Craig Fuchs Named to Chair Department of Music

Craig Fuchs, Director of Bands at Pittsburg State University, has been named to the position of Chair of the Department of Music. Dr. Fuchs served in the capacity of Interim Chair during the 2002-2003 academic year, during which time a national search for the permanent position was held. Prior to his arrival in Pittsburg in the fall of 1998, he taught at Shawnee Mission West High School in Kansas. He holds degrees in music education from Missouri Western State College and the University of Missouri-Columbia. He completed a DMA degree in wind conducting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He has been active at the state level in a number of organizations, including the Kansas Music Educators Association and the Kansas Bandmasters Association, and he maintains an active schedule as an adjudicator and clinician. The Department extends a hearty welcome to its new chair, who offered the following introductory letter last May to the readers of PSU Music Notes.

Notes from the Chair

On behalf of all of the faculty and staff, I am pleased to bring you greetings from the Department of Music. It has been another fantastic year at PSU and we have accomplished a great deal during the past academic term. Both our students and our faculty continue to achieve great success in their performance and scholarship. The number of majors enrolled in the department has grown, as well as the overall number of students participating in the various offerings in the program. Indeed, it is an exciting time for music at Pittsburg State University.

After serving as Interim Chair this past year, I am very excited to announce that I have been appointed to the position of Chair on a full-time basis. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead the department into the 21st century and I look forward to continuing the high standard of excellence that has been associated with PSU music for so many years. We have an energetic, creative and vibrant faculty in the department and I see wonderful things in our future.

Some projects that were completed this past year include the replacement of the roof over the Recital Hall, installing mounted TV/VCR combinations in room 318, continuing to upgrade the listening lab and computer stations, remodeling Kelce Auditorium, completing a piano swap which placed four new grand pianos in the building to replace some of the older instruments that had fallen into disrepair, acquiring six new upright pianos for practice rooms and studios, and the hiring of a tenure track faculty member in the voice area.

Projects to be completed this summer include another $95,000 of work in Kelce Auditorium, placing a TV/VCR combination in room 211, and replacing all of the CD units in the classrooms. Much of these improvements are made possible by your continued support of the department through generous contributions made during the Annual Fund Drive and the Phone a Thon. Your donations are much appreciated and I would like to invite you to continue this giving whenever possible.

Please keep in contact with the department as we like to be kept abreast of accomplishments and changes in your lives. Feel free to stop by and visit anytime you are in the area and here's hoping for a safe and restful summer.

All the Best-

Dr. Craig A. Fuchs
Chair, Department of Music

Katie Burton Competes At National Level

Katie Burton, a senior trumpet major from Aurora, Missouri, was selected as a semi-finalist for the National Trumpet Competition, held during March at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. The competition is open to college students across the United States, and the semi-finalists are selected via a taped audition process.

Katie performed Eugene Bozza's Caprice in the competition and had the privilege of attending master classes with some of today's leading trumpet artists, including the legendary Chicago Symphony principal trumpeter, Adolph "Bud" Herseth.

Other News from the PSU Trumpet Studio

Trumpet students experienced first-hand the extraordinary playing of Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Roy Hargrove during the 2003 PSU Jazz Festival. The upcoming season promises to be equally exciting, with scheduled performances by the Kansas City Brass, the Army Field Band Brass Quintet, and a performance and trumpet day with the Vince DiMartino Big Band featuring Bob Mintzer. For more information on any of these events, please call Dr. Hastings at 620-235-4485.

Visit the PSU Department of Music Home Page for Up-to-Date Information concerning Concerts, Workshops, Auditions, and Faculty Biographies at http://www.pittstate.edu/music
New Faculty Appointment

Jessie Wright Martin, mezzo-soprano, has been appointed to a tenure-earning position in the Department of Music following a national search. She has been teaching applied voice, vocal pedagogy, and vocal literature at PSU since the fall of 2001, when she succeeded Dr. Loraine Sims.

Ms. Martin is currently a doctoral candidate at Louisiana State University. She holds an MM degree from LSU and a BM degree from the Florida State University. She has enjoyed great success singing on both the lyric and concert stages. A frequent performer of 20th-century music, she has twice performed George Crumb's Madrigals, Book III, and appeared as mezzo-soprano soloist in the world premiere of Dinos Constantinides' Voices of the Millenium. Her operatic experience includes performances with the Pensacola Opera and the Ohio Light Opera, where she has also served as an administrator.

