A Message from the Chair
Dolores Pesce

In May we celebrated Jolly Stewart’s twenty years of music-making at Washington University. We wish her the best as she embarks on her retirement. Because next Spring will mark the final semester for two other faculty members, director of vocal activities John Stewart and symphony orchestra conductor Dan Presgrave, we will soon begin searches for their successors. Our mission is to find the best candidates possible to work with our talented student singers and instrumentalists. If you live in, or happen to visit St. Louis, please make a point to attend our performances and find out for yourself just how wonderful our ensembles are!

The Department of Music has been celebrating major anniversaries of three composers: 2009 Felix Mendelssohn, 2010 Robert Schumann, and 2011 Franz Liszt. We invite you to share in our Liszt celebration on February 26, 2011: it begins with a morning mini-symposium involving two faculty members – Hugh Macdonald and myself, resident conductor of the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO) Ward Stare, and acclaimed Scottish pianist and musicologist Kenneth Hamilton. Hamilton will perform a lecture-recital the same evening. We hope you can join in our campus festivities.

In closing, I urge alums to send us your news. And we urge all of you to join our e-mail list so we can keep you informed about our yearly program of concerts, lectures, and special events.

Best wishes on behalf of Department of Music faculty, staff, and students,

Faculty Retirement: An Interview with Jolly Stewart
Kim Daniels

Jolly Stewart, Opera Director and Applied Voice Teacher, retired in May 2010 after twenty years in the Department of Music.

What were the highlights of your career at Washington University?

I would say without a second thought that the highlights have been the students themselves and the delight of having such first-rate, supportive colleagues. There have been senior recitals which have given me great pleasure. To see the singers develop and work terribly diligently towards that achievement has been a tremendous joy. Each opera production has brought wonderful exploration of the music, the text, the characters. To help a singer delve into what’s there and how to express it convincingly on stage is a deliciously intriguing task. It would be hard to pick out favorite performances, but certainly amongst them would be Britten’s Albert Herring, Loesser’s Most Happy Fella, Poulenc’s Dialogues of the Carmelites, and Johann Strauss’s Die Fledermaus. For this last one I was able to invite singers who had graduated from our program, who are all now performing professionally, to come back and sing the main roles. What fun for us all and what a privilege to draw on such talent.

Do you have retirement plans?

When people ask me what I will do in retirement, I remind them that I have retired from Washington University only. So far, I have, for Opera Theatre of St. Louis, run a two-week opera camp for high school-aged singers, and worked with singers at the Black Hills State University Opera Institute in South Dakota for two weeks. I will also stage and appear in Donizetti’s La Fille du Regiment at Union Avenue Opera, where I am the Principal Director. I hope to continue some of these things, as well as work as a performance coach for singers in New York City.
2009 – 2010 Concert Season

Jen Gartley

The 2009-2010 Department of Music concert season showcased the talents of faculty, students, and a wide array of guest artists. The season was marked by diverse programming, from exploring soundscapes left to chance, to dancing the night away in *Die Fledermaus*.

October kicked off with an exciting collaboration with the Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum and the Performing Arts Department. The event, *Chance Aesthetics*, investigated the use of chance as a key compositional principle in modern music, art, and dance. The program included *Music of Changes* by John Cage and Terry Riley’s *In C*. The highlight of the night was the performance of *The Oracle*, a newly composed/improvised work by faculty member Henry Claude. In the spirit of John Cage’s and Merce Cunningham’s collaboration, *The Oracle* revolved around a large mobile whose movements directed the dancers and the improvisation of the instrumentalists, resulting in a spectacular and original performance.

With a final curtain call in Jolly Stewart’s last year as the director of opera, and John Stewart’s last year as the director of the opera orchestra, audiences delighted as current students and Washington University alumni performed Strauss’s operetta *Die Fledermaus*. The March performances of the operetta were complete with practical jokes, dress balls, and champagne, and it was a treat to bring back so many familiar faces who have gone on to the world of professional opera.

In the second season of the Danforth University Chamber Music Series, audiences were treated to nine performances by some of the best musicians in St. Louis. Erin Schreiber, assistant concertmaster of the SLSO and faculty member Martin Kennedy started the season with a big crowd excited to hear the performance of Kennedy’s new work *Trivial Pursuits*. The season ended with SLSO principal flutist Mark Sparks playing French favorites on a lovely May evening.

The year 2010 marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of Schumann and to celebrate we collaborated with the SLSO Community Partnership Program. The snowy February evening featured Seth Carlin and members of the SLSO in a performance of Schumann’s *Andante and Variations*, Op. 46 for two horns, two cellos, and two pianos and a beautiful rendition of Schubert’s *Piano Quintet in A Major*, “The Trout.”

We look forward to the exciting events coming up in 2010-2011!

