



President's Report

Hello MARAMTS students! Hope you are all enjoying this beautiful fall weather. I know it took awhile to get here but finally, a bit of cool weather to enjoy as winter slowly arrives. Our region has been full of activity and motion already this fall and we are planning for our spring conference, which will be held in Cherry Hill, NJ this March 2008.

One of my duties as president of the region and as part of the executive board is to put together the MARAMTS Timeline for all students. It is a document that outlines the semester by month and shows important events and dates. I hope that you all have noticed this on bulletin boards at school. If you have not, feel free to e-mail me and I will send you a copy!

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know many members of the region and at our Fall Business Meeting I met many more. The Fall Business Meeting was held on September 28-29th at Marywood University. Chapter Representatives from nine schools were present and important matters for MARAMTS were discussed. Our new fundraisers were voted on and passed but I will let our treasurer inform you more on those. Committees were also formed to help facilitate smooth

programs at conference as well as during the semester. The types of committees include fundraising, scrapbooking, by-laws, swap shop, and service project. These committees and their members are crucial to getting tasks planned and accomplished on time and with good quality. Make sure to thank your active regional members when you see them at conference.



An exciting new project was also developed at our Fall Business Meeting. The project is entitled the Sibling School Advocacy Project (SSAP). The purpose of this project is to encourage and facilitate more effective communication between regional schools. We hope to reach more schools in regards to attending conference, Passages, and other events in the region. I will let our government relation's chair, Amelia Chapman, give you more information

on this exciting new project!

In other news, the 4th Annual Passages Conference took place October 20th at Shenandoah University. This year we did not have as many participants as we would like to see. I encourage all of you to take the opportunity to present at Passages. It is specifically designed for students and young professionals to practice their presenting skills in a nonthreatening environment. The presenter can also request feedback so he or she can learn what works well and what does not. As soon as the new location and date are available, they will be posted on the MARAMTS and MAR website.

Thank you all for participating in your region. You will make great connections and really learn from each other by interacting with other students. Until we see each other at conference, have a wonderful winter! Take care and God Bless.

Maryellen Fairchild

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Officers' Update | 2 |
| Officer's Update | 3 |
| Officer's Update | 4 |
| Officer's Update | 3 |
| Past President and Student Advisor | 4 |
| School Updates and Passages Review | 5 |
| Pictures | 6 |

Special points of interest:

- Briefly highlight your point of interest here.
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Vice President

MARAMTS is going to be exciting this year, and the MAR Board is right on board with us! I had the privilege of being the liaison between the MARAMTS chapter reps and the MAR executive board and was happy to report the information from both meetings. The MAR board was inspired by our school outreach program and that initiated talks about them possibly doing similar ideas to encourage AMTA membership. For example, representatives on the AMTA board could possibly go to different schools and meet and greet the students personally. Eric Ross and I are also looking forward to creating an awesome Swap Shop for the MAR conference in NJ, so I hope to see you all in Cherry Hill, NJ!

Here is a copy of the article that I sent to the MAR newsletter, explaining to MAR what we are up to this year:

The MARAMTS board members had a very exciting fall business meeting at Marywood University in Scranton, PA! On the first night of the meeting, we had the pleasure of having Sue Hadley of the

MAR Board as our guest speaker. She led a vocal improvisation at the start of her presentation, then segued into a discussion about advocacy, which as she pointed out, gives a voice to something that is in need of one. After her presentation, the room was buzzing with energy and advocacy was the recurring theme.

At the meeting, the students decided to establish an outreach program where two schools in the region would pair up with each other and develop a partnership. The idea is that an active school would reach out to a school that has been inactive and encourage them to get involved again. Students who are active in the region are already planning on taking road trips to the other schools and meeting with other students to advocate involvement in the chapter. It is also a good way for the students to get to know other people from other schools and make new friendships.

In addition to Sue Hadley's presentation, Kathy Murphy also came to speak to us about the upcoming regional conference in Cherry Hill, NJ. She is working on a service project where music

therapy students will team up with music therapists in the area and visit some local facilities to do music activities with the clients. The students like this idea a lot and are excited to participate.

We are also very excited about our new fundraising project which will be to sell pens and notebooks. The notebooks will have a cool graphic of a treble clef that also resembles the shape of a guitar and the pens will feature the word "music" in five different languages. Be sure to keep a look out for these items to become available! Coffee mugs and guitar picks are still available and will be for sale at the national conference.

So stay tuned for more exciting news from MARAMTS! If you have any questions regarding MARAMTS, please feel free to contact me at dobrins1@mail.montclair.edu or at 908-416-1834.

Sherrye Dobrin

MARAMTS Vice-President

Secretary

Greetings! My name is Becky Sullivan, I am a senior at Elizabethtown College and I am excited to be able to serve as secretary for MARMATS. This has been my first year being on the executive board for MARMATS and it has been a great experience. Although I was not able to attend the Fall Business Meeting due to personal reasons, I heard it went well and a lot was accomplished. I was disappointed that I was not able to make it, but I look forward to meeting everyone at the Conference and getting to know everyone.