Ms. Martin brings extraordinary gifts to her work in the voice studio, and during her first two years of teaching at PSU, her students have excelled in various recitals, auditions, and competitions.

Robert Kehle Named University Professor

Robert Kehle, Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies, was one of three PSU professors selected for University Professor status this year. The University Professor recognition program was instituted in the late 1990s as an effort to reward senior faculty members for their significant contributions to the university in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service. The first recipients were named in the spring of 2000.

Professor Kehle to Continue at KNEA Helm

Professor Robert Kehle will retain the position of President of PSU-KNEA for the 2003-2004 academic year, following an outstanding year of leadership during his first term of office.

PSU Sends Two Students To Jazz Ensemble

Early summer brought the news that two PSU students, Matt Bennett and Scott Conner, had been selected for the Kansas Intercollegiate Jazz Ensemble. The ensemble performed in Wichita on July 17 as part of the annual summer gathering of the Kansas Bandmasters Association and the Kansas Association of Jazz Educators.

Matt played tenor sax and Scott anchored the rhythm section as bassist in this honor ensemble that was led by clinician/composer Mike Tomaro, Director of Jazz Studies at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

Kelce Auditorium Receives Facelift

The renovation of Kelce Auditorium moved into its second phase this past summer. During the summer of 2002, all of the blue auditorium seats and the stage extension had been removed in order to create a large semi-flat floor, a configuration that better serves the needs of the ensembles that rehearse in the facility. Carpet was then added to the new floor in an attempt to improve both the appearance and the acoustics of the room.

This summer, additional acoustical treatment was installed, and the prosenium was closed off with a permanent wall. The entire lower room was then painted and equipped with new lighting. The marching band, wind ensemble, symphonic band, jazz ensemble, jazz combo, and the Southeast Kansas Symphony all use this facility for rehearsals, and the work will therefore benefit a large number of students in the department. The Department welcomes this important enhancement for its instrumental ensembles.

Students Again Chosen For Ohio Light Opera

For the second consecutive year, a number of PSU singers participated in national auditions for the Ohio Light Opera, a professional opera company in residence on the campus of The College of Wooster, Ohio during the summer months.

This year, three PSU students were selected to participate in the program. Aline Carnes, soprano (BM '03), returned for her second season with OLO. She will begin graduate study as a scholarship recipient at Rice University in Houston this fall. Candice Coffey, mezzo-soprano, likewise sang with the summer program for a second time. Following a fall semester of student teaching, Candice will complete her BME degree at PSU in December. Mezzo-soprano Breana Sheffer completed her first season at OLO. The youngest of these three talented students, Breana is entering her junior year as a voice major at PSU.

All of these singers represent the voice studio of Prof. Jessie Wright Martin.

Faculty Briefs...

James Ackman, instructor, presented a paper, "Changing Trends in Preparing Students for College-Level Theory," at the College Music Society's Northeastern Division Conference on March 15. He was joined in the presentation by his colleague Dr. Carolyn Livingston of the University of Rhode Island. Their collaboration will result initially in an article to be published in the American Music Teacher, and subsequently in a textbook generated by this research. Additionally, Dr. Ackman's article titled "Dilemmas of Memorizing Mallet Percussion" was published in the May issue of the Instrumentalist.

Todd Hastings, associate professor, toured as a member of the Michigan Chamber Brass this past year. This outstanding ensemble is comprised of symphony musicians and college teachers from the Michigan and Chicago areas, and it concertizes throughout the United States. Dr. Hastings is also active throughout the Four State Region as a member of the jazz group A Sure Thing. The ensemble released its first CD, A Sure Thing: First Takes this year. This recording of jazz standards features the trumpet playing of Dr. Hastings, along with vocals by Rebecca Leuber and performances by Robert Ensor (BM '73, MM '74), piano; Ben Emerson, bass; and Ryan Hurm, drums. Copies of the CD are available by contacting Dr. Hastings at 620-232-3876.

