It is a pleasure to greet you as the new MLA-Midwest Chapter Chair. I come to this position extremely grateful for all the hard work put in by our Past Chair Katherine Holum (University of Minnesota), Secretary/Treasurer Kiyo Suyematsu (Mankato State University) and the many committee members and their Chairs.

The current issue of the Newsletter marks a new beginning in its editorship. David Knapp (Oberlin College Conservatory) has done a Herculean job as the sole editor for the last three years. Since even Greek gods could get a little weary, Joan Falconer (University of Iowa) has agreed to assist, beginning with the production of this issue. For the Fall issue and thereafter please direct your newsworthy items (articles, reports, etc.) to Joan. Thank you, David, and thank you, Joan!!

Many thanks also to the local arrangements committee for doing a terrific job of organizing last year's annual meeting, this time in Ann Arbor. Peggy Daub (University of Michigan) graciously served as Chair. Chapter members enjoyed sessions at both the MLA-Midwest Chapter and the national meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, not to mention delightful tours of the Ann Arbor and Detroit public libraries. Summaries of the sessions are included in this issue.

Since that time, Chapter members have asked me how they could become involved in the work of committees. In addition to the session summaries, this issue contains reports from our various committees. These descriptions provide a quick overview of activities as well as the names of the committee chairpersons. If you are interested in service on a particular committee, simply contact the respective chairperson. We welcome new ideas and new energy! There has been, incidentally, one change in committee leadership since our 1987 meeting: Cathy Hunt, of the Public Services committee, has stepped down and Leslie Troutman (University of Illinois) will take her place. In addition, we have formed an Ad Hoc Bylaws Review committee and their progress will be reported next fall.

Although memories of our excellent 1987 meeting encourage us to look back in time, I also invite you to begin thinking ahead to the forthcoming meeting, to take place on October 27-29 at the exciting campus of the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Mark your calendars now! Katherine Holum will be our Program Chair. If you should have anything to contribute to the schedule of events for our 1988 meeting, please contact Katie as soon as possible.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all in October!
THE 1987 MLA-MIDWEST CHAPTER MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the MLA-Midwest Chapter was held in the delightful town/gown atmosphere of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on Thursday, November 5 through Saturday, November 7. With our headquarters at the Campus Inn where many of the sessions also took place, our meeting overlapped with the national meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology. A spirit of sharing prevailed as we greeted our ethnomusicologist colleagues from our respective institutions and elsewhere at Thursday afternoon's joint reception, at the Concert of Japanese and Javanese Music at Rackham Lecture Hall on the U of M campus on Friday evening, and at the joint session on Saturday morning.

The "pre-conference" hours of 3:00-5:00 p.m. on Thursday were set aside for open meetings of the various Chapter committees. At 8:00 that evening the first formal session, "Ann Arbor Music Databases" took place in the School of Education building, presented by Judy Tsou (Duke University, formerly a graduate student at U of M) and Professors David Crawford and Dale Monson (U of M) with Peggy Daub as moderator. The databases: 1) "Women's Music Collection Database" 2) "The Eighteenth-Century Opera Database" (ECOD), a "repository of performance and source information on eighteenth-century Italian opera and oratorio" and 3) "Renaissance Liturgical Imprints: A Census" (RELICS) were described in details which included scope, method of access, record structure, and range of searching capabilities. Although a failure of telephone communications prevented the online demonstrations which had been planned and forced the panelists to "wing it" the helpful printed introductions and the resourcefulness of the speakers resulted in an impressive presentation of the valuable research being made available in three widely disparate areas of study.

Session II, entitled "Marketing is Not a Four-Letter Word" took place on Friday morning, from 9:00-10:45, a presentation of the Reference & Bibliographic Instruction committee. Moderated by Richard Jones (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), the guest speakers were Russ Collins of the Michigan Theater of Ann Arbor ("Marketing the Non-Profit Organisation") and Robert Garen, Director, Public Relations Department, Detroit Public Library ("Library PR: What is it?"). The speakers brought to bear their respective backgrounds - one rather more traditional, the other considerably less so - to the issue of public support of our music libraries, the care and nurturing of our constituencies. Collins emphasized "Product" (in our case, the commodity of information and the access to it) "Placement" (the effective means by which one's product reaches those who will use it) while Garen imparted the details of effective public relations (for example, the recognition of and development of a library's "image", knowing one's community and one's audience, and the planning of special events for the library.) Garen emphasized the importance of making PR a line item in the library budget.
Session III, "Elysia (Happyland); Or, The Tams-Witmark/Wisconsin Collection in Process" was the presentation of Jean Bonin, curator at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Ms. Bonin gave a history of the repository of performance materials from the important music publishing house of Tams-Witmark, representing a "musical stage tradition" of operas, operettas, and musical comedy. The collection includes the range of conductor/performer scores and parts, choral parts, libretti, etc. for works in English, French, German, Italian, and even Russian, primarily from about 1880-1920. Ms. Bonin described the details of the grant-funded project to provide extensive bibliographic description for this collection, the cataloging of which is integrated into both the local online system at U of W, Madison and OCLC.

