Reports from ICTM National and Regional Representatives

Australia & New Zealand

by Dan Bendrups, Chair of Regional Committee

1. Regional Committee Executive 2012-2013

Elections for the 2012-2013 Executive were announced in 2011, with nominations closing in October. Only one nomination was received for the position of Chair, and one for the position of Secretary, therefore an election was not required. Representative appointments from IASPM-ANZ, NZMS and MSA were received in due course, with the following results:

- Chair: Dan Bendrups
- Secretary: Kirsty Gillespie
- IASPM-ANZ: Kate Barney
- MSA: Jonathan McIntosh
- NZMS: Brian Diettrich

We thank these members for volunteering their services to the ICTM for the 2012-2013 period.

2. November 2011 Business Meeting

The ICTM-ANZ Regional Committee aims to hold a Business Meeting yearly, usually in conjunction with an existing regional music conference. The 2011 meeting was held at the Musicological Society of Australia National Conference in Perth on 2 December. Minutes from this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Chair, Dan Bendrups, at d.bendrups@griffith.edu.au.

3. ARC Success

The Regional Committee is proud to congratulate ICTM members who were successful in gaining Australia Research Council Discovery Project funding in 2012. These projects are described below:

- Patrick, Stephen (et. al.) Early collections of Warlpiri cultural heritage and resulting community access needs in remote desert Australia, $530,000 over three years.

  Led by Warlpiri elder, Steven Wanta Patrick, this project will assess collections of Warlpiri cultural heritage. It will address the enormous Warlpiri interest in gaining access to their cultural heritage, and using these for local initiatives that improve youth engagement with tradition, dialogues across generations and cultures, and community well-being.

  Kartomi, Margaret (et. al.) The changing identity and sustainability of the music-cultures and worldviews of the Riau Islands’ sea nomads and sedentary Malays, $330,000 over three years.

  This project explores the music-cultural identity and related socioeconomic dilemmas of remote Sea Nomads vis-à-vis the Muslim Malays in the industrialising Riau Islands. It will further Australians’ awareness of the intercultural contexts in which they work and help maintain Australia’s leadership role and ongoing engagement with the Asia-Pacific.

4. Honour for Margaret Kartomi

The title of Queen has been bestowed upon a Monash University researcher for her work in reconstructing the origins of the Indonesian province of Lampung’s traditional musical instruments. Professor Margaret Kartomi from the University’s School of Music – Conservatorium, was invited by the Governor of Lampung, Drs Sjahroeddin ZP, to take the formal title of ‘Ratu Berlian Sangun Anggun’ which translates to ‘Beautiful Queen Jewel’. The title is normally reserved for Lampung clan members and formerly for royalty. The region of Lampung is found within Indonesia’s largest island, Sumatra. Professor Kartomi began researching Lampung traditional music in 1983.


Austria

by Thomas Nußbaumer, Chair of National Committee

At the 2011 Annual Meeting of Austria’s National Committee held on May 29, 2011 in Vienna a new board composed by Thomas Nußbaumer, Regine Allgayer-Kaufmann, Gerda Lechleitner, Bernd Brabec de Mori, Ursula Hemetek, August Schmidhofer, Hande Sağlam and Gerd Grupe was elected. The term of office is scheduled for two years.

The 2011 Annual Meeting was held during 27-28 May in Vienna (venue: Institute of Musicology, University of Vienna) as a Joint Meeting of the Austrian National Committee together with the National Committees of Slovenia, Croatia, and Slovakia. The following three panels were held: “Intercultural Music Psychology”, “Future Challenges in Ethnomusicology 1: Do we need Disciplining Ethnomusicology?”, “Future Challenges in Ethnomusicology 2: Field Research”, and “Future Challenges in Ethnomusicology 3: University Education”.

The Austrian members have been active in participating in several ICTM Study Group meetings. The local organiser of the 19th Meeting of the Study Group on Historical Sources of Traditional Music in Vienna, March 6-10, 2012 (conference venue: Austrian Academy of Sciences) was Gerda Lechleitner, board member of the Austrian National Committee. In the framework of the meeting the Austrian National Committee organised on 8 March an evening at the Burgenland Croatian Centre (Hrvatski Centar) in Vienna themed “Living Tradition. A performance”.

The members of the Austrian National Committee give account of the following activities and publications:

1. Institute for Musicology at the University of Vienna

- In June 2011 Gerhard Kubik has been awarded a two years research grant from the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). Project title: “Individual Histories of East African Musician-Composers”.
- November 19 2011: Gerhard Kubik was appointed Honorary Member of the Society for Ethnomusicology in Philadelphia.
- February 2012: Field-research in Northern Uganda by August Schmidhofer.

2. Institute of Folks Music Research and Ethnomusicology at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna

- In June 2011 Gerlinde Haid, long-standing head of the Austrian National Committee, professor for Theory and History of Folk Music at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna and head of the Institute of Folks Music Research and Ethnomusicology, has retired. On this occasion the institute organised a big event as farewell celebration including the presentation of the Festschrift Musikalien des Übergangs [Editor’s Note: see October 2011 Bulletin of the ICTM for more details on this volume]. Ursula Hemetek has overtaken her duties as the head of the institute since January 2011.
- Release of a collection of papers entitled European Voices II, ed. by Ardian Ahmedaja, Vienna et. al. 2011 (Schriften zur Volksmusik 23). See more on page 51.

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Bulgaria
by Rosemary Statelova,
Liaison Officer

Angela Rodel, US-born ethnomusicologist from the USA living in Bulgaria while working on her doctoral thesis (UCLA), has recently reviewed my new book, “Foreign Culture Up Close: the actual Musical Practices of the Lusatian Sorbs in Germany”, as follows:

One notable recent publication is Rosemary Statelova’s book Foreign Culture Up Close: the actual Musical Practices of the Lusatian Sorbs in Germany (2011, Sofia: Institute of Art Studies Publishing House). While studying the “other” may be old hat for Western ethnologists who have inherited the Boasian-Malinowskian tradition of exploring cultures different from one’s own, Bulgarian scholars have traditionally stuck to the Herderian line of investigating the self so as to better understand the “authentic” core of the nation. Statelova’s book is the first Bulgarian monograph to reverse the trend – an Eastern European researcher examining a Western European “other” – a process which the author skillfully and self-reflexively explores alongside the music of this Slavic-speaking minority in Germany.

China
by Xiao Mei (萧梅), Chair of National Committee

There are two authoritative institutions that research traditional and folk music in China. One is the Institute of Traditional Music in China (ITMC); another is the Music Society of China’s Minorities (MSCM). Both institutes will hold their annual symposia this year.

The 17th Conference of the ITMC will be held in Xi’an Conservatory of Music on 10-15 July 2012. The theme of this conference is “Theory, methods and practices of regional music research”. There are five sub-topics: 1) Music culture of the Yellow River Basin; 2) The law of Intangible cultural heritage and the present situation of protection; 3) Research of music ecology; 4) The relations between traditional music and new technologies; 5) New research.

The 13th Conference of the MSCM will be held in Xinjiang Normal University on Jul.17-27, 2012. The themes of this conference are: 1) Music of minorities; 2) Transboundary folk music; 3) Reform of music teaching; 4) New research.

Xi’an is one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China, having held the posi-