

## **AMTAS EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS**

### **David Farsetti, AMTAS President**

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Over the course of my presidency, I have been running board meetings, encourage and aiding the members of the E-Board in various endeavors, as well as working to progress the needs of National Passages Conference. I have been working closely with our Vice President on the continuation of our social media campaign, the goal of which is to expand potential social media outreach so that future boards may take advantage of a larger audience. The progress on this initiative is promising, with our social media outreach growing roughly 200% since this board began their term. I have also been working with our Treasurer in fundraising planning, meeting and conversing individually with her so as to create plans moving forward that she then brings to our Board meetings for discussion.

Here are some highlights of presidency:

- A major part of the past few months has been the advertisement of Passages, as well as the collection and review of applications. Passages included a one-hour CBMT Exam Workshop followed by 8 student presenters that will each have a 25-minute time slot.
- Another project that had been going and has since concluded was the Anonymous Thoughts forum, in which members of the MT community were invited to submit experiences, thoughts, and opinions relating to our field through an anonymous forum so that they may feel free to express themselves without fear of backlash for their thoughts. In this, we aimed to give voice to students who may feel underrepresented, under-heard, and overlooked. I feel this was generally a successful initiative, with many of the anonymous submissions thanking the AMTAS E-Board for providing this safe-space. The initiative has since concluded following collaboration with the recently developed MT Commission led by Jennifer Hicks. All anonymous thoughts submissions were compiled and forwarded to the MT Commission so that they may aid the commission in their goals of shaping the future of our profession in a way that reflects the needs and thoughts of the community.
- As President, I challenged each member of the E-Board to work on a summer project so as to fill a gap that often exists in the productivity of the Board during the summer months. I felt this board rose to the challenge and creating some excellent resources, ranging from lists of master's level programs around the country, to an intervention book and a t-shirt fundraising campaign that raised above \$300.
- A line of communication was established through a group Facebook chat with all regional presidents. This group chat has served as an opportunity for all the presidents to communicate with one another, frequently asking one another questions, spread news relating to events or fundraisers, or sharing other AMTA related information. While no unofficial meetings occurred, I feel this was a positive step in the right direction in terms of improving communication between regions and the E-Board.
- AMTAS will host one more shirt fundraising campaign prior to conference, as well as host a raffle-style fundraising event at conference to further bolster our fundraising efforts; we aim to raise at least \$1000. The E-Board is also working to brainstorm creative means of improving the value of our business meetings at national conference, so that they may serve as a more beneficial resource for students, and simply a meeting for the sake of having a meeting.
- Finalized a passages program, create presentation materials for our business meetings, and finalize a plan for our National Conference booth design. We will continue our social media initiative, which will include a countdown to conference, advertisement of the Passages Presentations, and reintroductions of the E-Board. We are excited for this year's conference and look forward to what we will accomplish in the remainder of our term.

### **Fiona Riso, AMTAS President-Elect**

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Over my term, I have assigned student representatives to all the AMTA Standing Committees and connected all the students with their respective professional committee chairs. I've also been working on updating the AMTAS 2019 Guidebook intermittently throughout the past few months. I started working on a project to create a resource of music therapy interventions through AMTAS by creating a form and section of the website for people to submit

their ideas for music therapy interventions which I will start to collect and share in the form of an app for music therapy students.

- Committees- take a student representative to include the students voice, student
- Open committee positions
  - Affiliate relations committee
  - Interprofessional collaborate resources (workforce retention)
    - This committee questioned “anonymous thoughts” and the goal behind the social media campaign
  - Diversity and multiculturalism (?)

### **Judy Nie, AMTAS Vice President**

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I have maintained the website and organized the #mtthoughts social media campaign with David (President); and emailed the responses from #mtthoughts to the MT Commission. This is to ensure that all the responses received will be passed on to professionals who can make a change. Since the school year has started, I will be starting the #FeatureFriday social media campaign again.

- Compared to last year:
  - Facebook: up 209%
  - AMTAS: over 2.000 followers

### **Jordan Marshall, AMTAS Secretary**

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As secretary I completed the following tasks:

#### Blogs:

- Created multiple blogs outside of the newsletters to elicit conversation among the students of AMTAS, as well as give the students more resources to help them throughout their music therapy coursework.
- Created a blog series on applying for internships, interviewing, and passing board exams that is currently in the process of being released.

