

SEM

Disability and Deaf Studies SIG

November 10, 2016

12:30pm

Meeting Called By: Elyse Marrero and Alex Carrico, 12:35pm

Meeting Type: Second Annual Meeting

Note Taker: Felicia Youngblood

Agenda Item: Approval of the Minutes

Approval Status: Fall 2015 minutes approved without amendments

Agenda Item: Welcome

Agenda Item: Introductions

Discussion: Each member introduced themselves by name, affiliation, and interest in the SIG.

Agenda Item: Events Position Name Change

Discussion: It was recommended by Felicia Youngblood and the other board members that the name of the “Events Coordinator” be changed to “Program Coordinator,” but keep the same assigned duties. This change was suggested because it is more unified with given positions of other SIGs and because it more closely defines what this position entails.

Result: It was voted to change the title of “Events Coordinator” to “Program Coordinator,” without opposition.

Agenda Item: Position Statement

Discussion: The DDS SIG board members discussed their desire to adopt a statement that clearly outlines the SIG's position on diversity and inclusivity in terms of SEM and its personal communities. Among the group it was discussed that this position statement could help outline best practices and ways of being inclusive in terms of:

- Promoting accessible conference presentation styles
- Making the Society for Ethnomusicology more accountable for supporting the diverse needs of its members
- Adding captions to conference videos
- Creating digital copies of presentations so that attendees can use their own devices to view them up-close
- The overall notion that this inclusivity is about collaborating and combining
- Adding a tag to the title of this statement about accessibility
- Providing members hard copies of presentations to read and take notes
- Creating a conference break room that is designed to be a quiet, activity-free space (The cost for such a space was also discussed and the SIG brainstormed ways in which we could gain extra money to support such a space)
- Adding an accommodation option to the SEM registration form
- Scheduling conferences in spaces where stairs would not prevent members from attending sessions

It was decided that the SIG board members would work on crafting a position statement to share with the SEM board that is based on these and other concerns that might be e-mailed to the group by SIG members within the near future.

Agenda Item: Creating a New Position - The "Access Coordinator"

Discussion: The Access Coordinator was introduced by members of the DDS SIG board as a person that would be a liaison to the SEM board and work on coordinating members of the DDS SIG and other SEM SIGs and sections in order to put forth some of the accessibility initiatives that would be outlined in the position statement. In discussion it was agreed that a position such as this would not only be helpful but necessary in ensuring that there were individuals and groups involved with making the accessibility action items into a reality.

Action Item: Elections

Discussion: The list of available positions was read by the co-chairs and each position was described by its current officer. It was explained that Elyse would be stepping down as the outgoing chair and, therefore, we would need a new co-chair that would serve for two years alongside Alex Carrico, the other co-chair that had already served for one year. Other positions up for election were the secretary, communications coordinator, the newly named program coordinator, and the newly created access coordinator. New

officers were either self-nominated or nominated by other group members. Each member ran unopposed. Elected officials were as follows, in order of their elected office:

- Katelyn Best - Co-Chair
 - Felicia Youngblood - Communications Coordinator
 - Junko Oba - Secretary
 - Monique McGrath - Program Coordinator
 - Michelle Jones - Access Coordinator
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Action Item: Final Comments and Open Forum

Discussion:

- Ross Brillhart and Jennie Gubner discussed the creation of a future panel on music, memory, and disability/illness that would be guided by individual projects that gap the academy and the surrounding community. They decided that this could work well as either a panel or roundtable and that it might be nice to see if the Applied Ethnomusicology Section was willing to co-sponsor.
 - Michelle Jones suggested that it would be nice to take the discussion from the SIG's sponsored panel, "Accessible Music Pedagogy and Scholarship: Accommodations for Bodily Difference and Disability," a step further by coming together as a SIG to create a presentation or written guidelines that could be distributed to people that would like to make their classrooms more accessible.
 - Felicia Youngblood said that she would like the SIG to make it a priority to have Deaf or disabled performers featured at one of the upcoming conferences or to schedule an outing to a performance in the conference city. This was echoed by several members and it was also suggested that we could schedule a workshop with someone from the surrounding community.
 - The "Pedagogies of Activism" roundtable was suggested to the group as another item of interest for DDS SIG members in the current conference.
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Closing Statement and Meeting Closed By: Elyse Marrero and Alex Carrico 1:27pm