I. Call to Order. President Jim Cassaro called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Cassaro conveyed the regrets of American Musicological Society President J. Peter Burkholder on his inability to attend the conference. He also acknowledged the 90th birthday of retired MLA member Kurtz Myers.

II. Approval of 2002 meeting minutes. The minutes of the meeting of 21 February 2002 were approved as submitted.

III. Treasurer/Executive Secretary's Report.

A. Budget. Nancy Nuzzo, Treasurer/Executive Secretary reported that MLA finished fiscal year 2001/2002 with an operating budget deficit of $27,404. Overall operating income reached $315,805, or nearly 81% of the budgeted amount. Overall operating expenditures were $368,675, or nearly 82% of the budgeted amount. Undesignated contributions totaled $7020. Donations to MLA's endowment accounts totaled $14,896, and contributions to MLA's award funds totaled $3550.

MLA's investments accounts ended the year with a balance of $563,001.28. This reflected a decrease of $32,297.10 compared to the beginning of the fiscal year and can be attributed to a decline in the market.

A full copy of MLA's financial statements will be found in the June 2003 issue of Notes.

B. T/Ex transition and Management Services.

A-R continues to be wonderful and responsive. Since last year at this time, they have taken on the distribution of the MCB and have continued to clean up the MCB subscription information in the membership database. A-R input historical data for the MLA activities roster; henceforth updates will be generated directly from the database. Yearly, they are providing each chapter with a list of MLA members in the chapter's geographic area, and also provide the names of new members as they join throughout the year. Laura Gayle gleefully shipped many boxes of files to Nancy in early fall. They visited A-R in November. Nancy expressed gratitude to Laura for patient and gentle training.

C. Election. 790 ballots were sent out for the Fall 2002 board election. 345 ballots were returned, of which 3 were invalid, for a return rate of 43%. Laura Gayle Green tallied the returns and Wendy Sistrunk was election teller.

D. Membership. As of Feb. 1, MLA has 1821 members and subscribers. This figure includes 609 individual members, 54 sustaining members, 5 associate members, 133 retired, 77 student, 18 honorary, 11 corporate patrons, 6 corporate members, 432 institutional members and 476 subscribers to Notes.


F. Other activities The audit was completed. Taxes were filed and tax-exempt status for Texas was obtained.

Nuzzo reminded the membership that MLA’s membership year currently runs September 1 – Aug. 31. A ballot will be sent in November on a constitutional amendment to change this to coincide with our fiscal year, which runs July 1-June 30. It will be a transparent change in all respects.

Nuzzo reported that Laura Gayle saw through a timely and accurate membership directory. We will continue to follow a schedule where data is compiled in early fall and the directory is mailed in January. In order for your name to appear in the printed directory, PAY YOUR DUES WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE DUES RENEWAL NOTICE IN MAY and check your contact information!

Last year an open forum was held on the directory and raised hopes for an online directory at a secure server site. A-R has procured the secure server certificate and will be ready to beta test the online directory in several weeks.

In conclusion, Laura Gayle Green was thanked for serving the association with dedication, grace and perseverance during its darkest and most tumultuous years.

IV. President's Report

Jim Cassaro, President, reported that great progress had been made in the stability of MLA’s management services. The functionality surpasses any that the Association has had the benefit of in the past and acknowledged the achievement of A-R in this capacity, with thanks expressed to A-R staff members Patrick Wall, James Zychowicz and Matthew Gryzbowski. MLA’s financial profile shows a budget surplus for the first time in many years. He announced that no dues increase would be made in the next fiscal year. Work on the secure server is moving forward; it will offer many online membership functions.

New initiatives include the formation of an Ad Hoc Task Force on Recruitment and Retention. Discussions of long-range planning on finances and programming have begun and will be ongoing. A Notes endowment fund is being established. A task force on long-range planning for the US-RILM Office will be appointed. A new award, the Carol June Bradley Award for Historical Research in Music Librarianship will be granted for the first time at the 2004 MLA meeting. The first award committee has been appointed: G. Dale Vargason will serve as chair, with members Edward Komara and Jane Edmister Penner; all were students of Carol June Bradley.

The copyright website will be moved to the MLA web servers. The following five roundtables were all renewed: Jazz and Popular Music, Social Responsibilities, Women in Music, World Music and Video. The roundtables currently up for renewal were Film Music, Large Research Libraries and Musical Theater. Search committees will need to be appointed for Publicity Officer and Placement Officer. Jane Gottlieb will finish her term as Representative to ALA and will be succeeded by Alan Karass.

Regarding MLA’s legal issue, legal counsel continues to pressure the bank for an offer of settlement. An unsatisfactory offer had been made; counsel drafted a complaint against the bank in response. It was hoped that the issue would be resolved by the end of the month and that the Association can focus its efforts on the future.

Jim Cassaro thanked the membership for the honor of serving.

V. **Other reports.**

Linda Solow Blotner, the *Notes* editor, thanked her editors and the A-R staff and reported on a successful reception at the AMS/SMT meeting. Gordon Rowley, the Convention Manager, thanked the hotel staff and invited the membership to the meeting in the D.C. area, February 11-15, 2004. Reports were also heard from the Development Committee, US-RILM, and the Program Chair for the 2004 meeting.

VI. **Remembrances**

Phyllis Danner was remembered by Leslie Troutman, Sally Evans was remembered by Jean Morrow and Morris Martin presented a remembrance of Anna Harriet Heyer.

VIII. **Awards.**

A. **Publications.**


B. **Dena Epstein Award.**

Two recipients were granted awards: Ayden Adler for her study of the phenomenon of pops concerts focusing on Arthur Fielder and the Boston Pops Orchestra and Ryan Jones for his study of the compositional processes involved in Aaron Copland's *The Tender Land*.

C. **Kevin Freeman Travel Grant.**

The recipients were Kirstin Dougan, Rachel Rogers and Stacie Traill.

D. **Walter Gerboth Award.**

The Walter Gerboth Award was presented to Daniel Boomhauer for his project, "Bärenreiter-Verlag's Bach Publications: 1923-1954." The members of the awards committees were recognized and thanked.

E. **Special Achievement Award and MLA Citation.**

An unprecedented dual award was given to Paula Matthews. For her exceptional work for MLA, in particular her service as President in trying times, Paula Matthews was awarded both the Special Achievement Award and the MLA Citation.

IX. **Election results**

President Cassaro introduced the newly elected Board members: Members-at-Large, Pauline Bayne, Richard LeSueur and Renée McBride. Board members ending their terms of service, Neil Hughes, Deborah Pierce and Michael Rogan, were thanked for their service.

X. **Announcements**

The Local Arrangements Committee for the 2004 Meeting in the Washington, D.C. area was introduced. The membership was invited to our nation’s capitol.

XI. **New Business.**

The President’s gavel was transferred from Jim Cassaro to Laura Dankner.

XII. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.