Following the Chapter Business Meeting, Session IV, entitled "Mini-Presentations: Action, Interaction & Reaction" consisted of pairs of concurrent sessions geared to public services and technical services. The first group of presentations: 1) "Reference Manperson to the Rescue: Making Superheroes out of Non-Professionals" (Carolyn Rabson, Oberlin College Conservatory) and 2) "Productivity in the Cataloging of Scores and Recordings: Research in Progress (Nyal Williams, Ball State University). Ms. Rabson described the need to use support staff and even trained student assistants to supplement the professional staff in reference work, a fact of life for virtually all music libraries. During the dialogue such issues as "How do you tell a student or paraprofessional just what a reference question is?"; "How do you tactfully break in when a support-staff member can't take the query any further?"; "How do you find opportunities to train non-professionals in the use of reference tools?"; "How do you ensure referral of unresolved questions?"; and "How do you establish an esprit-de-corps among all levels of staff, so that a free exchange of information on current reference questions is possible?" Williams reported on the questionnaire he sent to 125 libraries in order to study variant methods of materials processing, toward some general observations about cataloging productivity in music materials, particularly scores and sound recordings. Williams received about 70 completed replies. He has read through the completed responses but has yet to discover a means to assimilate and analyze the data, given the considerable variables to be dealt with. The issue of productivity in music cataloging has had little or no exploration until now. Williams intends to seek a computer program or other methodology by which the raw data could be processed and interpreted. The afternoon's second group of concurrent sessions were: 1) "Preparing for the Online Catalog: Educating the User" (Linda Fidler, Bowling Green State University) and 2) Preparing for the Online Catalog: Technical Services" (Richard LeSueur, Ann Arbor Public Library). Ms. Fidler's session addressed the inevitability of the online catalog in the music library and the consequent demand for effective user instruction, and covered the various types of library handouts for use with catalogs, ranging from one- or two-paged "cheat sheets" to extensive manuals. The consensus of the audience was that there was clearly a place for both types depending on the complexity of the
system. The group discussed "tactful techniques" in the training of faculty members in the use of a new system, with the one-on-one approach favored as the most successful. Participants also offered their experiences with group orientation sessions, in-depth workshops, and the use of online help screens. Other issues shared were the placement of catalog terminals, their proximity to the reference "station", the requirement of online systems to include searches involving the uniform title, and the problems faced in educating the user whose access is primarily from remote locations (dial-up). On the basis of his own experience with the implementation of a CLSI system, Le Sueur warned against any quick-and-dirty methodology ("Slow and clean" were his words) because the time-consuming and thorny problem areas faced at the outset do not tend to disappear with implementation of the system, but have to be addressed eventually anyway, at far greater cost and frustration. The group also used the forum to generously compare notes on the stages of installation of the various systems at their institutions.

Session V, the joint session with SEM, entitled "The Collector, The Performer, The Library: Storing and Retrieving Field Work Data" took place on Saturday morning and featured Jennifer Post (Vermont Archive of Traditional Music), Mary Russell (Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music) and Laurel Sercombe (University of Washington). Such issues as documentation preservation ("almost as important as preservation of the recordings themselves") and bibliographic access to collections (e.g. description at the collection level as well as the item level as an important overview) were presented.

The Chapter meeting also included tours of the Music Library of the University of Michigan, the Chapter Luncheon, a reception in the Rare Book Room of U of M's Hatcher Library, sponsored by the U of M Library and Audio Buff Co., as well as a bus tour to the Music and Performing Arts Department of the Detroit Public Library and a tour of Orchestral Hall in Detroit.

BUSINESS MEETING

The 1987 Chapter Business Meeting took place on November 6 and was called to order at 1:00 p.m. The minutes of the meeting of October 10, 1986 were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was approved as distributed. The balance in the checking account was $2240.60, and in the savings account, $528.76. (NOTE: A more recent financial statement follows.) Outgoing Chair Katherine Holum announced the location of the next two annual Chapter meetings:
1988: The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1989: The University of Iowa (Iowa City)

The Chair then called for committee reports:

Public Services Committee (formerly Reference & Bibliographic Instruction)

Chair Richard Jones issued the following information (subsequently expanded for the Newsletter):
BUSINESS MEETING (Continued)

The Reference and Bibliographic Instruction Committee spent the past year following the direction of the Chapter Chair that we develop a clear, concise outline of our new purposes. Only the two co-chairs were appointed during this past year in the hope that this would encourage the broadest possible involvement in the project. The culmination was an open meeting at which a document was developed which defines the mission of the Public Services Committee as encompassing:

1) Staff and user education regarding public services, including bibliographic instruction, online catalog and other machine system education, and training of staff who deal with the public;

2) Public relations, including marketing of library services, maintaining relations with the patrons, and intra-library system relationships;

3) Reference service techniques and sources, including exchange of information and materials used in reference, building a clearinghouse of information about document and indexing projects, "hidden" collection strengths, and commercial data base searching; and,

4) Access services, including interlibrary loan policies, inter-library cooperation, circulation systems and policies, reserve collections, and copyright.

