



Lee Higgins – President-Elect ISME Biennial Plan

As presented to members at the General Assembly, 28 July 2017, Glasgow, Scotland

- Overseeing Constitution, Bylaw and Policy Review;
- All season society;
- Articulating the importance of an inclusive music education to a wider section of society;
- Board Culture: How business is done;
- Baku 2018.

Overseeing Constitution, Bylaw and Policy Review:

With support of the *ISME Constitution, Bylaws and Policy Review Committee*, led by Gary McPherson, the next two years will see some major changes to the blueprint that guides the running of the organization. Flowing from the 2014/16 biennium the first phase of these changes are underway and the proposal of the one-member one-vote policy will be voted on in Glasgow 2016.

Why?

In order for the society to be more member-focused, pro-active, and all-inclusive past boards have decided that changes in the constitution and by-laws need to happen. The incoming board will work closely with the committee to produce its proposal and recommendations for members votes in 2018. This will result in more transparency of operation and leadership.

Extending from this it will allow ISME to be registered in a jurisdiction and that in turn will allow for possible connection to UNESCO as well as being able to set up a foundation and seek philanthropic funds for its future projects.

All Season society

From my experience ISME as an organization is predominately known for its biennial conference. This is understandable as it constitutes a major source of the societies income and is the highest profile event we do. Our members eagerly look forward to this event and have a lot of investment in it. The commissions, SIGs, and forums, underpin this by providing a solid foundation through which a commitment to the society is fostered. For some, this manifest further through our journal which is generally understood as one of the premier music education publications.

- How can we build upon this commitment and extend our current members connection to the society throughout the year?
- How can we reach out and connect with music educators that don't either know who we are, or who do not see us as relevant to their interest?
- How can we work towards ISME being understood as a society where the conference is just one of its events the members can get involved in?
- What would it take to change the perception that ISME is about a conference every two-years?

Why?

Inclusivity and value between conferences

Moving toward an 'all-season' society is important for a number of reason not least of which that our conference event will never be accessible to the diversity of members we (1) currently have, and (2) we would like to have in the future. The reasons for not being able to attend the ISME conference may be geography, economics, politics, timing, and personal matter. We want to avoid situations where 'failure' to attend a conference(s) means disengagement with the society, or a feeling that the organization isn't relevant anymore. Technology and live streaming can, and will, become more ubiquitous within our conference events but we need to think beyond the event itself in order to both develop and grow.

How?

- Communications
- Practitioners resource
- Under one umbrella
- Regional conferences
- Collaborative research
- Early-career professionals

Articulating the importance of an inclusive music education to a wider section of society.

Why?

- To continue seeking effective ways to underscore our mission;
- To find alternative platforms to champion our key messages;
- Towards a 'state' of music education globally.

How?

Set up working party to explore audiences, rationale, strategy medium
Potentially using website, collaborative 'localized' research – video, YouTube etc.

Board Culture: How business is done

Why?

The ISME board is voted on by the membership to lead the organization. If those elected do not feel valued or included the decisions, direction, and overall quality of the leadership suffers.

- To create a collegial culture a wider population might want to be part of it;
- In order that board members feel their 'voice' is heard, valued, and included;
- Reduce the siloes;
- Create models of inclusive practice.

How?

- Emphasis on strategy;
- Small working groups;
- Board webinars and basecamp;
- Have some fun!

Baku 2018

Why?

Supporting different regions of the world
Creating wider access

How?

- Conference
- Clustered commissions
- Working alongside Turksoy
- Establishing Turkic region INAs
- Supporting the COG