

**Music Department  
Action Update  
2009**

Update

In July 2009 Prof. T. J. Harper left for a tenure-track position at another university. Ms. Anastasia Glasheen, who originally had accepted a one-year temporary position, declined at the end of July. She cited the overwhelming lack of facilities, terrible conditions of the facilities we do have, and low salary as reasons. She described nothing new in her rejection of the position. Dr. Stephen Gothold, who retired in 2008, will return for yet another one-year appointment. In the Fall 2009, a national search for a tenure-track choral position will begin.

**Music Department Priorities:**

**Growth of the University of La Verne Music Program**

**- Top Priorities**

- 1. Founders Auditorium remodel – This is a must! Currently there is no adequate performance hall for music.**
- 2. Scholarships ~ the only way any music program has been established. Music works like Athletics, except without divisions and rules. Students must be given substantial scholarships if they will even consider coming to La Verne for music.**
- 3. Addition of 1 Music Full-time Faculty – instrumental (specifically, chamber music, meaning music of many periods and genre for small instrumental ensembles, with abilities in at least one other area, piano, music education, music business/commercial music, musical theater, music technology). They must be recruiters for the University and the department.**

Priorities

4. Music Technology/Commercial Music – Add a course in music technology/sound engineering focusing on Sibelius and ProTools (A small but well equipped sound engineering lab is in place.)
5. Add more performing ensembles – wind ensemble, brass ensemble, jazz band, rock band, world music ensembles

**Additional action and emphasis.**

**1. Work with University Development and the Administration for funding a performance center.**

A performing center is considered a long-term project. In the meantime, the renovation of the Auditorium is being discussed and planned. The committee includes the Music Department – a fact that in the current modus operandi – needs to be noted. We have continually pressed for an excellent acoustician to be completely involved, and thus far,

are being listened to. If any cynicism is detected in this statement, it is in fact, from many years of experiencing a situation at this University where advice has not been sought from the faculty “who use the facility.” While the renovation answers a major obstacle for the department, it will not solve all of the problems with our facilities, but it is most definitely our biggest challenge.

#### Update 2009

The 2009 update includes the following information provided by the university about Founders Auditorium renovation.

#### **Founders Auditorium Design**

A campus steering group has been working with the architectural firm of Phillips Metsch Sweeney Moore to develop a conceptual design for the much needed renovation of Founders’ Auditorium. The proposed design incorporates retention of the historic feel of the hall with improvements in lighting, sound, stage equipment and acoustical improvements that would accommodate University convocations, presentations and music performances. The work would also air condition the facility and enhance entrance and patron seating.



The conceptual design is captured in the rendering above.

Because of challenges imposed by existing mechanical and electrical installations, the project as presented carries a high cost estimated by the design team in the range of \$5M. The Executive Team is considering the scope and timing of the project and examining

funding options. Should the project move forward, we anticipate project completion by spring of 2011.

Following a meeting on May 8, 2009 of the upper administration and the architects, it was decided to renovate the seats, window coverings, add A/C and heating, extend the stage and add a stage shell using the 2.5 million available in bond monies. Hopefully we will be able to draw larger audiences than depicted in the rendering. **However, it was considered not feasible to complete the acoustical aspects of the project at this time. Without detailed attention to the acoustics of this very sad hall, it will continue to disappoint, dismay, and bewilder those who perform and attend concerts.**

2. Continue discussion with the School of Business and the Law School to add an emphasis in music business.

This has been addressed extensively in the past several years. Potential majors in Music Business have been designed on at least two different occasions, but it is apparent that launching such a program will have to be in close cooperation with the School of Business and with additional staffing. Thus far, students, while showing an interest in courses in Music Business during conversation, have not enrolled when the classes have been offered.

Update 2009

In 2009 several students are graduating with a major in business and a minor in music. At this point, this seems to be working well for students interested in music business. Two music majors have worked also in music engineering and have completed senior projects in this area.

3. Continue working with the Theater Department to add an emphasis in music theatre.

It is clear that an additional full-time faculty position will have to be created, either in the music department or as a position shared by both theater and music for this to be an excellent emphasis. The demands on faculty, staff, students, and budget are extensive for such a program. It will, without a doubt in faculty minds, “grow” both departments rapidly and substantially.

