Message from the Chair

To quote the wonderful Charlotte A. Cavatica...“Salutations!” I look forward to serving you over the next two years in my capacity as Chapter Chair. Many thanks for granting me this opportunity. First, I would like to thank everyone who was willing to stand for election. Second, during my tenure as Chair, I take comfort that I will not be going this alone and will have the support of our newly-constituted board: our terrific Past-Chair Daryll Stevens; “Triple Threat” Myrna Layton (Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Newsletter editor and Listserv manager); Secretary/Treasurer, Janice Bunker; Member at Large, Woody Colahan; and Chapter Archivist and Webmaster Laurie Eagleson.

I truly enjoyed seeing everyone at the last chapter meeting in Greeley, Colorado. My thanks go to Steve Luttmann for hosting the meeting, as well as to Daryll Stevens and Woody Colahan for arranging an interesting and informative program. I was also pleased to see so many new faces. The next gathering of our chapter will be our customary supper meeting at the February 2017 MLA meeting in Orlando, Florida. Vice-Chair Myrna Layton will be sending out information regarding the venue when the time approaches. In May, our next chapter meeting will be hosted by Anita Breckbill and will take place at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

To close, I look forward to our continuing camaraderie and to what the future will bring our way. Wishing you all the best!

Christopher Mehrens
Chair, MPMLA
Christopher.Mehrens@asu.edu

Musical Compliments – A music cartoon by Hannah Sterry (Sterry Cartoons).
Suzanne Mouton-Gertig – Retired from University of Denver

John and I are off to Morocco on Sept. 29! It's time to ride another camel.

We'll be there about eleven days, then we fly to Rome to spend a week studying the ruins, visiting St. Peter’s, and going out to the old Roman seaport at Ostia to see more ruins.

We've been doing a lot of traveling. As long as we are healthy, the world awaits. We were in Costa Rica and Panama in March and April, then in Alaska and the Canadian Yukon in July. Last week, we drove to Southwest PA to visit Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater and stayed in one of the other homes he designed called Blum House in Polymath Park (a subdivision of Wright’s that never really took off). We shared the house with John’s brother and sister-in-law and it was cheaper to rent this historic home for a night than one night at La Quinta! Go figure, folks!

Lest I forget, John and I flew back to Colorado to go to my favorite DU harp student's wedding the first week of August. She got married at 11,500 feet up near the old Camp Hale in the Colorado Mountains near Vail. I had just enough time to stop in to see Woody Colahan at DU. Sorry, Steve! Next time, Greeley, OK?

BTW, for those of you who remember Karl and Marie Kroeger: they moved to Gainesville, FL to be near their son and his family. She and Karl are both doing pretty well and say howdy.

I think of you folks fondly and wish you the best with your academic year! 🎶🎵

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Stephanie Bonjack – University of Colorado at Boulder

The Howard B. Waltz Music Library at the University of Colorado Boulder has undergone quite a few changes in the last year, following my arrival as the new Head of the Music Library. Here’s a summary of some of the major projects I’ve initiated:

Centralized Audio Visual Demolition (Spring 2016)

The Music Library was one of the remaining music libraries to maintain a centralized A/V system. This consisted of a long row of tables outfitted with listening and viewing stations as well as a separate, centralized A/V manager where players for different formats were maintained, from reel-to-reel to Laserdisc. The A/V manager was located in the closed stacks, behind a wall of windows, and had served as a public access point until a couple of years ago. The system worked like this: a patron located the item she wanted to watch or listen to in the catalog, brought the call number to the window, the item was paged, put into a player, and the patron was given headphones and a designated listening or viewing spot. These systems were especially effective before the advent of the Internet. Our system was installed in the early 1990’s, putting it right at the tail end of such systems. Easy access to streaming audio and video marked the final decline in the need for centralized A/V.

The listening and viewing stations occupied prime real estate in a library with a small footprint. So, after many discussions with members of administration and facilities, during spring break of 2016, Music Library staff and students completely deconstructed the system. Everyone was enthusiastic about the project, and our work was completed within a few hours! Here are some pictures:

Outreach Specialist Grace Haynes, at the beginning of demolition day

Removing the massive circuit board in the closed stacks
New (used) tables from the distribution center. The first collaborative seating students have had access to in the Music Library.

Card Catalog Project (Fall 2015-)

The Waltz Music Library still has a physical card catalog in our public space. When the retroconversion process happened about 20 years ago, about 10 percent of items did not have OCLC matches, and did not make it into the online catalog. The card catalog was left in the public space to provide access to those items. Starting in the fall of 2015, I developed a new collaboration with Metadata Services, and they have agreed to help us address this long-standing issue by allocating four catalogers to our project. The first thing they did was consolidate all of the uncataloged cards from the shelf list; they take up the space of two drawers. We anticipate that the scores portion of the project will be completed by the end of this calendar year, and then the catalogers will move on to microfilm and LPs.