As secretary some of my duties consist of keeping minutes at the summer executive board meeting, Fall business meeting and the conference. Minutes are very important to have after a meeting because it keeps a record of the content discussed and decisions made. The minutes get sent to the members of the executive board as well as posted on the MARMATS website so check them out some time.

I also am responsible for creating the Fall Newsletter. This Fall we have a couple school updates and photos. So I hope you will enjoy the newsletter!

Another duty of the secretary is to monitor the yahoo groups, and provide communication among all the chapter reps. I collect all the contact information of each chapter rep from each school. Then I invite them to join the yahoo group to stay informed.

Whatever gets posted on the listserv gets sent to all the members of that group, so it's a great way to communicate.

However communication among the chapter Reps can sometimes get tough.

I hope this gave a clearer understanding of what the role of secretary is, and some of the jobs I do. I look forward to seeing you all in the spring at the conference!!



If you have any questions feel free to email me at sullivanr@etown.edu.

Thanks!

Becky Sullivan

Treasurer

Hello Mid-Atlantic Region! My name is Abby Park and I am the MARAMTS treasurer for the 2007-2008 school year. I have been having a great time serving on this board! There were many items addressed at our fall business meeting this past September. The budget was approved and there were many fantastic ideas for our upcoming fundraiser.

In regards to the budget, there were a few changes that had been made since the past school year. Some budget decreases due to surplus of funds were the clerical supplies for all of the officers and the president and past president's challenges. Item lines that were increased were for the scrapbook and the service project. As government relations is a new position, there was also an item line added for this.

Time for the fundraiser! There are still many Music Therapy picks available in assorted colors and sizes. The travel mugs displayed at the conference last year are also still up for grabs! If you didn't get a chance to pick one up at conference, there is an online order form where you can purchase these items. Check out this form on the MAR website, under the MARAMTS link. Just fill the form out, mail it to me, and your item will be shipped to you!

By now I am sure that you are all wondering what the fundraiser will be for this year. As we are all very creative people and may sometime need a place to jot down our new ideas, what a perfect reason to need a notebook and a pen. This year, we will be selling silver notebooks with a treble clef logo on the front. The green pen will have the word music writ-

ten across it in five different languages. With this package, you will always have a place to organize all of your ideas! You can find these new products at the upcoming Mid-Atlantic Region Conference in Cherry Hill. Thank you to everyone who has helped with organizing the fundraiser thus far. The chapter reps, fundraising committee, and the MARAMTS board have all put a lot of thought into this, and it is much appreciated. Make sure you find the time to check out these new items that are available to you. I look forward to seeing everyone at conference!

~Abby Park



Parliamentarian

I was so glad to be part of the M.A.R.M.A.T.S 2007 fall conference in Scranton, P.A. Though, I was nervous to be the parliamentarian at my first conference meeting, I found that the good natured and inviting personas of my fellow M.A.R.M.A.T.S. members made it easy for me to bypass my anxiety and delve into business. The room was filled with so many ideas and input that we were not even aware that we spent hours upon hours in a single meeting. Collectively, the student representatives and E Board conjured several prospective plans for the organization as well as other student music therapy organizations within our region.

To name a few of our many contributions to the future of M.A.R.M.A.T.S, we re-wrote certain bylaws within our constitution, made an enormous progress in preparing for the Cherry Hill conference in March of 2008, and discussed a possible brother/sister pairing program to unite all the schools within our region. I feel this is just the

beginning of many great undertakings of M.A.R.M.A.T.S and the students whom have the opportunity to be part of it.

Eric



Past President

Dear MARAMTS Members,

I hope that your fall semesters are going well. There is a new opportunity to electronically connect with peers in our region. In September 2007, the MARAMTSOpenForum Yahoo Group was created so that students may electronically connect with other music therapy students in our region. Conversation topics within messages may include internships, scholarships, fundraising and more... it is up to you and your music therapy peers in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Simply follow the directions to join the newly created MARAMTSOpenForum Yahoo Group!

1. Visit the website www.groups.yahoo.com and either enter

your username or create a free account with Yahoo!



2. Upon signing in, search for the group name MARAMTSOpenForum. After clicking the MARAMTSOpenForum, select the link "Join this Group!"

Your request will be processed and a confirmation email will soon welcome you to the group.

Contact me with via email if I may assist you in joining the MARAMTS Yahoo Group and utilizing its many features. I hope to see you at the AMTA Conference in Louisville, Kentucky!

Sincerely,

Gretchen Chardos
MARAMTS Past President

Message from our Student Affairs Advisor

I hope you are all having a wonderful semester full of amazing music therapy experiences! Thank you to all the school reps who attended the Fall MARAMTS meeting in Scranton. It is so important to have all your voices heard and have your vote count in MARAMTS related matters. Your energy and commitment make MARAMTS the most successful music therapy student chapter in the nation! So please, stay actively involved throughout the year! If your school reps were unable to attend the meeting, make sure to get in touch with the MARAMTS EB so that they can update you and let you know how you can get involved.

