

National Association of Schools of Music

SELF-STUDY

In Format A

Presented for consideration by the
NASM Commission on Accreditation

by

Sam Houston State University
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Renewal of Final Approval

Bachelor of Arts

- Music Major Track

Bachelor of Music

- Performance
 - Instrumental Track
 - Voice Track
 - Piano/keyboard Track
- Teacher Certification
 - Instrumental – winds, brass, percussion emphasis
 - Instrumental – strings emphasis
 - Choral emphasis
- Composition Track

Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy

Master of Music

- Performance Track
- Composition Track
- Conducting Track
- Musicology Track
- Music Therapy Track
- Collaborative Piano/Chamber Music Track

Plan Approval

Performers Certificate

Artist Diploma

- b. Work with the College of Fine Arts & Mass Communication and the University administration to develop plans and secure funding to adequately maintain the performance halls, classrooms, rehearsal spaces, practice rooms, labs, and storage space
- c. To maintain and expand our equipment resources to meet the needs of our expanding enrollment
- d. To continue efforts in the area of recruiting to assure proper balance of the student population. This effort will enable the continuation of our high-quality programs.
- e. To improve marketing of the School of Music through the development of visually stimulating materials and increased scholarship funding.
- f. To provide special experiences in music-making that stimulate students to achieve their highest musical potential, such as regular tours and accepting invitations for prestigious performances by way of competitive auditions.

Relation to University Mission

The School of Music's goals and objectives listed are clearly consistent with the overall mission of the institution.

University Mission Statement

Sam Houston State University provides high quality education, scholarship, and service to qualified students for the benefit of regional, state, national and international constituencies.

University Goals:

- Foster a lifelong learning environment in support of a diverse faculty and staff who are excellent scholars, educators, and professionals.
- Promote a stimulating learning environment through the integration of academic settings, campus culture and service.
- Increase and develop university resources and infrastructures that support the intellectual transformation of students.
- Enhance marketing outreach and visibility to include academic and scholarly activities through consistent and integrated messaging while optimizing communication channels.
- Promote efficient data driven decision-making through the integration of centralized data analysis, review, and dissemination.
- Cultivate a continually sensitive and proactive response to the ever-changing needs of our constituents.

Describe how concepts and statements regarding music unit and institutional purposes:

1. Guide and influence decision-making, analysis, and planning regarding curricular offerings, operational matters, and resources:

The basis for making decisions related to curriculum, procedures and futures, is strongly predicated on the mission and goals of the school (as stated above). Some additional curriculum changes have been most recently driven by changes as required by the College of Education and the State of Texas legislature.

area (Bentwater). All the proceeds go directly to the School of Music. This has been very successful with community engagement and has increased our Friends of Music budget. Our Friends of Music account has grown to its largest balance ever in the past 3 years.

6. Long-range financial planning, including results

Budget requests are submitted to the Dean based upon the strategic plan. The Director meets with the Financial Assistant, Shannon Murdock, at the beginning of each year once budgets have been loaded. We then allocate the moneys appropriately to different areas of the School of Music.

D. Governance and Administration

Evaluate the extent to which governance and administrative structures and activities:

1. Fulfill the purposes of the institution and the music unit

The Director, faculty colleagues, and standing or ad hoc committees propose educational policies. These proposals are presented to the full faculty for action. Curricular proposals or other matters requiring wider university action are then forwarded to the appropriate university body for further review and action. These procedures seem to work adequately and support the mission, goals and objectives appropriately. The curriculum committee is vitally important to the growth, development and stability of the School. We have a well-established, effective committee that meet on a regular basis and constantly address curriculum issues.

The Board of Regents of the Texas State University System governs the university. In addition, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board must approve all new programs and substantive curricular changes. This board has broad powers to approve or disapprove curriculum for all Texas state-assisted universities. Music curricular proposals require the approval of this board. This is not generally seen as a hindrance: Our programs are in place and are consistent with our size, scope and mission. It does; however, take a long time to instill curricular changes with the current system.

2. Assure fundamental educational, artistic, administrative, and financial continuity and stability

The School of Music enjoys tremendous supported at all levels of the University administration. The mission of the University and the “SoM” are kept at the forefront of all decisions both educationally and artistically. This helps provide continuity and stability year after year.

3. Show evidence of long-range programmatic planning

Please see the Strategic plan. (MDP III) The School of Music holds calendar meetings each spring to plan the artistic calendar for the next academic year. In addition, the guest artist committee solicits input from the faculty for guest artists for the next year. Annually, the School of Music hosts a faculty retreat the week before the fall semester begins. This is a time for planning at all levels for the upcoming academic year and beyond.

4. Demonstrate a primary focus on supporting teaching and learning

See mission statement and strategic plan. The third point in the strategic plan specifically addresses our commitment to teaching and learning:

To enhance the University's commitment to the faculty unit, and to support the music faculty in its academic and teaching missions

- a. To continue to pursue resources to support the faculty's teaching, research, and service*
- b. To continue to foster an effective faculty governance structure that is both efficient and equitable*
- c. To increase support for professional development and enrichment activities for the faculty*
- d. To explore options to increase the School of Music staff to support the department's and faculty's workloads*
- e. To increase faculty lines to effectively maintain the current and future growth of the School of Music*

5. Provide mechanisms for communication among all components of the unit

Communication between the Director, faculty and staff is generally effective. Full faculty meetings are held once per month; A few committees, such as the curriculum committee and various search committees, meet on a regular basis and committee chairs report to the music executive and faculty as needed. Faculty members are, for the most part, open and candid in communication with the Director. This aids greatly in dealing with opportunities and challenges as they arise. Email is the most frequently used means of communication between the executive and faculty members. Area meetings and staff meetings are also conducted on a regular basis.

Faculty communication with students is good. Faculty are required to maintain office hours and students have the freedom to see faculty during those periods or make appointments. Music executives and the music academic advisor are available to speak with students, usually by appointment. Email is also an effective tool for communicating with students.

6. Provide the music executive and other administrators of specialized areas sufficient time and staff to execute the required administrative and/or teaching duties effectively

The music executive receives .50 FTE release for administrative duties and .50 FTE for teaching. Creative activities, community service and performance are subsumed in the total. The fact is that the