**STUDENT AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD**

**Fall REPORT ~ 9/24/14**

**Nicole Hahna, Ph.D., MT-BC ~ Chairperson for SAAB**

**Jennifer Geiger, MA, MT-BC ~ Liaison**

**Items for Action:** None at this time.

**Current SAAB members include:**

SAAB Chair: Nicole Hahna

**2014 AMTAS Executive Officers**

President: Candice Bain (Arizona State University)

President Elect: Ryan Rebagay (University of Miami)

Vice President: Vienna Sa (University of Miami)

Secretary: Megan Kling (University of Miami)

Treasurer: Audrey Manis (University of Louisville)

Parliamentarian: Robert Aguilar (Sam Houston State University)

**Regional Representatives**

Great Lakes: Jeffrey Wolfe (Advisor) and Hannah Gadzinski (President)  
Mid-Atlantic: Conio Loetto (Advisor) and Logan Everhart (President)

Midwestern: Andrew Knight (Advisor) and Laura Wilson (President)

New England: Christine Routhier (Advisor) and Dalita Getzoyan (President)

Southeastern: Natalie Mullis (Advisor) and Caitlin Swett (President)

Southwestern: Michelle Kennemer (Advisor) and Dawn Stewart (President)

Western: Sara Rosenow (Advisor) and Sara Cannon (President)

**Nicole Hahna, SAAB Chair**

My main job duty this quarter was to administer the E. Thayor Gaston Research Award this summer. The winner of the E. Thayor Gaston Research Award is Christy Gerer from the University of North Dakota. The title of her manuscript was “Heath Profession Students’ Perceptions of Referral to Music Therapy.” Andrew Knight, Ph.D., MT-BC, served as her advisor. Our three judges for this year’s Gaston Award were Laura Brown, Ph.D., MT-BC (Educator), Leslie Henry, MT-BC (Clinician), and Kinh T. Vu, Ph.D. (External Judge, Music Education). I am so appreciative of all those who participated: students, professors, evaluators, and Rebecca Preddie at the national office. Congratulations to Christy Gerer on winning this year’s Gaston Award!

My next duties are to mentor the AMTAS Executive Board in preparation for National Conference and provide support and organization to the Regional Executive Boards and Advisors as needed. I will be unable to attend national conference this year, as I am expecting (my due date is November 12th). Christine Routhier, New England Advisor, has graciously offered to run the SAAB Meeting and present the SAAB Report to the AMTA BOD on my behalf. Thank you for this opportunity to serve and I look forward to seeing you all at next year’s conference.

The Student Affairs Advisory Board (SAAB) has 21 members. All regional representatives and advisor positions are filled with active and dedicated students and colleagues.

**AMTAS EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORTS**

**Candice Bain, AMTAS President**

**Board Meetings and Goals**

The AMTAS Executive Board has held 6 meetings so far this year. Meetings were held monthly to discuss issues related to AMTAS and for planning for national conference. The goals set by the AMTAS Executive Board earlier in the year were to: ignite meaningful connections between music therapy students and professionals, facilitate better communication between the executive board and regions, and promote inclusion and equality in the AMTAS bylaws. The following action items represent the progress towards those goals:

**Standing Committees**

The update to the standing committee nomination process has been successful. The vacancies were promoted, and many applications were received. All student representative positions for standing committees have since been filled, and an email was sent out for the students and professionals to initiate contact before conference.

**President’s Challenge**

The AMTAS Executive Board is holding the President’s Challenge again for the 2014 term. The online application was approved, and applications are due September 31st. A new addition to the application was a list of suggested small items for the award so regional student presidents can play a more prominent role in the awarding process.

**Onset of Membership Email Communication**

All AMTAS members have been added to a MailChimp database, and 4 email campaigns were sent out over the summer regarding the MUSETTE flier, Spring 2014 Newsletter, E. Thayer Gaston Scholarship requirements, and information about the annual conference scholarships. All AMTAS members will be sent an email prior to conference encouraging members to attend the AMTAS business meetings. This additional method of communication is setting a foundation for increased communication with membership for this term and for future terms.