Susan Marchant, university professor, has been invited to perform a recital at the Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, on September 15. This concert is one of several events that will mark the tenth anniversary of the celebrated Fisk Opus 101 organ in Caruth Auditorium on the SMU campus.

Kathryn Parke, lecturer, penned extensive program notes for a performance of the Verdi Requiem that took place at the Sydney Opera House on July 4. The concert featured 300 American singers and an Australian orchestra, all under the direction of American conductor Charles Bruffy. On June 29, she joined Susan Marchant in presenting a concert at Central Community United Methodist Church in Shell Knob, Missouri. The concert featured solo organ and harpsichord literature as well as early and contemporary vocal music.

John Ross, assistant professor, enjoyed another active semester of performances of his compositions. In addition to the Festival of New Music on the PSU campus last February, which offered the premiere of his La Tristan of Cézé for piano and orchestra, his music was heard in a number of off-campus venues. One such performance took place on April 30 at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, where, as part of the gallery's Contemporary Music Forum, his Passages for cello and percussion caught the ear of Washington Post critic Daniel Ginsberg, who praised the work as a "beguiling exploration of color and melody."

Dr. Ross also traveled to Arkansas for a performance of his songs Deux Mélodies d'Aposé at the Region VI Conference of the Society of Composers, Inc., held during February at Henderson State University.
Calendar of Events

August
21-23 Band Camp
25 Enrollment
26 Classes begin

September
9 Fisk Organ Recital Series:
Susan Marchant, organ, 7:30 pm
16 * Solo & Chamber Music Series:
Kansas City Brass, 7:30 pm
28 * Southeast Kansas Symphony,
Memorial Auditorium, 3 pm

October
13 Jazz Concert, Overman Student
Center, 7:30 pm
17 * Solo & Chamber Music Series:
Frank Huang, violin, 7:30 pm
30 Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 pm

November
2 Suzuki Strings Concert, 3:00 pm
7 University Choirs, 7:30 pm
11 * Solo & Chamber Music Series:
Moran Trio, 7:30 pm
13 University Bands, Memorial
Auditorium, 7:30 pm
14 Scholarship Audition Day
16 * Southeast Kansas Symphony,
Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 pm
20 Jazz Ensemble, Memorial
Auditorium, 7:30 pm

December
3 Holiday Luncheon & Concert,
Choirs, Overman Student Center
5 Madrigal Dinner, Overman
Student Center (Reservations
Required)
7 * Southeast Kansas Symphony,
Handel’s Messiah, Our Lady of
Lourdes Church, 6:00 pm
9 Timmons Chapel Concert,
Timmons Chapel, 7:30 pm

12 Timmons Chapel Concert,
Timmons Chapel, 7:30 pm
19 Fall Commencement

January
13 Enrollment
14 Classes begin
20 * Solo & Chamber Music Series:
Cantus, 7:30 pm

*Tickets required. For further information, contact the PSU Department of Music (620/235-4466).

Please consult local news media for changes and/or updates to the above information and for additional calendar events.

Pittsburg Community Band Completes Fifth Season

The Pittsburg Community Band performed its series of summer concerts at the J.J. Richards Band Dome in Lincoln Park this summer. Dr. Craig Fuchs, Associate Professor of Music and Chair of the Department, is the conductor of the group. Working from a pool of about 70 players, the group consists of PSU students, faculty, and many players from surrounding communities. The ensemble rehearses on Monday evenings in June and performs five concerts, including a final performance as part of the 4th of July festivities at Lincoln Park.

Pittsburg Band Opens For Blood, Sweat and Tears

A favorite local band, The Joe Fund, was invited to open for the Blood, Sweat and Tears concert in Joplin on May 31. The Joe Fund features, among others, PSU alum Jeremiah Nichol and current PSU student Matt Bennett.

College of Arts and Sciences Reunion Slated for October 4th

As a part of the year’s continuing PSU Centennial Celebration, the College of Arts and Sciences will hold a reunion event in association with the October 4th football game versus Missouri-Rolla. The event will begin at 10:00 am in the oval and will feature displays by the various departments in the CAS. Each building will have an open house, and alumni will be able to witness first-hand the improvements made in facilities over the past few years. Special seating areas have been reserved in the stadium for CAS Alumni. Please be sure to inform the University Ticket Office of your association with the CAS when ordering tickets in order to insure seating in the designated area. Additional information about this event will appear in future PSU publications.

