

FSMTA
Summer Board Meeting
June 21, 2008
Gainesville, Florida

Activities since the Winter Board meeting have included the following

1. Attendance at MTNA Conference in Denver, March 28—April 1
 - a. Three student members from the Manatee Community College chapter attended the Conference with me
 - b. While at the Conference I attended both the College Faculty Forum and the Collegiate Chapters forum
 - c. I was also able to network with were other Florida College faculty and collegiate members attending the Conference
2. Utilized the FMTA College Council distribution list to maintain communication with College faculty members, e.g., for the StAR (MTNA Student Achievement Recognition) Award notification
3. Made tentative plans for October event in conjunction with the MTNA Competitions

The tentative plans for the College Faculty-focused event in October is to include a performance/commissioned composition highlighting classical guitar. There are several reasons behind this idea.

- MTNA has discontinued Guitar competitions several years ago.
- Many college faculty are drawn to join MTNA/FSMTA in order to provide opportunities for student competitions.
- There are a number of collegiate members whose principal instrument is the guitar. It is important to have instrument-specific events as a means of retention.
- This event could serve as a gauge of interest in classical guitar in Florida and lay the groundwork for instituting a FSMTA state competition to replace the defunct MTNA Young Artist Guitar competition. While at the College Faculty Forum at the MTNA Conference, I learned that several other states still have state competitions for classical guitar.
- As Lisa Leonard, Faculty advisor from the Lynn University MTNA chapter has pointed out, the new schedule for the FSMTA Conference has limited performance of new compositions. Rex Willis, Composition/Guitar instructor at Manatee Community College (and former member of FSMTA), has expressed his willingness to compose a selection for this event. Details for this event have not yet been finalized, but one concept could be to focus on “new music,” with the guitar being a secondary but significant focus.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Turon, Ph.D., NCTM, FSCTM
Chair, College Council