“The Teej Festival: Social and Musical Implications for its Celebrations held in Kathmandu, Nepal and Christchurch, New Zealand” (Wendy Elkaas-Lee); and “The Feminine Ideal, Agency and Self-censorship in Women’s Musical Performances in the Riau Islands Province, Indonesia” (Brigitta Scarfe). On the whole, the conference was a success, featuring a well-attended Indigenous Australian symposium as well as traditional music performances from Vietnam and China”.

The NZMS annual conference took place on 19-20 November 2016 at the Conservatorium of Music, University of Waikato, and included representation by a small number of ICTM regional members. No formal ICTM gathering was held, but the issue of New Zealand representation on the RC was raised at the Musicological Society’s Annual Business Meeting, and was subsequently resolved as reported above. In December 2017, the MSA and NZMS will hold a combined conference in Auckland, providing an excellent opportunity for an ICTM regional gathering and business meeting.

Narelle McCoy, IASPM representative, reported back from the IASPM conference in Mackay: “On 8 December there was an informal meeting of RC members who attended the IASPM-ANZ conference in Mackay. Members chatted and compared future projects over a convivial glass of wine or two. The IASPM-ANZ conference in Mackay was a first for the CQ University Ooralea and proved a steaming success with its backdrop of cane fields and tropical bushland. There was a diverse range of papers presented with topics of interest ranging from Indigenous community music making in Central Australia to performative spaces in detention. Several RC members will be attending the IASPM conference in Kassel, Germany, in June.

Several RC members will be attending the ICTM World Conference in Limerick, Ireland—we look forward to the event.

Austria

by Bernd Brabec de Mori, Chair of National Committee

In 2016, the ICTM National Committee for Austria (NC) co-organized two joint meetings with ICTM representatives from neighbouring countries.

The first was hosted 27–29 May by the Institute for Musicology of the Research Centre for the Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. The conference theme was “Current Projects and Methods in Hungarian and Austrian Ethnomusicology: A Focus on Young Researchers”. The meeting’s organization was conducted by Pál Richter and János Sipos, and all Austrian visitors highly appreciated the warm welcome and careful planning. The programme committee consisted of Sipos and Bernd Brabec de Mori. The meeting was the largest joint meeting (co-)organized by the NC at that time. A total of 16 researchers from Hungary and 15 from Austria actively participated in the programme, which consisted—in addition to paper
presentations—of a keynote address by Lujza Tari, a session presenting new publications from both countries, a concert by students of the Liszt Ferenc Music Academy, a closing discussion, and the respective annual assemblies.

The theme left much space for presenting current research, and especially younger researchers were encouraged to participate. The paper sessions included the following topic areas: Archives and Knowledge; Tango: Danceability of Music in European Perspective; Approaches and Methods in Ethnomusicology; Applied and Educational Projects; Folk Music Research; Regional Dance Research; and Urban Music and Modernization.

The conference was very successful, especially for young researchers aiming to connect with existing research infrastructures, and the Austrian participants heartily thank our hosts for the great event!

The second joint meeting was held on 18–19 November at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, hosted by the Swiss Society for Ethnomusicology, in cooperation with the ICTM National Committees for Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. The local organization was perfectly handled by Nicole Sandmeier and Marc-Antoine Camp, and again, participants felt warmly welcome. The programme committee consisted of Camp, Dorit Klebe, and Brabec de Mori, and as a theme we chose “Autoritätsbildung in der Musik” (constructions of authority in music). The meeting explored the emergence and demonstration, the recognition and deprivation of musical authority and anti-authoritarianism. For example, individuals, groups, and institutions create guidelines for musical learning and acting, and have the power to set norms and (re)create social differences. However, this is rarely without opposition: a positioning as an authority is a dynamic process of continuous reaffirmation; structures of authority can be reinforced, transferred, or dissolved.

With 43 active contributors from the three countries, this Swiss-German-Austrian symposium again broke the record for largest joint meeting in our history to date. Selected papers will soon be published in German, including contributions in French.

Another notable meeting was organized by the Department of Folk Music Research and Ethnomusicology of the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. The international Symposium “Sami Music: Sonic Politics in the European North” was held on 11-12 November 2016. The papers presented by invited speakers Ola Graff, Thomas Hilder, Dan Lundberg, Tina K. Rammarine, and Krister Stoor encompassed an ample scope on Sami music, including minority politics, transmission, heritage, self-representation, and decolonization. A concert by Krister Stoor’s band “Stuoris & Balddonas” and a Yoik-workshop titled “To Yoik is to Live” provided a musical framework to the theoretical discussions.

Finally, Austrian ethnomusicologists are very much looking forward to the ICTM Secretariat moving to Vienna. We feel honoured to have among us Ursula Hemetek, who has been appointed the next Secretary General of the ICTM, following Svanibor Pettan, and we will join forces to provide fruitful and collaborative surroundings for the coming period of office in terms of the ICTM’s mission statement: to act as a bond among peoples of different cultures and thus to contribute to the peace of humankind.

Denmark

by Eva Fock, Chair of National Committee

This report from the ICTM National Committee for Denmark, or Forum for Music and Dance of the World—we changed our name two years ago—includes a brief overview of ICTM-related activities in Denmark since our last report in 2013.

Our board members have a mixture of research and/or teaching identities, coming from the independent world, the Danish Folklore Archive at the Royal Library, and most recently also from the Teacher Training Education in Nuuk, Greenland. It is a special pleasure to have the Greenlandic perspective more strongly represented on the board. Although our members come from all over the country, Copenhagen is the centre of the National Committee’s (NC) activities.

The NC’s membership includes a gradually diminishing group of professionals and individuals interested in the ethnomusicological and ethnochoreological fields. Over the last couple of years we have lost several of our most senior members, a great loss for the NC and for our disciplines in general. Ethnomusicology and ethnochoreology in Denmark involve researchers and students from institutions as well as freelancers. Together the members represent a variety of directions around musicology, dance studies, cultural studies, religion, and teaching.

Until May 2016 our activities normally took place at the Danish Folklore Archive, but we lost this base after the merging of the Archive into the Royal Library. Since then, we have been trying out new locations, a fact that creates some uncertainty, but at the