

## ICSOM Governing Board Call – 2/1/10

*Bruce Ridge, Brian Rood, Laura Ross, Michael Moore, Richard Levine, Matt Comerford, Paul Gunther, Cathy Payne, Meredith Snow*

**Report from University Michigan American Orchestras Summit** – Brian submitted a brief report prior to the call regarding his and Laura’s participation on two of the panels in Ann Arbor. Brian also reported that this was a rather unique conference since it was held at a university and students were encouraged to attend. Participants included a few national orchestra representatives and musicologists but most in attendance were from regional and local orchestras. Panelists included representatives from the U of M Ross School of Business and various music scholars. Brian will write about it in the next *Senza Sordino* and also believes it was good that ICSOM and musicians’ opinion were represented. One item of interest includes organizer and musicologist Mark Clague’s announcement that his class would be investigating some of orchestras’ success stories based on an article Bruce wrote for *Senza Sordino* asking why the orchestra industry seems more interested in investigating its failures as opposed to successes.

Brian also mentioned that he and Laura were able to attend a Chicago Symphony performance at Hill Auditorium which was a centerpiece of sorts for the summit. The concert was outstanding and the participants acknowledged the next morning that a performance like that was what all the discussions were about.

**Players' Association status (VEBA, etc.) research** – recent contact from Rochelle Skolnick has raised the issue regarding the tax status of players’ funds.

**Directory questions or updates** – most questions about how many extra copies should be sent to orchestras have been settled. An additional issue regarding dues payment versus the number of Directories requested was mentioned (everyone agrees orchestras should be paying for contracted positions, similar to the AFM strike fund), however, since it cannot be immediately solved, it will be an ongoing discussion.

**Next issue of *Senza Sordino*** – We need an issue in March (deadline last week in February) and then there would need to be a quick turnaround for the May issue to address convention issues. Bruce has spoken to Robert Coleman, who served as the very first *Senza* editor. He will look at the *Senzas* online and he might be willing to do something for the next issue. An interview format perhaps relating what was occurring in 1962 to today. We should also consider writing short articles about the founders of ICSOM for future articles as we begin preparations for ICSOM’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012.

**Other updates or issues** – Boston Symphony is in discussions about the IMA with Debbie Newmark and Bill Foster. There is a PCC call this Friday. ICSOM has been invited to both the Western and New England Conferences; someone will attend if schedules permit (Paul will attend Western). There are some issues in NJ regarding a recent ratification. Martin Andersen has asked for a site visit from Bruce. Honolulu, by our calculation, should be on the way toward receiving approximately \$89K from the Call to Action. It is doing local concerts but so far, except for a bankruptcy appearance, there is not much to report.

**Next GB conference call – Monday, March 1@ 10PM EST, 9PM CST, 7PM PST**