’s *Piano Sonata* No. 1, First Movement”

**Ian Bates**  
**Ontario, Canada**

**11:00–12:30**

**Affect from East to West**

“Between Subjectivity and Objectivity”

**Arnie Cox**  
**Oberlin College Conservatory**

“Effect of Scale Degree Modifications on Average Interval Size”

**Matthew Davis and David Huron**  
**Ohio State University**

“Styles, Topics, and Political Register in John Adams’s *Nixon in China*”

**William Guerin**  
**Indiana University**

**Timing and Tension**

“Generically Determined Metric Dissonance in Bach’s Keyboard Allemandes”

**Christopher Brody**  
**Yale University**

“Projected Tension in Performances of Chopin”

**Mitch Ohriner**  
**Indiana University**

“The Expressive and Structural Functions of Dispersal”

**Brent Yorgason**  
**Marietta College**

**12:30–2:30**    **Lunch** (Executive Committee Meeting)

**2:30–3:30**

**Art Song**

“National Metrical Types in Nineteenth-Century Art Song”

**Leigh VanHandel**

**Michigan State University**

“Hypermetric Displacement, Text and Form in Two Debussy *Ariettes Oubliées*”

**Michael Oravitz**

**Ball State University**

**Brahms**

“Brahms’s ‘Great Tragic Opera’: Melodic Conflicts in “Ach, Wende Diesen Blick” (Op. 57, No. 4)”

**Melissa Hoag**

**Oakland University**

“On the Structural Functions of Instrumental Color: Schoenberg’s Orchestration of the Brahms G Minor Piano Quartet”

**Jeffrey DeThorne**

**University of Wisconsin–Madison**

**3:45–4:45**

**Vespers**

“Perotin’s Enduring Influence”

**Kyle R. Fyr**

**Indiana University**

“Diatonic and Chromatic Musical Spaces in the Renaissance”

**Timothy Chenette**

**Indiana University**

**Pedagogies**

“A Perception-Based Model for Analysis of Post-Tonal Pitch-Centric Music”

**Stanley V. Kleppinger**

**University of Nebraska–Lincoln**

“A Performance-Based Approach to Teaching Post-Tonal Aural Skills”

**Brian Alegant**

**Oberlin College Conservatory**

**5:00**

**Plenary Session: MTMW, Past, Present, Future**

Marianne Kielian-Gilbert (Indiana University), Joseph Kraus (Florida State University), Justin London (Carleton College), and Anne Marie de Zeeuw (University of Louisville)

**6:00–8:00**

**Reception: Miami Inn Tavern**

**8:00–10:00**

**Graduate Student Pizza Dinner**

**SATURDAY, MAY 15**

**8:00**

**Registration**

**9:00–10:30**

**Die Techniken**

“Schenker’s Notes on Invertible Counterpoint and Fugue within the Oster Collection”

**Peter Franck**

**University of Western Ontario**

“Voice-Leading Systems of Schoenberg’s Signature Hexachord”

**Yeajin Kim and David Clampitt**

**Ohio State University**

“Polyfocal Analysis and its Application to

**Formations**

“Temporality, Memory, and Twelve-Tone Technique in Adorno’s *Philosophy of New Music*”

**William O’Hara**

**University of Wisconsin–Madison**

“Pärt the Serialist”

**David Castro**

**St. Olaf College**

“Modular Compositions for Improvisers”

Selected Schubert Lieder”  
**Matt Steinbron**  
**Louisiana State University**  
**10:45–12:15**  
**Ligeti**

“On Shifting Grounds: Meandering,  
Modulating, and Möbius Passacaglias”  
**David Feurzeig**  
**University of Vermont**

“A New Species of Counterpoint: Rules for  
Rhythmic Regulation in Ligeti’s *Lux*  
*Aeterna*”  
**Benjamin R. Levy**  
**Arizona State University**  
“Tenuto Ostinato? Listening Strategies for  
Ligeti’s *Fanfares*”  
**Philip Duker**  
**University of Delaware**

**Paul Steinbeck**  
**University of Chicago**

**“Pop Rocks”**

“‘And These Memories [Gain] Their  
Meaning’: Interpreting the Classical Music  
Topic in Pop/Rock Songs from the 1960s”  
**Mark Chilla**  
**Indiana University**

“Schema versus Archetype: How the  
Concepts Differ and Why We Need Both”  
**Benjamin Anderson**  
**Northwestern University**

“Fragmentation and Verticalization of  
Thrash Metal as a Compositional Strategy  
in Early Sonic Youth”  
**David James Heetderks**  
**University of Michigan**

**12:30–2:30    Lunch**

**2:30–4:00**  
**Conclusio**

“Scriabin and the Possible”  
**Anna Gawboy**  
**Yale University**

“A Foreign Sound to Your Ear: Bob Dylan  
Sings ‘It’s Alright Ma (I’m Only Bleeding),’  
1964-2009”  
**Steven Rings**  
**University of Chicago**

“Ravel’s *Tonal Axis*”  
**Sigrun B. Heinzelmann**  
**Oberlin College Conservatory**

**4:00–5:00    Docent Tour of Miami University Art Museum**

**6:00–8:00    Banquet: Marcum Center**