ALUMNI NEWS

Have we heard from you lately? If not, please take a moment to complete the response form and return it to us! This is the best way to keep our files updated and to share news of your recent activities with other members of the PSU Music Alumni network. Thanks!

Peter Acosta (MM ’93) is currently serving as Director of Athletic Bands at Syracuse University.

Brian Beeson (BME ’96) writes that things are going well for him in Texas, where he will continue this year in a position as Assistant Director of Music in the Seymour school system.

Cathy Cain (att. ’79-’81) is active as a pianist in the Coffeyville area. She plays for the First Baptist Church and works as an accompanist at a local private school. Cathy completed her BME degree in 1985 at Evangel College, and she has had a wide variety of musical experiences since that time.

David Chamberlain (BM ’99) is living in Tulsa, where he finds many opportunities to remain active as a singer. Among his recent projects was a May concert with the Tulsa Oratorio Chorus.

John (MM ’01) and Liz (Homesley) Cook (BM ’01), following their April 26 wedding ceremony in Fort Scott, have settled in Bolivar, MO. Liz sends word that she has accepted a music position with the Weaubleau, MO school system.

Louise (Glen) DeLaney (BGS ’98) recently accepted the duties of worship pastor/music director of her church, the Christian Family Center in Azusa, California.

PSU 2003-2004

Solo & Chamber Music Series

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<td>Los Angeles Guitar Quartet</td>
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PSU Music Notes is published twice a year by the Department of Music at Pittsburg State University

Craig A. Fuchs
Chair, Department of Music

Susan Marchant
Newsletter Editor

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changes of address or employment.

changes of address. Changes of employment.
at any time. Please use this form to report

We welcome news of our alumni and friends. Please keep us informed.
PSU Department of Music
Faculty

Craig Fuchs, Associate Professor
Chair of the Department
Director of Bands

Reena Berger, Assistant Professor
Piano

Joanne Britz, Assistant Professor
Clarinet and Saxophone

Steven Elisha, Lecturer
Cello and Double Bass

Selim Giray, Assistant Professor
Violin and Viola

James Hall, Lecturer
Flute

Stella Hastings, Assistant Professor
Director, Southeast Kansas Symphony
Voice, Theory

Todd Hastings, Associate Professor
Trumpet, Jazz, Music Appreciation

Carol Hoyt, Lecturer
Piano, Piano Pedagogy

David Hurley, Associate Professor
Music History, Oboe, Music Appreciation

Russell Jones, Professor
Director of Graduate Studies
Music Education, Woodwinds

Lori Kehle, Lecturer
Piano

Robert Kehle, University Professor
Director of Jazz Studies
Low Brass and Music Appreciation

Susan Marchant, University Professor
Director of Choral Activities
Organ, Harpsichord

Jessie Wright Martin, Assistant Professor
Voice, Vocal Pedagogy and Literature

Joyce Medford, Lecturer
Elementary Music Education

Matthew Montague, Assistant Professor
Music Education Coordinator
Choral Education, Music Appreciation

Kathryn Parke, Lecturer
Voice

John Ross, Assistant Professor
Theory and Composition

Brian Woods, Instructor
Voice and Opera
Will Demings (BME ’02) begins an MBA at PSU in the fall semester. He has been awarded a graduate assistantship in the Office of Admission.

Josh Dempster (BM ’00) continues as a graduate student at the University of Utah and has now joined the Salt Lake Symphony as their new bass trombonist.

Larry Gillum (MM ’67) retired from the Music Department of the Jefferson County Schools in the metropolitan Denver area. He and his wife, Brenda, moved to the mountain community of Estes Park, where Brenda is an RN in the Clinic of Estes Park Medical Center. Larry continues work as an organist and pianist, currently serving the Community Church of the Rockies (Presbyterian) in Estes Park. He would enjoy hearing from old friends: GillumCo@aol.com.

Jason Hubbard (BME ’99) has graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a master’s degree in choral conducting. He spent the summer singing with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and he will begin a teaching position with an Episcopal school in Baton Rouge this fall.

