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*The purpose of this study was to examine selected characteristics of the editorial committee of the* Journal of Research in Music Education (JRME) *during the publication's first 40 years (1953–1992). Findings include: (1) the appointment of women to the committee increased significantly by decade but lagged behind female researcher productivity in music education; (2) committee members received their doctorates from and were affiliated with a relatively large number of colleges and universities; (3) generally, geographical distribution of the doctoral-degree-granting and affiliated institutions was proportionate to regional populations; (4) committee members' rate of publication in the* JRME *before appointment increased significantly by decade; and (5) female members published significantly more* JRME *articles than did male members during one decade, but there was no significant publication difference between male and female members for the four decades combined. The authors noted a possible trend toward dominance among doctoral-degree-granting institutions, but applauded the demographic representativeness of the committee over the four decades and continuing improvements toward the same.*

**Jere T. Humphreys and Sandra L. Stauffer**
*Arizona State University, Tempe*

# An Analysis of the Editorial Committee of the *Journal of Research in Music Education,* 1953–1992

Scholars have examined citation patterns in selected music education research journals (Brittin & Standley, 1997; Hamman & Lucas, 1998; Sample, 1992; Schmidt & Zdzinski, 1993); they have also investigated the history, content, or policies of one or more such journals (Brittin & Standley, 1997; Grashel & Lowe, 1995; Hall, 1998; Hedden, 1993; Humphreys, 1985; Kratus, 1992; LeBlanc & McCrary, 1991; Price & Orman, 1996; Scholten, 1998; Stabler, 1986; Standley,

Jere T. Humphreys is a professor of music education in the School of Music, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-0405; e-mail: Jere.Humphreys@asu.edu. Sandra L. Stauffer is an associate professor of music education at the same institution; her e-mail: Sandra.Stauffer@asu.edu. 

1984; Yarbrough, 1984, 1996). Research journal editorial committees exert considerable influence on their respective journals, yet the research literature in music education contains no published studies on the composition of these committees.

The purpose of this study was to examine selected characteristics of the editorial committee of the *Journal of Research in Music Education (JRME)* during the publication's first 40 years (1953–1992). The authors examined the following variables for each committee member: (1) gender, (2) institution from which his or her doctorate was obtained, (3) institutional affiliation(s) during the term(s) of service, (4) geographical distribution of the doctoral-degree-granting institutions in relation to the general population, (5) geographical distribution of the affiliated institutions in relation to the general population, and (6) number of *JRME* articles published prior to appointment.

## HISTORY OF THE *JRME*

In early 1952, Allen P. Britton and Warren S. Freeman submitted a proposal for a music education research journal to the Music Educators National Conference (MENC). A planning committee appointed by MENC president Marquerite V. Hood recommended a two-tiered editorial staff consisting of six editorial board members and twelve associate editors. Soon thereafter, Britton and Theodore F. Normann were appointed chairman of the editorial committee and book review editor, respectively (Normann, 1952). After soliciting names of people interested in serving on the editorial staff, Britton and Hood apparently submitted nominations to the MENC Executive Committee (subsequently renamed the Board of Directors) for final approval (Warren, 1966/1967). The first editorial staff was appointed in September 1952 (Britton, 1984).

According to Warren (1966/1967), editorial personnel were expected to possess "good musicianship, writing ability, devotion to the cause of music education, and willingness to serve without remuneration" (p. 144). In addition, "a wide representation was sought in terms of geographical location, outstanding universities, and candidates of rich experience and research potential" (p. 146). The original criteria for editorial committee membership did not include published research. Indeed, early committee members had few or no opportunities to publish in the *JRME*, and music educators rarely availed themselves of opportunities to publish their research elsewhere (Humphreys, 1985). To establish a 6-year staggered-term rotation, one third of the original members were appointed to 6-year terms, one-third to 4-year terms, and one-third to 2-year terms. The first issue of the *JRME* was published in the spring of 1953.



In 1958, the MENC Board of Directors (subsequently renamed the National Executive Board) approved the following changes: (1) an indefinite term for the editor, (2) a six-member committee of editorial associates in addition to the editor, (3) the right of editorial associates to success themselves after a lapse of 2 years, and (4) a procedure by which the editorial staff could recommend committee replacements to the Board of Directors. In 1963, the *JRME* was placed under the aegis of the MENC Music Education Research Council, or MERC (Warren, 1966/1967), which henceforth assumed primary responsibility for nominating replacements for the editorial committee. Eventually, the title of chairman of the editorial committee was changed to editor (Britton, 1984), and the two-tier structure was abandoned. As of this writing, the editorial committee consists of 18 members, including the editor, and the MERC Executive Committee nominates replacement personnel to the National Executive Board. The current "Handbook of the Society for Research in Music Education" states that potential committee members must "present a record of publication of research reports and articles, to include articles in the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and other refereed professional journals of comparable prominence" (Jellison, 1993, p. 274).

