SGMDO Business Meeting
44th ICTM World Conference,
Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick
Saturday, 15 July 2017

Minutes

Present: Brian Diettrich (chair), Don Niles, Raymond Ammann, Geoffrey Colson, Reuben Brown, Andrew Gumataotao, Stephen Wild, Jane Moulin, Bonnie McConnell, Michael Clement (Sr), Adrienne Kaeppler, Kirk Sullivan, Masaya Shishikura, Kim Cannady, Ricardo Trimillos. [minutes recorded as audio by Ricardo Trimillos].

The meeting was called to order at 8:19 pm on Saturday 15 July 2017 in the Irish World Academy Building, Room II.

1. Welcome and Apologies.
Apologies were received from Barbara Smith and Kristy Gillespie. Don conveyed apologies from Naomi Faik-Simet. Brian read a message from Kristy greeting all members present and extending felicitations to Stephen for his festschrift and for his many contributions to ICTM.

2. Introductions and Updates
Members introduced themselves to the group and provided a brief update on current research activities and publications.

3. Previous Business Meeting Minutes
A copy of the minutes prepared by Brian from the business meeting on Guam (2016) was circulated and accepted without comment. The approval was moved by Ric, seconded by Stephen, and passed.

4. Study Group Activities at World Conference

4A. New SGMDO Book Publication (Don Niles)
Don reported on the organization, production, and presentation of the festschrift for Stephen: A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild (edited by Kirsty Gillespie, Sally Treloyn, and Don Niles). Don thanked all authors and acknowledged the great cooperation of ANU press. He remarked on the success in keeping it a secret. Stephen responded that he was completely surprised and felt very honored. An exemplar of the festschrift was circulated for all present to sign. Brian thanked the editors, especially Don, for stewarding the project and noted this is the fourth publication of the study group.

4B. Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award (Brian Diettrich)
Brian announced and explained the establishment of this travel award and expressed the group’s thanks to Barbara for her generosity and support. The intent of the award is to encourage more indigenous participation primarily at SGMDO Symposia. A motion of thanks to Barbara was moved and seconded.

4C. Study Group Display Table.
The Chair reported on the contents of the SGMDO exhibit table at the conference.
4D. Other Activities.
Membership: Jane raised the need to grow the membership.
Panel submissions: Jane suggested that SGMDO should be more active in submitting organized panels for the international meetings (including for the next world conference) rather than individual papers.

5. SGMDO Historical Images.
Brian invited preliminary discussion of a visual document archive for the SGMDO now that it is 40 years in existence. Brian was directed to send out a call to the membership for photographs and other visual materials that document the organization.

Brian reported that ICTM has liaison officers for American Samoa, FSM, PNG, Palau, Solomons, Australia-NZ, and Vanuatu. Needed are officers for Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji. He noted problems of classification for Hawai‘i and Timor as units for liaison. He appealed to the membership to identify possible liaison persons for areas not yet filled and noted that the pool of persons should include performers and culture workers, not just academics.

7. Future meeting with Festival of Pacific Arts, Hawai‘i (Ric Trimillos, Adrienne Kaeppler).
Ric and Adrienne made a preliminary announcement that in connection with the 2020 Pacific Festival of Arts in Honolulu former students of Barbara Smith are organizing an ethnomusicology conference to celebrate her 100th birthday. As in Guam with the Pacific Historical Society, the SGMDO Symposium could be combined with this larger conference in honor of Barbara. The organizing committee for the larger conference consists of former students Bill Feltz, Adrienne Kaeppler, Vicky Takamine, and Ric Trimillos. Tentative dates for the conference are 11 – 13 June 2020. The East-West Center is collaborating. A discussion of themes and funding ensued. Study Group members are eligible to submit paper proposals.

The election of a new Chair is scheduled for this year. A discussion of election procedures, nature of candidacy, and need for institutional support followed. Don clarified that SGMDO has no bylaws but by practice the term for a Chair is four years. The call for nominations will be in September with elections in October. Related discussion included number of members and how members are counted. Brian reported the SGMDO currently has about 30 members.

9. Other Business
Raymond announced that Jacob Kapere from Tana died a month ago. He was from the cultural center in Noumea. A letter of condolence will be drafted by Raymond and signed by the Chair.

Travel Award: Ruben Brown expressed his thanks for receiving the Barbara Smith Travel Award to attend the Limerick Conference.

Indigenous researchers. Adrienne asked if there can be a listing of indigenous students or researchers available to our group. Michael Clement (Sr) introduced Andrew Gumataotao as an indigenous scholar from Guam, whose presence is a milestone for Guam.

Joint meetings: Don raised joint study group meetings as something for SGMDO to consider. Possibilities could be Southeast Asia or East Asia. Possibilities of joint meetings with other Pacific related societies were also tabled.
Smithsonian Institution opportunities: Adrienne announced there are Smithsonian Institution fellowships for research and also 10-week fellowships for students. She encourages members to apply.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:30 pm.