Space Planning (Spring 2016-)

The Senior Associate Dean approved my request to work with a space planner in the spring of 2016. She and I conducted space assessments and focus groups to determine patron needs and developed a series of plans that could be implemented in phases. I was very happy to learn that my request for the first phase of funding (for furniture) was approved for FY16/17! Also, the Senior Associate Dean is interested in exploring what we could accomplish should more funds become available. Hopefully, there will be more to report by our next newsletter!

Daryll Stevens – Colorado College

The Seay Music Library is deep into fall semester.....its Block 3, already! We began the year offering extended evening hours, as a trial to increase student study space while the main library undergoes a year-long renovation. We’ll soon have our LP collection of Western art music moved to a recently constructed storage building, freeing up some space for a backlog of donated scores. We’re experiencing some cooler weather, finally.
Carol Jarvis – University of Utah & Brigham Young University

Basically, like a year ago, my work is split between working part-time (volunteer status) at the University of Utah McKay Music Library, doing useful music cataloging, and doing remote contract cataloging (for the Library at BYU) of Middle Eastern language books, all on the Mac computer from my home in Sandy, Utah! Perhaps it MIGHT help others to know that the languages I can catalog in are growing a lot, to include Arabic, Persian/Farsi, Modern Hebrew [a little bit], Pushto and Urdu [a little bit], and "Modern" Turkish, which is written in "our" English script with a few differences!

I have heard about few libraries anywhere having some music materials that are in Turkish, so, if there are such institutions out there at this time, yes, I can do the cataloging work in that language! To go on, I will say that even though I love doing contract cataloging in this area, it is not quite consistent enough to do full-time, so I am a job seeker for regular full-time cataloging work, particularly in the areas of music, audiovisual media and materials in these and other foreign languages.

News pertaining to my cataloging work at the University of Utah McKay Music Library would mention that for over one year, I have been cataloging theses and dissertations of students that have attended and received Master's and Doctor's degrees (like M.A., M.M., Ph.D., D.M.A.) from the Department of Music, University of Utah, through the years, ranging from about 1955 to the most recent year of 2016.

So, that's my news! I hope it's useful and interesting to everyone that reads the Conventional Title!
Janet Bradford – Brigham Young University

The year of the LP is coming to an end. Here’s some cataloging statistics:

**Recordings**

LPs: 96,050 (a whopping 17,200 cataloged since last spring – we got a couple of gifts since my last report – approximately 500 left to do)

78 rpm records: 32,658 (458 cataloged since last spring) – **DONE!**

45 rpm records: 6948 (4598 cataloged since last spring) – **DONE!**

**Sheet music collections**

Early Sheet Music (pre-1921): 9998 (204 cataloged since last spring)

Historic Sheet Music (1921-): 8596 (126 cataloged since last spring)

Josef Bonime Sheet Music collection: 8766 (3446 cataloged since last spring)

We moved most of the un-cataloged backlogs to level 6 but the promised count isn’t complete. Suffice to say that we have great job security!

On a personal note we have had an extremely busy and happy summer and fall thus far. Daron and I went on tour to Europe with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square. We sang in INCREDIBLE venues including the Berlin Philharmonie, Nuremberg Meistersingerhalle, Vienna Musikverein, Brussels Bozar Center for Fine Arts and The De Doelen in Rotterdam. My fave was the Musikverein. Here’s a photo:

We got home just in time for our daughter’s wedding on July 27th. Yes, that daughter who just got home from her mission! She married Jonny Bradshaw (so didn’t slip much in the alphabet). 😊
Finally, Daron and I just returned from a dream cruise in the Mediterranean. We went to celebrate Daron’s mom who turned 90 this year! Several of his siblings and spouses and nephews and nieces were able to go. We got on the boat in Venice and ported in Kotor, Montenegro; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Athens and Mykonos in Greece; Naples, including Pompei and a drive along the Almalfi coast, Rome and Florence in Italy; Toulon, France and ended in Barcelona, Spain. WOW!

Myrna Layton – Brigham Young University

This fall, I was fortunate to be granted travel assistance to attend the Viola Congress held in Cremona, Italy—to represent BYU’s Primrose International Viola Archive and provide an exhibit there. What a fabulous experience to be able to enjoy five days of beautiful string music in the city of the violin! Workshops, recitals, master classes, concerts, enjoying the company of violists including amateurs, professionals and luminaries, with a few librarians thrown in for good measure. (There was one from Germany and one from Italy and me.)

Highlights for me included hearing Dana Zemtsov play—she is going to be someone to watch for! (Listen for?) What an expressive sound! It is always good to hear Tabea Zimmermann, Bruno Giuranna and Michael Kugel—really great viola performers and teachers.

I visited the Museum of the Violin. Here is a stringed instrument map of the world found there:

But my favorite part of the congress was renewing friendships and making new music friends from about twenty countries!