Leah (McCormick) Knight (BME ’01) returned to the PSU campus for her wedding in Timmons Chapel on July 5. She and her husband, Jason, have settled in Scammon, KS, where they will be involved in pastoral work at the Scammon Holiness Mission.

Ruth (Eberle) Koca (BME ’54) taught for 25 years in the El Dorado RII Schools in Missouri. Ruth still directs her church choir, and she continues her 43-year tradition of playing in - and sometimes directing - the Municipal Band, an ensemble that has enjoyed a continuous summer tradition since the year 1887. Ruth’s son and two grandchildren also participate in this ensemble that plays three concerts per week during June, July, and August.

Anna (Laudati) Lechliter (BA ’86) writes that she and her family are living in Emporia. Anna directs the choir at Emporia’s First Congregational Church, and her husband John is the executive director of the historic Emporia Gazette. Anna and John have two sons, Eric and Adam.

Janice Malan (BME ’73, MM ’91) continues to enjoy success as an arranger. She is currently involved in many orchestration projects for clients throughout the United States. Among her recent successes is work on music for a DVD documentary on Elvis Presley, titled Behind the Image. European sales of the disk have been extraordinary.

Robyn Moss (BME ’01) sends word that she has returned to her alma mater, Bluestem Public Schools, in Leon, KS, where she will serve as band director for grades 5-12.

Lori Pommier (BME ’03) has accepted a teaching position in Archie, MO. Her duties include high school and junior high choirs. She will also share elementary teaching responsibilities with the school’s band director.

Lisa (Pearman) Qualis (MM ’84) is completing her fifth year of teaching at Crowder College. She also works at the Southwest Center for Educational Excellence on a National Science Foundation grant related to math and science education. Lisa is gaining experience in “online” teaching at the college level, and she is also pursuing a Specialist degree in higher education. She and her husband, David, have been blessed with three children: Corban, Hannah, and Faith Elizabeth.

April (Anderson) Raccuglia (BA ’88) writes that she and her husband, Mark, are in their fifth year of owning and operating a residential trash service. After five years in public accounting and five years in the private sector, April works part-time doing financial accounting for their business. The couple adopted their first child, Joshua, last summer.

Josh Simpson (BM ’03) will begin a master’s degree in vocal performance at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Angela Stansberry (BM ’96) appeared this past spring in Heartland Opera’s performance of Menotti’s The Old Maid and the Thief. She will be back on stage on October 3-4, this time with the Springfield Regional Opera in a semi-staged performance of Rossini’s La Cenerentola. Angela will sing the role of Clorinda, one of the step-sisters.

Shawn (Tullis) Terrell (BME ’03) and Timothy (“TJ”) Terrell tied the knot in a June 28 wedding ceremony in Pittsburg’s First United Methodist Church, where they have both been active members of the music program. TJ continues his managerial work with Wal-Mart, and Shawn begins an elementary music teaching position in Caney, KS this fall. The couple has settled in Independence.

Ron Warford (BM ’95, MM ’98) has left his teaching post at Saint Louis Christian College in order to move into a ministry position at Southland Christian Church in Springfield, MO.

Nathan Young (BS ’97) sends word of his marriage to Danielle Shivers on March 15 in Lawrence, Kansas.

Obituaries

Dean Coulter (BGS ’91) died at his home in Preston, Kansas on July 2. He had worked with youth and in various capacities with persons with disabilities for a number of years. He had also worked as an estimator and supervisor for Tri-State Building and Supply Co. in Pittsburg. An active member of the PSU choral program during his undergraduate years, he continued to sing in the Pittsburg community in later years. He is survived by his wife, Michelle, and two children, Caleb and Devon.

Jan Seifert (BM ’60, MM ’61) died in Norman, Oklahoma on April 26. He had earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in trumpet performance at Pittsburg State University. He also held a graduate degree from the University of Illinois. His training in library science led him to several positions within that discipline, the last of which was at the University of Oklahoma. During his tenure of more than 20 years at OU, he served as director of public services, head of the fine arts libraries, head of branch libraries, and interim coordinator of collection development. He is survived by his wife, Alice (BM ’60), three children, and two granddaughters.