Arts and Culture: Share the Experience

The Department of Music has partnered with the Edison Theatre, Mildred Lane Kemper Art Museum, and the Performing Arts Department to create a website, arts.wustl.edu. In addition to highlighting the events of these four campus groups, the site links to other arts-related departments and programs. Please visit the site when you have a chance: it is a great way to discover and learn about events in the Washington University arts community.

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Friends of Music membership fees and special gifts provide:

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Graduate Students

Jerome Camal (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) received a Mellon Sawyer Fellowship at the Center for the Humanities, presented a paper at the Society for Ethnomusicology: “Une Nouvelle Culture: Gérard Lockel, Nationalism, and the Legitimization of Gwoka in Guadeloupe,” and presented a paper at Florida State University: “Gwotet or gwo tét? Jazz and Creolization in the Recordings of David Murray and the Gwo Ka Masters.”

Michael Lanford (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) presented a paper at the Society for American Music Conference: “When the Bands Play “Dixie” Over Our Team, It Can Whip Eleven Red Granges: The Use of Civil War Melodies in Southern Collegiate Fight Songs.”

Christina Linsenmeyer (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) became a member of the American Musical Instrument Society Board of Governors, was involved in the start-up of the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) in Phoenix, Arizona, accepted the Eagle award on behalf of MIM at the National Music Council's annual Leadership in Music Symposium and Eagle Awards, and gave a presentation at the Museum Association of Arizona’s Annual Conference: “Creating a Museum from the Ground Up.”

Kate Meehan (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) received a Paul Sacher Foundation Grant to Basel, Switzerland, and presented a paper during her stay: “The Many Voices of Cathy Berberian.”

Karen Olson (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) presented a paper at the Newberry Library’s Center for Renaissance Studies 2010 Graduate Student Conference: “Musical and Syntactical Relationships in the Sequences of Hildegard of Bingen.”

Alyssa Yorgan (Ph.D. Candidate in Musicology) received an Olin Fellowship from Washington University, a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship from Duke University (declined), and a U.S. State Department Critical Language Scholarship.

Undergraduate Students

Jacob Siegel (A&S ’10) received the Tzedek Award for Justice from the Washington University Hillel.

Taylor Martin (A&S ’11) received Honorable Mention in the Sigma Alpha Iota Music Competition, and Second Place in the Morning Etude Music Club Voice Competition.

Laura Rayhel (A&S ’11) presented a talk to the Ackerman group at the Medical School, and co-authored two papers.

Austin Wesevich (A&S ’11) was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and selected to join Mortar Board (Senior Honor Society).

Faculty

Patrick Burke (Director of Undergraduate Studies and Assistant Professor, Musicology) received a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship and a Sigmund Strochlitz Travel Grant from the University of Connecticut.

Maryse Carlin (Teacher of Applied Music, Piano and Harpsichord) received a Program Support Grant from the Regional Arts Commission for the Kingsbury Ensemble, which she directs.

Todd Decker (Assistant Professor, Musicology) received a Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship for Spring 2011.

Bruce Durazzi (Assistant Professor, Music Theory) received a Grant for Independent Research from the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation.

Martin Kennedy (Assistant Professor, Music Theory and Composition) received an ASCAP Plus Award, and the ASCAP Rudolf Nissim Prize for Best Orchestral Work for Trivial Pursuits for violin and orchestra.

Bill Lenihan (Senior Lecturer and Director of Jazz Performance, Guitar, Jazz Theory and Improvisation) was promoted to Senior Lecturer.

Hugh Macdonald (Avis Blewett Professor, Musicology) received the Médaille du Rayonnement Culturel from La Renaissance Française, and an Arts and Sciences Faculty Award from the Council for Undergraduate Students of Arts and Sciences.

Peter Schmelz (Associate Professor, Musicology) was promoted to Associate Professor, and received a Paul Sacher Foundation Grant to Basel, Switzerland.

Alumni – if you have information to include in upcoming newsletters, please contact Kim Daniels at kschultz@artsci.wustl.edu or (314) 935-5566.

We would love to hear from you!
Upcoming Events

Concert information: (314) 935-5566 or music.wustl.edu/events

September 20, 8:00 p.m. – Danforth University Center
Chamber Series: Music for Viola da gamba and Harpsichord
Goldberg Formal Lounge, Danforth University Center

October 8, 7:00 p.m. – Symphony Orchestra
E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall

October 10, 3:00 p.m. – Liederabend
Holmes Lounge, Ridgley Hall

November 8, 7:30 p.m. – SLSO Community Partnership Performance featuring chamber music of Chopin, Schumann, and Barber
E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall

December 10, 8:00 p.m. – Concert Choir
Graham Chapel

December 11, 8:00 p.m. – LA Guitar Quartet
E. Desmond Lee Concert Hall

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Department of Music – Washington University in St. Louis