**Remaining Duties**

* Distribute announcements and promote the STARS Awards
* Prepare for SAAB and AMTAS meetings at the AMTA Conference
* Gather supplies for conference: posters representing regions to organize students during business meetings, table tent cards for identification during the AMTAS EB/BOD and SAAB meetings; printed certificates for scholarship recipients
* Begin updating the Student Guidebook to SAAB (last updated in 2007)
* Oversee the 2014 President’s Challenge, STARS Awards, and all other AMTAS EB duties

**Thanks**

Thank you, AMTAS Executive Board, regional presidents, and the Student Affairs Advisory Board for all of your hard work so far this year. Thanks Ryan Rebagay- for your hard work with the standing committees, Vienna Sa- for your work on the AMTAS website, Megan Kling- for your organization of SAAB contact information and your thorough meeting minutes, Audrey Manis- for taking on the responsibility of handling all financial matters and conference sponsorships and logistics, Robert Aguilar- for editing the bylaws to promote inclusion and equality, and finally, Nicole Hahna- for all of your guidance and support throughout this whole term. All of your hard work has been very much appreciated, and it has set a strong foundation for the continuation of great work next year. Thank you all for making such a wonderful team, and it has been a great privilege to serve as the AMTAS president this year. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Louisville!

**Ryan Rebagay, AMTAS President Elect**

As President-Elect, my primary responsibility over the past few months has been completing the selection process for the Student Representatives to the AMTA Standing Committees. This has included collecting and blinding nomination forms, counting votes from the Executive Officers, and notifying the selected individuals of their positions. Once the Representatives were chosen by the Executive Officers, the Chairs of their respective committees were informed of their selection. Later this month, emails will be sent to confirm that Student Representatives have both been in contact with their Committee Chairs and are still able to commit to attending the AMTA National Conference in November.

**Vienna Sa, AMTAS Vice President**

I worked together with the AMTAS President on the President’s Challenge Scholarship , sent emails to regional presidents asking for links and submissions for the AMTAS Blog and Website. Additionally, I assisted in placing student representatives to standing committees and continue to make edits to the AMTAS website as needed.

**Megan Kling, AMTAS Secretary**

As secretary, I have continued taking minutes of all AMTAS E-board meetings and uploading them to the AMTAS Dropbox once they are approved. I completed the spring newsletter last June and updated the SAAB directory in August. I also share relevant AMTA articles and news stories on the AMTAS Facebook group. I will soon have several duties to perform in preparation for the AMTA conference!

**Robert Aguilar, AMTAS Parliamentarian**

No report received.

**Audrey Manis, AMTAS Treasurer**

* Balanced checkbook with bank statements received from AMTA (Angie Elkins)
* Processed any check reimbursements
* Filed receipts, confirmation emails and letters, and scanned copies of each to DropBox account
* Discussed scholarship deadlines with the AMTAS Executive Board

**REGIONAL SAAB REPORTS**

**Region: Great Lakes Region, Hannah Gadzinski, GLR AMTAS President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Jeffrey Wolfe**

The GLR AMTAS executive board published a video on different social media resources. This included an introduction to the new board, the benefits of involvement in AMTAS, and it promoted the benefits of conference attendance.

**Region: Mid-Atlantic Region, Logan Everhart - President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Conio Loretto, MS, MT-BC, LCAT**

**2014-2015 REGIONAL PROJECT**

This year’s project, **ROCK THE REGION**, will ask each university in the MAR to host a guest speaker (or other advocacy event) to promote the power of Music Therapy. Each speaker/event will be video recorded and shared on a newly formed (to be created) MARAMTS You Tube channel, so that all students (and professionals) from the MAR (and other regions) will have access to the presentations/events.