Update 2009

For the 2009-2010 academic year Stephen Gothold is returning to his position as Choral Director. He is one of the most experienced and successful Music Theater directors in Southern California and very successfully put on three outstanding performances, two in collaboration with the Theater and one “within” the music department. As we coordinate his position and contract for this year it will be important to include a production, possibly in Spring 2010.

4. Continue working with CAPA to develop a strategy for recruiting more “adult” students.

This is a matter of being included in the advertisements that list potential majors through CAPA as well as a change of thinking that only business and administrative-oriented emphasis can successfully draw students.

#### Update 2009

A CAPA student who will graduate January 2010 has presented a remarkable senior project on teaching performance lessons online. Another is completing of online teaching. The Director of CAPA is eager to work to develop more online music courses for our off-campus centers. Prof. Gratz has been contacted by eight people this past month who are interested in completing their degrees through the articulation agreement between La Verne and the Grove School of Music (from 1985).

#### 5. Concert Series

The Music Department has recently offered a two-year position to Dr. T. J. Harper as Director of Choral and Vocal Music. He brings a personality, experience, and musicianship to the department that at this time, we believe, will bring a positive energy and direction to the program. Dr. Harper comes at the highly regarded recommendation of Dr. Stephen Gothold, who retires next week. We are excited about the possibilities. Dr. Harper will be closely involved in rethinking the Concert Series.

#### Update 2009

In 2009 the Concert Series has continued to evolve and develop. The four large choral concerts this academic year have been performed at the nearby Church of the Brethren, which is an excellent venue for these types of concerts and which draws a large audience. The final choral concert with orchestra was performed in addition at a church in Burbank. When Founders Auditorium is renovated (see under number 5) these concerts can be held on campus. The Concert Series has continued to include faculty, guest and student recitals as well as the West African Drum Ensemble, which has become quite popular and well received.

#### 6. Continue to add recording equipment and program to the recording studio.

Only modest gains have been made in this regard due to budget constraints.

#### Update 2009

In 2009 more equipment has been added and many students and faculty are using the recording studio. There is a possibility of gaining additional space across the hall from the recording studio to be used as a teaching studio for adjunct faculty with an area perhaps dedicated to an extension of the recording studio. Our studio is capable of high quality recordings, podcasts, and coordination with the Radio and Television Departments, in particular, but with, potentially, every department.

#### 7. Work stations (for music study and composition) must be added to the keyboard lab.

No progress has been made in this regard due to budget constraints.

#### Update 2009

In 2009 there has still been no progress in this area. Prof. Gratz recently completed a 10 hour course on Sibelius 6 (though we haven't ordered it yet for the department), the most advanced notation software. Faculty and students are ready for and in need of the opportunity to study advanced digital recording methods at the university.

Additional Notes

• The Department was promoted in the last issue of the Campus Times (the ULV student newspaper) featuring recent performances, one of our outstanding students, and an upcoming performance. The students deserve this sort of coverage. In the past week the choirs performed the Schubert Mass in G, some Ned Rorem pieces; followed by two performances of *Pirates of Penzance* under the direction of Dr. Gothold. They collaborated with the Rio Hondo choir on the first piece. The West African Drum Ensemble performed (featuring the La Verne Elementary Schools Honor Choir) a well-attended and successful concert.

Update 2009

In 2009 the Campus Times continued to cover musical events extensively.

• Difficulties and inefficiency dominate any work with HR regarding adjunct professors, guest musicians, and staff. The duplication of forms, seemingly needless paperwork and redundancy, is overwhelming. This is costing the University a fortune through mismanagement in the name of “protecting” ourselves. It is my hope that we can find a more efficient, less demoralizing way in which to carry on the business of educating our students.

**Vision for Growth in the ULV Music Department**

ULV Music Department and our Comparison Institutions

Institution	ULV	APU	Chapman	Redlands	Pepperdine	Scripps	Whittier
Full-Time Faculty	3	11	17	15	9	6	4
Part-time Faculty	20	23	55	25	30	5	17
Ensembles Vocal	2	6	5	4	3	2	2
Ensembles Instrumental	1	12	8 (2 affiliate)	4	6	2	1
Music Performance Facilities	0	1	2 + (25+25 K for new PAC)	2	3	3	2
Music Unit	Dept	Sch	Conservatory	School	FA Division	Dept	Dept
Music Ed	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Graduate Music	No	Yes M	No	Yes M	No	No	No
NASM Accreditation	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No