Music Library Association
Annual Business Meeting
Arlington, Virginia; February 14, 2004

I. Call to Order. President Laura Dankner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. Approval of 2003 meeting minutes. The minutes of the meeting of 15 February 2003 were approved as submitted.

III. Treasurer/Executive Secretary’s Report.

A. Budget. Nancy Nuzzo, Treasurer/Executive Secretary reported that MLA finished fiscal year 2002/2003 with an operating budget deficit of $5,327. Overall operating income reached $388,037, or 104.4% of the budgeted amount. Overall operating expenditures were $393,364, or 96.44% of the budgeted amount. Investment income totaled $28,150, and contributions totaled $16,019. MLA’s investments accounts ended the year with a balance of $592,633. The gain can be attributed to improvements in the market.

A full copy of MLA’s financial statements will be found in the June 2004 issue of Notes. A complete list of donors will appear in the 2004 Membership Handbook.

B. Management Services. It has been a privilege to work with A-R in a busy year. They hosted the Spring Board meeting at their offices. In the past year, they have prepared for and launched the online membership directory; took on the layout of the Newsletter, working closely with Stephen Mantz (this has been transparent to members, but has improved timely); transformed MCB to online publication; coordinated the redesign of the website; handled the registration for this conference; and produced the Membership Handbook. A lot was given to A-R this year and they are to be thanked for continuing to be responsive, effective and sensible.

C. Election. 804 ballots were sent out for the Fall 2003 board election. 421 ballots were returned, of which 4 were invalid, for a return rate of 52%. The amendment to change the membership year to coincide with our fiscal year was passed. Karen Ridler acted as election teller.

D. Membership. As of January 16, MLA has 1750 members and subscribers. This figure includes 630 individual members, 63 sustaining members, 5 associate members, 132 retired, 84 student, 18 honorary, 11 corporate patrons, 7 corporate members, 371 institutional members and 429 subscribers to Notes. Compared to last year, these numbers reflect more individual members, but fewer institutional members and subscriptions.


F. Other activities. The audit was completed and taxes were filed. The Membership Handbook will be waiting in your mailboxes when you get home. We will continue to follow a schedule where data is compiled in early fall and the directory is mailed in January. If you want 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!

IV. President’s Report

Laura Dankner, President, reported that the management services contract with A-R Editions has been extended for another three years; a three-year publishing services contract was also signed, including Notes, MCB, the Newsletter and the Membership Handbook. In the past year A-R has established the secure server (making the online membership database and electronic publication of MCB possible) and worked on the layout of the Newsletter. A-R staff members Patrick Wall, James Zychowicz and Matthew Gryzbowski were acknowledged and thanked.

In the past year, the Board has made progress in long range strategic planning for both fiscal and conference program issues. An Ad Hoc Committee for the 75th Anniversary of MLA was formed, with Roberta Ford appointed chair. Pittsburgh was approved as the location for the 2007 conference, Newport, Rhode Island for 2008 and Chicago is being explored to host in 2009.

Dankner announced the first dues increase in eight years. This was necessitated by the new services MLA is contracting in professional accounting, the annual audit, directors and officers insurance, the secure server, professional management and investment services. It was also announced that the fundraising goal for the Ochs Endowment for Notes has been met.

The following special officers were appointed: Jennifer Ottervik, Placement; Ken Calkins, Publicity; Gordon Rowley, Assistant Convention Manager; Alan Karass, ALA Liaison; Brian Cockburn, Copyright Website Editor. New chairs were appointed to the Reference and Public Services, MPA/MOLA, Joint Committee on RISM, Development, Bibliographic Control, Resource Sharing and Collection Development, Legislation and Nominating Committees. The Film Music and Musical Theater roundtables were renewed and a new Performing Arts roundtable was formed.

Jim Cassaro was appointed the new editor of Notes. A new Website Editor will be announced shortly.

As President, Dankner attended meetings of MPA, IAML and the AMS meeting, where she met President Peter Burkholder, who sent his regrets for being unable to attend this meeting.

Dankner concluded with announcing that the legal issue has now been completely settled.

V. Other reports.

Linda Solow Blotner, the Notes editor, thanked her editors and the A-R staff and reflected on the changes during her tenure as editor. Gordon Rowley, the Convention Manager, thanked the hotel staff, Program Chair, Local Arrangements Committee and MLA Business Office for their work on this meeting. Reports were also heard from the Development Committee, US-RILM, and the Program Chair for the 2005 meeting.

VI. Remembrances

Leslie Troutman was remembered by Paul Cauthen. Others who left us in the past year included Linda Fidler, Judd Herman, John Bush and Theodore Front. All were celebrated by a performance of Randall Thompson’s Alleluia, conducted by Esther Gillie.

VIII. Awards.

A. Publications.


B. Dena Epstein Award.

Three recipients were granted awards: Catherine Smith for her biography of William Grant Still, Jane Ellsworth for her history of the clarinet in early America and Kati Agocs for her critical edition of Leopold Damrosch’s Symphony in A Major.

C. Kevin Freeman Travel Grant.

The recipients were Amber Johnson, Lisa Lazar, Nara Newcomer and Jaroslav Szurek.

D. Walter Gerboth Award.

The Walter Gerboth Award was presented to two recipients: Jennifer Oates for her exploration of Hamish MacCunn resources in Scotland and England, and D.J. Hoek for the preparation of an updated compilation of Arthur Wenk’s Analyses of Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Music.

E. Carol June Bradley Award.

The first Carol June Bradley Award for historical research in music librarianship was presented to C. Rockelle Strader for her history of the cataloging of sound recordings in the United States.

IX. Election results

President Dankner introduced the newly elected Board members: Members-at-Large Pamela Bristah, Ruthann McTyre and Matthew Wise and Vice-President/President-Elect Bonna Boettcher. Board members ending their terms of service, Joe Boonin, Virginia Danielson and Alan Green, were thanked for their service, with a special thanks to Past-President Jim Cassaro.

X. Announcements

The Local Arrangements Committee for the 2005 Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia was introduced. The membership was invited to cross the border.

XI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16.