At next year's open committee meeting, all interested persons will be invited to bring questions, materials, solutions, ideas, etc. in each of these four areas, and a period of time will be established for the discussion of each. In addition, Bob Acker, Bob Delvin, and Leslie Troutman have been asked to develop a program proposal on online catalog education, to follow up on this year's presentation, as a proposal to next year's Program committee.

Finally, Jones asked not to be reappointed as co-chair.

Cataloging:
Chair Ralph Papakhian listed a number of ideas that the Cataloging committee thought of for possible projects. An immediate one would be the compilation of lists of generic or quasi-generic titles as a supplement to the use of AACR.25.27B. The coordinator of this project will be Anna Sylvester of the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

Publications
Chair Carolyn Rabson reported that the project for a new membership directory is awaiting guidelines from the national Board. She distributed sign-up sheets to assist in gathering information for the directory.

Preservation
Chair Rosalinda Hack reported that this committee is being revitalized since former members have moved to other MLA Chapter locations. The two new co-chairs for this committee will be Linda Daub and Barbara Strauss.
BUSINESS MEETING (Continued)

Membership
Chair Kiyo Suyematsu issued a report which was subsequently expanded for publication in the Newsletter:

The Membership committee designed a new brochure which updates the geographic boundaries and other information, to attract new members. We have also worked through a revised method for the collection of membership dues, because of the confusion about the time period for dues and past dues. From now on, the collection of dues will be made separate from the registration for the annual Chapter meeting. The next issue of the Newsletter will contain delinquent dues notices for those members not paid through 1988. In September, a separate notice for dues will be issued to everyone excepting those who, either inadvertently or intentionally, have paid in advance. Hopefully, by the end of 1988, the records will be cleared.

This term's recruitment focus was making MLA activities more visible to our public librarian colleagues of the midwest region. The new brochure was sent out for distribution to the Midwest Federation of Library Associations pre-conference on music reference, held in Indianapolis. Already, applications for membership are coming in from public librarians as a result of that exposure, and we hope for additional exposure with distribution of the brochure by Audio Buff Co. in their shipments of sound recordings materials.

Since March 1987, forty-two new members have joined the Chapter. We now have nearly 200 members.

A warm welcome to the public librarians!

In other business, Chair Holum called for the formation of an ad hoc bylaws review committee to study the articles in the Constitution pertaining to the Chapter committee structure and to propose any amendments deemed necessary. (Following the meeting, it was announced that the committee members, as appointed by incoming Chair Christensen, would be Holum, Richard Jones, and David Knapp.)

It was moved and seconded that we temporarily dispense with the nomination rules specified in the Constitution in order to elect a new Secretary-Treasurer, by accepting nominations from the floor. The motion was passed. Kiyo Suyematsu was subsequently nominated to continue in office. She accepted the nomination and was duly elected.

The Program Committee for the Ann Arbor meeting, consisting of Christensen, Peggy Daub, Richard Jones, and Laura Snyder (Oberlin College Conservatory) was acknowledged by the Chair and their splendid efforts were acclaimed by the body. The business meeting was adjourned.

(The editor wishes to acknowledge the assistance of Chapter committee chairpersons as well as Carolyn Rabson, Laura Snyder, and Leslie Troutman for their assistance with the report of the Ann Arbor meeting.)
MLA-MIDWEST CHAPTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance October 1, 1987

Disbursements:
- Newsletter $145.60
- Beyond Words (mailing labels) 25.00
- Tower Bus Lines 350.00
- Detroit Public Library 25.00
- Michigan Theater 25.00
- Orchestra Hall, Detroit 25.00
- Peggy Daub (reimbursement) 50.91
- Judy Tsou (refund) 13.00
- Judy Tsou (transportation) 158.00
- Charlotte Wolfe (reimbursement) 17.57
- Richard Jones (reimbursement) 10.99
- Campus Inn, Ann Arbor 862.78
- Service Charge 5.28

Receipts:
- Dues & Past Dues, Chapter meeting registration fees 1951.00

Balance February 1, 1988* 2477.47
Savings Account Balance, Jan. 28, 1988 538.07

*Two or three outstanding accounts remained from the Ann Arbor meeting as of February 1.

NEWS OF CHAPTER MEMBERS

Editor's note: We would like to include news from the membership of the Midwest Chapter. Please complete this form and return it to the editor. Thank you!

Name & Address

New Position

Publications

Professional Activities

Other

Send to: Joan Falconer, University of Iowa, Music Library, Music Building
Iowa City, IA 52242