**SUMMER BUSINESS MEETING**

The MARAMTS Executive Board held their Summer Business Meeting in early August at **The Center for Discovery** in Harris, NY. A lot of ground was covered during the meeting and many plans were made for 2014-2015…

* Fund Raising – contemplating a “Penny War” at the next regional conference and/or setting up an online store to sell Music Therapy-themed materials; looking into purchasing a portable device that would allow for acceptance of credit/debit cards during fund raising events at conferences
* Canning Project – will once again collect spare change from attendees at the regional conference to benefit an organization to be determined by membership
* Student Service Project – to bring Music Therapy students to a facility in the area of the regional conference (Ocean City, MD – Spring 2014)
* Scholarships – Sophomore, Junior and Graduate Student scholarships will once again be awarded, as well as the Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarship; two Music Therapy Club awards will be given
* Chapter Rep Award – creating a new award for the most involved and dedicated MARAMTS chapter representative (to be awarded at regional conference)
* Sister School Projects – pairing up nearby universities in the region and encouraging joint efforts towards Music Therapy special events and advocacy
* Graduate Students – examining organization by-laws to ensure inclusive language and promote greater participation by graduate students in the region
* Social Media Policy – forming a committee to develop a social media policy for the MARAMTS organization

The Board will meet again in mid-September with chapter representatives from around the region at **Elizabethtown College** to formalize the above.

**PASSAGES 2014: TURN! TURN! TURN!**

This year’s PASSAGES Conference of the MAR will be held at State University of New York at New Paltz on October 11, 2014. The conference co-chairs, current New Paltz student **Kristin Ryan** and new professional **Timothy Gannon**, are hard are work preparing an exciting program.

This year’s conference, entitled “Turn, Turn, Turn”, will honor the life and legacy of **Pete Seeger**. Pete’s ability to bring people together through the power of music certainly demonstrates music as therapy on the grandest of scales.  It is hoped that by recognizing Pete, our conference attendees will be inspired by the potential of music to connect people and promote change. Linda Richmond, of “The Power of Song” and Music Therapist Ken Aigen are lined up as keynote speakers, who will offer musings on this topic. The conference will close with an outdoor music making event in Pete’s memory.

PASSAGES is a free one day conference for current Music Therapy students and new professionals (five year or less in the field) in the MAR.

**Region: New England Region-AMTAS, Dalita Getzoyan - President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Christine Routhier, LMHC, MT-BC**

1. The Annual Passages Conference is being held this year on September 13 at Lesley University. Students from the three NER universities will come together to share their research and clinical experiences. The day will open and close with a music ritual facilitated by the students. There will also be a raffle, with donations of instruments and books coming from the professionals and professors in the region. An AMTAS table will be set up describing all the services and scholarships available to stduents through AMTA. A pizza party and Open Mic are being planned for after the conference. Right now the students are deep in the process of planning this event, which is only a day away! Once the conference is over, the students will have more time to focus on other projects, with those being listed below.
2. The 2014 Regional Project continues to be around the idea of service to the community. There is a possible service project being planned to Jamaica. Local service projects are also being considered.
3. Another project that is continuing is the Mentoring Program, connecting students with professionals having similar areas of interest. This project began two years ago.
4. AMTA scholarships for attendance at the AMTA conference are also being planned for the fall.
5. The students began meeting over the summer through video calling. This proved very effective in helping to prepare for the Passages Conference, which was held much earlier in the semester this year.

**Region: South Eastern Region, Caitlin Swett - President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Natalie Mullis, MT-BC**

The title of our regional project this year is *SER-AMTAS Online*. After discovering that our student board no longer has access to the SER-AMTAS blog, we have decided to start anew. We hope this will serve as a means of keeping all student organizations in our region informed of the projects going on at other schools. This will also give them the opportunity to share ideas and increase morale within our region. We hope that this morale will help students to build connections that can be carried into the professional world. Using a Wordpress domain, our student President Elect, Chandler Sawyers, will work together with Michael Clark who served as the SER-AMTA webmaster for a number of years. We hope to have the new blog up and running by the time of our regional conference, so that it will be ready to present at our student business meeting.