Passages was another great success as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter. Unfortunately I could not attend because of my teaching schedule. Thank you **Shenandoah University** for hosting this event! Thank you, Gregory Perkins and Terel Jackson, for your excellent job as *Passages* coordinators. Thank you to the local committee and Michael and Suzanne Rohrbacher for your help with all the logistics and adding many unique musical experiences!

I would like to strongly encourage all presenters to submit a presentation pro-

posal for the MAR Regional Conference. The conference committee always greatly appreciates presentations from students and new professionals: you bring new, innovative ideas and new energy to our Region. Please, don't be afraid to submit a presentation proposal. You can ask your advisor for help/feedback. Know that I am also available to you for help with preparation of proposals!

Next year's *Passages* will be at **Immaculata University!** Make sure to respond to the call for paper in March!!

For those of you who haven't applied yet for the Sophomore, the Junior, or the Graduate scholarships, apply now (deadline: Nov 21st)! Also, make sure your school applies for the Club Awards (\$250) (deadline: Dec 7th). If you are interning in 2008, make sure to apply now for the Jenny Shinn Scholarship (\$500 each for the three winners and \$100 for the 3 runners-up!). To clarify eligibility criteria for the Jenny Shinn:

- If you have already begun your internship in 2007 and will continue in

2008: apply!

- If you will begin your internship anytime in 2008: apply!
- If you will be interning in 2008 but you have not been accepted yet by an internship site: apply!
- Your school advisor has the application packets for all the scholarships. Go to his/her office right away and get started! They are also available at <http://www.mar-amta.org>.

I wish you all a wonderful rest of the year! Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. My cyberspace door is always open at jbradt@temple.edu.

Joke Bradt, PhD, MT-BC, LCAT



SUNY Fredonia Update by Scott Ruland & Angel Park

Currently, we have held one fundraiser to raise money for conference in March. On October 16, 2007, our fundraiser was held at Pizza Hut in Dunkirk, NY. We were able to raise \$58.37. Our next fundraiser will be held on November 11 at Intermezzo Café in downtown Fredonia where students from the Music Therapy Club will perform original music as well as music from their personal repertoire.

Our first community service of the year will be at St. Columbine's Retirement Home. Student from the Music Therapy Club will facilitate a movement experience to square dancing songs. The students will also perform some of their repertoire. Our second community service event will be held at local High School for Career Day. Prospective students at the high school will have the opportunity to talk to the students from the Music Therapy Club about the field.

Next semester, we will be sponsoring a guest speaker on meditation. The money raised from the entrance fee will go towards the club. Also, we will be making our own dulcimers, which will be instructed by one of our supervisors. Lastly, we will be hosting our annual Music Therapy Recital on April 9, 2008. These three events will be open to the public.

Duquesne Update by Gina Chemelli: Junior Representative

The Duquesne University Music Therapy Student Association (MTSA) is preparing to send off four seniors who will be graduating this December: Kate Brodaski, Tiffani Carr, Christina Hodaba, and Melanie McWreath. We will be holding a small social in their honor prior to their graduation. All four girls have held leadership positions in our club and we will certainly miss their guidance and wisdom! On a brighter note, our club has been busy booking our musical abilities to local Pittsburgh facilities, including Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Fair Oaks Assisted Living Center, and Magee Women's Hospital. We hope to bring some added Christmas cheer to the city with our voices, guitars, and high spirits! Finally, our most recent alteration to our club is the formation of a mentor tree, based off of the "bigs/littles" system of fraternities and sororities. By assigning upperclassmen with individual underclassmen, we hope to help better accommodate the new students in the club and be there to offer advice on classes, professors, and who has the best practicums!

From all the students of MTSA at Duquesne University, we wish the best of luck to the graduating seniors with their internships and whatever else the future holds in store!

A Report From Passages

The 4th Annual MAR Passages *Modern Day Healers: Visionaries of the Future* headed down south this year. Shenandoah University hosted the annual one day conference on October 20th. It turned out to be an invigorating and informative experience for those who attended. The day started with "The Very Special Arts Chimers" group, followed by many exciting sessions presented by your fellow students and colleagues. Also a peer supervision "power hour" where students and new professionals alike came together to discuss pertinent issues and ideas in a supportive environment took place, which seemed to be the highlight for many attendees. **A group drum circle took place after lunch, and Shenandoah offered the opportunity to try their somatron chair as well as a neuro -biofeedback experience. This year's conference also debuted it's brand new Internship Alley, Graduate Alley, and Job Hunt Alley resource exhibits.** The day concluded with a group experiential of Balinese and Javanese gamelan music led by Dr. Michael Rohrbacher. We wanted to say Thank You to all that participated and helped in making the 4th MAR Passages a successful day! We hope this tradition keeps taking place as an opportunity to bond and strengthen ourselves and our profession. See you all next year as we travel to Immaculata University!

Warmly,

Gregory Perkins & Terel Jackson



Pictures from the Fall Business Meeting



**Were on the web:
www.maramats.org**