Then, I was off to London for a few days of vacation, to visit my son David (a librarian who works for SirsiDynix in the UK). He took me for a day out in the country, to Stonehenge:
My only other “bucket list” item while in London for a short visit was going to a show on the West End. We took in “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” and it was delightful!

My last adventure involved me wearing my TLA (Theatre Library Association) hat, and attending a symposium about Fringe Festivals on my way home. This was at Judson Memorial Church, which is basically on the NYU campus. Enjoyed a visit with Blake, one of our former student library workers, now a PhD student at NYU.

Back in Provo by Saturday October 15, I spent the day at the University of Utah for Utah’s Viola Day, where retired BYU professor David Dalton was honored for all his work on behalf of the viola and the Primrose Archive. Photo shows Dr. Dalton and some of his former students.

This summer has been big for us: a new baby joined our home and we bought our first house! William Kenji Lyon joined us on June 6, 2016 (and even has a tinge of red hair if you look in the right light). He’s doing great and is getting cuter every day!

In August we moved into our new house and have been busy planting fruit trees.

In interior, Judson Memorial Church, New York City

Jeff Lyon – Brigham Young University

Jeff Lyon’s wife Mami Matsumoto Lyon planting trees
Anita Breckbill - University of Nebraska-Lincoln

A performance of Bach’s *Coffee Cantata* begins this year’s concert series, Notes@Noon, in the University Libraries’ new Learning Commons. The concerts are held near Dunkin’ Donuts, so the piece is appropriate to the venue. A Music Library staff member, Ben Fry, created the poster (pictured). Four employees of the Music Library, staff, faculty, and students, are performing in this series opener.

An undergraduate student researcher, Emily Freeman, looked into the history of the performance of Handel’s *Messiah* at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln using information in our performance archive. She found that *Messiah* was performed 89 times between 1895 and 2009. Interestingly, “For Unto Us a Child is Born” was not sung until 1937.

Some gems about our collections:

- We recently received 12 volumes of bound sheet music, the bulk dating from the 1850s-1860s. The donor was a print collector and bought these volumes because of the beauty of the lithographs in some of the sheet music. The lithograph of the chickens (pictured) is a favorite.

- Staff in the Music Library have digitized about 500 public domain opera scores in the Rokahr Family Archive. See [http://contentdm.unl.edu/CDM/search/collection/opera](http://contentdm.unl.edu/CDM/search/collection/opera) We are just beginning a special project to add these scores to IMSLP so that they can be more easily found.

- We have been spending years digitizing the archive of student performances from UNL’s Glenn Korff School of Music. The digitization of the cassette recordings was finished this summer, and digitization of the reel-to-reel recordings has begun.

We’re looking forward to hosting MPMLA in Lincoln in May of 2017.
Over the summer, Lincoln City Libraries hosted the travelling exhibit, "Cast of Blues," from ExhibitsUSA through the Mid-America Arts Alliance. The exhibit was mounted so that it flowed from a primary exhibit area along into the music library, where I had exhibits of our own blues materials, including historical sheet music, books, scores, CDs, DVDs, and so on. We opened the exhibit with a performance of traditional blues, and closed it with contemporary blues and related music. In between, a scholar presented a talk on the history of the blues and its relationship to the development of popular music genres, a teenage blues band from the Omaha Blues Society performed as a summer reading program event, and I presented a brief look at the blues to two groups of teens in a summer TeamMates program.
Katy Levings – Oklahoma Panhandle State University

There’s not a lot happening here. Our choir director has decided to house the vocal library with us, so hopefully all the pieces will be cataloged and available for checkout and ILL in a year. Otherwise, the students and I are continuing to chug along with our sheet music cataloging. We’re up to 3,000 titles; the clarinets, saxophones, and oboes are the only instrumental solos left. Someday the tide will ebb.

Newsletter Editor and Listserv Note:

Myrna Layton is the newsletter editor and manager of the MPMLA listserv. If you have any items of business or information to share with your peers in MPMLA, please send an e-mail to me at myrna_layton@byu.edu and I will see that all the members of the organization receive it!

MLA Annual Conference 2017

2/22/2017-2/26/2017

Where: Rosen Plaza Hotel

9700 International Drive, Orlando FL

Contact: mla@areditions.com or
Michael Rogan, MLA Pres.

michael.rogan@tufts.edu

Elizabeth York – University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

We have received a collection of operetta and musical theatre materials, including over 700 LPS, 300 CDs, and 100 books, donated by operetta collector and producer William H. Edgerton, who is also Honorary Chairman of the Mechanical Musical Library in Darien, Connecticut. We have processed nearly the entire collection and have added our records to OCLC. For a number of the LPs, we have one of the only copies in North America listed in OCLC. Viennese operetta is a particular strength of the collection; I have never seen so many different versions of Die Lustige Witwe and Die Fledermaus in one place!