There have not been any events held for students in our region since the meeting in the spring. The only exception to this would be our ongoing DrumStrong competition. This competition challenges each student organization in the region to get creative and hold fundraisers to raise money for DrumStrong. The school that raises the most money will be rewarded with a djembe for their school during our 2015 SER-AMTA regional conference. We plan to hold a music therapy advocacy week after prior to our regional conference as well.

As a board, we have been working to update our contacts list for student organizations as well as increase online communication within our region.

**Region: Mid Western Region, Laura Wilson - President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Andrew Knight, MA, MT-BC, NMT**

**Upcoming Regional Project:** Cadenza 5K

**Description:**

A 5K run/walk will take place during the Midwest Regional Conference in April, 2015. This 5K will be available to conference attendees in tandem with a local Omaha running club, and will help advocate for music therapy in the region. The goal is to raise money for students to have the opportunity to attend a national or regional conference in the near future. It is currently scheduled for Saturday morning of the conference, and the Vice President and conference chairs have approved it.

**Region: Southwestern Region, Dawn Stewart - President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Michelle Kennemer, MT-BC**

We’ve decided to do a video challenge! Similar to the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, members will nominate friends (starting in music therapy circles and expanding outward) to sing a chorus of a song in the name of Music Therapy Awareness. The title for our project is: SWAMTA’s Music Therapy Awareness Challenge

**Region: Western Region, Sara Cannon, WRAMTAS President**

**SAAB Advisor’s Name: Sara Rosenow, MA, MT-BC**

**Title of Project:** Connections

**Project Description:** WRAMTAS started a project in 2012 titled “Connections,” which aimed to forge connections between the students of the Western region because they are spread out over a large geographic location. As the largest region of AMTAS, this has been a consistent challenge. As the Connections project enters its third year, our aim is to become a more engaged region by giving the University Representatives a larger role in WRAMTAS, and to connect our members with other students and professionals across the nation by: (a) Providing Internship Spotlights about other internship opportunities in the country, and (b) Sending information about our virtual master classes to other members of AMTAS.

**Accomplishments since April 2013:**

* WRAMTAS successfully completed the transition from the 2013 executive board to the current executive board, with members Sara Cannon (now President, formerly President-elect) and Fred Ra (now President-elect, formerly Media Relations Coordinator) providing continuity.
* Executive board determined that the President-elect would be in charge of contacting, coordinating, and further integrating University Representatives into WRAMTAS – including students from the new music therapy program at Pacific University Oregon.
* Survey was sent to WRAMTAS members to better understand what dates/times would work best for virtual master classes, as well as what topics were of highest interest level
* At the 2014 WRAMTA conference in Portland, OR, WRAMTAS had its highest grossing fundraiser of all time (I <3 Music Therapy bumper stickers)
* Two first-time attendee scholarships can now be offered – one essay and one sticker contest. Winner’s design will be sold along with the I <3 Music Therapy design for additional fundraising

**Implementation:** The WRAMTAS executive board plans to further implement our project through integration of University Representatives, higher attendance at virtual master classes by considering results of interest survey, and by connecting our members to internship opportunities throughout the nation.

**Materials/Resources/Budget:** WRAMTAS currently has $619.90 in our account. Both first-time attendee scholarships will cover the student’s 2015 WRAMTA conference registration fee of about $120 dollars. Additionally, we will renew our membership with anymeeting.com to continue providing high quality streaming for master classes. Finally, the remainder of our budget will be spent on printing stickers for our 2015 fundraiser.

**Publication Platform/Audience:** Connections audience includes students, interns, and professionals throughout the Western region, with new integration of students, interns, and professionals throughout the nation.

**Timeline:** Virtual Master Classes will begin this fall, and relevant data will be taken about attendees through a short survey. Internship Spotlight entries will begin this fall. First-time attendee scholarship information will be sent out early in the New Year.

This concludes the Fall 2014 SAAB Report