#### Newsletters:

- Compiled an AMTAS newsletter to encompass and feature the activities of each region, including activities that they did throughout the year and scholarship/scholarship winners from their regions.
- In the process of receiving information from regional presidents to release another newsletter before national conference in Minnesota.

#### Meeting Minutes:

- Kept meeting minutes for each AMTAS E-Board meeting throughout the 2019 year and uploaded them to a DropBox for easy access to the other officers.

#### Additional tasks:

- Updated master contact list as submissions/reports came in with the updated officers in the different regions.
- Assisted with social media outreach efforts made by the Executive Board.
- Worked with AMTAS E-Board to do a social media give away, an online fundraising event, and helped with various tasks to prepare for national conference in mid-November.

### **Rachel Gan, AMTAS Treasurer**

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The following is a progress report on activities related to the AMTAS treasury from June-November 2019:

#### Expenditures

- \$370.00 under “Conference Registration” (AMTA conference exhibit hall booth)
- \$95.76 under “Fundraiser/Contingency” (for purchase of “Pick Music Therapy shirts” to be sold at conference, raffle items, raffle tickets, and AMTAS exhibit hall booth decorations)
- \$100.00 under “Bank Fee” (\$50 in September and October)

## **Income**

- \$405.00 received from 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter dues in July
- \$310.63 raised from summer “Pick Music Therapy” T-Shirt CustomInk fundraiser
- \$391.50 received from 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter dues in October
- Fundraising opportunities at conference (Penny Wars, raffles, merchandise sales, CustomInk fundraiser)

## **Scholarships**

- The deadline for STARS scholarship applications was moved to September 15 this year to allow more time for students to apply following the start of the school semester.
- Scholarships were promoted on AMTAS social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram).
- Seven (7) applications were received, and winners will be announced at national conference.
- No applicants for the President’s challenge this year
  - Students or young professionals can apply and the AMTAS SAAB will provide resources for a “starter pack”
  - Needs to be pushed more prominently in 2020, applications are due second week of September

## **2020 Budget**

- The budget spreadsheet has been created and initially discussed with the AMTAS executive board present at the September/October AMTAS meeting.
- Expenditures changes currently include:
  - Renaming “Conference Registration” to “Conference Exhibit Hall Contract”
  - Increasing “Website (Weebly)” from \$100.00 to \$110.00 due to increased Weebly prices
  - Decreasing “Website (Blue Host Fee)” to \$0.00, as it will next be paid in 2021
  - Decreasing “Fundraiser/Contingency” from \$600 to \$500
  - Increasing “Bank Fees” from \$0.00 to \$100.00 to reflect 2019 charges
- Income changes currently include:
  - Decreasing “2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Memberships” from \$700 to \$400 to reflect 2019 income
  - Decreasing “4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Memberships” from \$805 to \$400 to reflect 2019 income
  - Increasing “Fundraising” from \$1000 to \$1500 to promote fundraising initiatives to make up for decline in membership dues

## **Fundraising**

- A 2019 AMTA conference sweatshirt campaign via CustomInk was launched in November and will end on Sunday, November 24.
- We will hold a raffle at national Conference this year. Items include:
  - Two CBMT practice exams for our raffle, donated by the CBMT at no cost to AMTAS. Special thanks to AMTAS Secretary Jordan Marshall and Dr. Natalie Wlodarczyk.
  - Rolling cart from Michael’s
  - Cash prize (50/50 Raffle)
  - Donated items

## **Thalia Dimitriou, AMTAS Parliamentarian**

Throughout the year, as Parliamentarian, I researched and completed a summer project. I sorted through the AMTA catalogue and regional websites to compile an accurate and up-to-date list of AMTA approved music therapy programs in the United States. This compilation includes the type of programs offered by the university, links to their website for more information, the name of their program director/advisor, and the contact information for that individual for every school. This full list of AMTA approved programs can be found on the AMTAS website under the blog tab.

In anticipation of national conference, I have prepared for our student business meetings, SAAB meetings, and Executive Board meetings with regional representatives. This entails finalizing the constitution and bylaw changes which will be voted on in the student business meetings, testing out the digital voting system for elections, and reviewing Robert’s Rules to ensure that all business meetings are an effective, respectful, and safe space for all. Also, as the AMTAS Parliamentarian I have continued to participate in all Executive Board meetings and add to the AMTAS Instagram every Monday for #MTSMemesMonday.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time serving on the AMTAS Executive Board as your Parliamentarian. I look forward to my final months in this position, seeing everyone at national conference, and continuing to play a role in student’s representation within AMTA.