

TAMS Report of the Commission on Music and General Education, January 27, 2018

Members present: David Tercero (2 Year), Justin Hodges (4-year private), Heather Hawke (4-year public), Robert Hansen (4-year public), Todd Quinlan (2-year), Gail Wade (2-year), Camille Nies (2-year), Joe Waldrop (2 year).

The Commission reviewed the report, "The Status of Music Appreciation Instruction," prepared by Richard Fiese, based on the results of a survey submitted to the TAMS membership. The report revealed interesting trends, but the Commission notes that the response rate was very low. Dr. Fiese provided a very thorough analysis that should be of interest to the members. A copy of the report will be made generally available.

Discussion of the report led to conversation about the challenges and issues involved in teaching Music Appreciation (MUSI 1306 and MUSI 1310 in the ACGM.) Among them were how to achieve the Teamwork requirement of the General Academic Core, various text options in terms of effectiveness, cost, and value for money, and the particular challenges of online delivery and access to live performances.

Some 2-year schools face enrollment challenges in MUSI 1307 (the ACGM Music Literature course for majors) and shared the idea of opening it to non-majors as an honors course.

Other options for music in general education beyond Music Appreciation were shared. One school is offering an upper division elective in music literacy, using the season repertoire of the Amarillo Symphony and including attendance at the concerts. Options for varying content in MUSI 1310, such as jazz, American music, pop/rock and so on were also put on the table.

Todd Quinlan proposed that TAMS should offer a panel of representatives from all 3 member groups in a session at TMEA directed at college students contemplating careers in higher education, to help prepare them for what they might encounter in that career path. He will pursue the proposal.