

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By now you will have received the Call for Nominations, thanks to Vivien Taylor who is our Nominations Chair this year. Please exercise your right as CAML members to nominate candidates for the full slate of positions, and consider allowing your name to stand for election.

The CAML Board met on Sunday March 17th via conference call; thanks go to Timothy Maloney for allowing a portion of the costs to be absorbed by the National Library Music Division's budget. A wide range of issues was discussed. The alarming decline in CAML's membership gives cause for great concern: over the past 18 months, our individual memberships have fallen from 76 to 50, from 2 students to none, from 46 institutions to 39, and from 9 subscriptions to 7; the total membership is reduced from 133 to 96! Once again, we need to ask how we can increase our membership and keep CAML a viable and dynamic organization. Should we consider broadening our membership base by including Fine Arts and Dance librarians, for instance? What can we do to regain lapsed members? CAML's existence depends upon its members, and we need and welcome your ideas! The Board has struck a working group to examine the issues and options, with Desmond Maley and Janice Coles participating. If you are interested in helping, please contact any Board member.

Two CAML committees, RidiM and Cataloguing, are now without chairs. Again, any interest in participating in these areas would be most welcome.

On a more cheerful note--it's spring-time in Vancouver, and we're gearing up for the annual meeting. CAML last met here in 1983, with the Learned Societies. This time we'll be on our own, and I hope that you will enjoy the programme of sessions and tours which has been planned. Check the CAML web page for conference updates!

Thinking ahead to 1997, we are considering meeting with the Learned Societies in Newfoundland. If this works out, CAML will truly have gone coast-to-coast. I look forward to seeing many of you soon in Vancouver.

Until then, best wishes for a pleasant spring.

Kirsten Walsh
CAML President