## METHOD

For the purposes of this study, the authors defined editorial committee members as all individuals who served as *JRME* editorial committee chairmen, editors, editorial associates, and committee members during the publication's first four decades. The names were taken from the *JRME*'s editorial roster. Individuals who served two terms were counted twice for most of the analyses ($n = 5$).

To facilitate an analysis of changes over time, we defined decades of *JRME* publication as follows: Decade 1, Spring 1953–Winter 1962 (Volumes 1–10); Decade 2, Spring 1963–Winter 1972 (Volumes 11–20); Decade 3, Spring 1973–Winter 1982 (Volumes 21–30); and Decade 4, Spring 1983–Winter 1992 (Volumes 31–40). Individual committee members were assigned to the decade in which their names first appeared on the publication's editorial roster.

Granting institution was defined as the college or university from which a committee member earned his or her doctorate. We obtained this information from University Microfilms International databanks, university records, and correspondence with various individuals. Members with honorary ($n = 1$), foreign ($n = 1$), or no doctoral degrees ($n = 4$) at the beginning of their terms were excluded from some portions of the analyses. We defined affiliated institution as any college or university listed under a committee member's name

Table 1
*Numbers and Percentages of* JRME *Editorial Committee Member Terms by Gender and Articles Published*

| | Decade | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1953–62 | 1963–72 | 1973–82 | 1983–92 | Total |
| Terms | | | | | |
| *n* | 27 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 117 |
| M:F Ratios | | | | | |
| *n* | 26:1 | 28:3 | 26:4 | 21:8 | 101:16 |
| % | 96:4 | 90:10 | 87:13 | 72:28 | 86:14 |
| Authors (*JRME*) | | | | | |
| *n* | 3 | 14 | 19 | 28 | 64 |
| % | 11 | 45 | 63 | 97 | 55 |
| Articles | | | | | |
| *n* | 3 | 18 | 44 | 75 | 147 |
| *M* (Males) | .115 | .643 | 1.269 | 2.714 | 1.099 |
| *M* (Females) | .000 | .000 | 2.750 | 2.250 | 1.812 |
| *M* (Total) | .111 | .581 | 1.467 | 2.586 | 1.256 |
| Range | 0–1 | 0–3 | 0–4 | 0–6 | 0–6 |

on the *JRME*'s editorial roster. Multiple affiliations were tabulated for members who changed institutions during their terms ($n$ = 14). We defined geographical region as the six (current) MENC divisions;[1] the one foreign affiliated institution was excluded from the regional analysis. We estimated division populations for the midpoint of each *JRME* decade (e.g., mean of 1957–1958 for Decade 1) from decennial census data (Bogue, 1985; Mattson, 1992) using a procedure described previously by Humphreys and Schmidt (1998).

We defined articles published as the number of *JRME* articles written or coauthored by an editorial committee member prior to his or her name's first appearance on the editorial roster. Book reviews, bibliographies, comments, and rebuttals were excluded.

## RESULTS

One hundred twelve individuals served 117 terms on the *JRME* editorial committee during the publication's first 40 years. Female representation on the committee increased significantly over time, from 4% ($n$ = 3) in Decade 1 to 28% ($n$ = 8) in Decade 4 ($\chi^2$ = 22.74, $df$ = 3, $p < .001$). However, women served only 14% ($n$ = 16) of the total terms over the four decades (Table 1).



Table 2
*Institutions that Contributed Three or More Doctoral Alumni to the* JRME *Editorial Committee* (n = *13*)

| | Decade | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Institution | 1953–62 | 1963–72 | 1973–82 | 1983–92 | Total | Rank |
| Florida State | 0 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 1.0 |
| Kansas | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 2.0 |
| Columbia | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 3.0 |
| Illinois | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 4.0 |
| Iowa | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5.5 |
| Michigan | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5.5 |
| Penn State | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7.0 |
| Indiana | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 10.0 |
| Northwestern | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 10.0 |
| Ohio State | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 10.0 |
| Rochester | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 10.0 |
| Wisconsin | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 10.0 |
| Boston | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 13.0 |

One hundred ten of the 112 editorial committee members held doctorates earned at 34 American institutions. Florida State University led other institutions in doctorates granted to Decade 3 ($n$ = 4) and Decade 4 ($n$ = 10) committee members and for the four decades combined ($n$ = 15) (Table 2). The top six institutions contributed 51% (n = 56) of the members with doctorates, whereas the top 13 institutions contributed 76% ($n$ = 84). The addition of six institutions that contributed two alumni each to the committee results in a list of 19 institutions that granted degrees to 87% ($n$ = 96) of all committee members with doctorates. Only four degree-granting institutions (Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Michigan) contributed alumni to the committee in all four decades.

Doctoral-granting institutions in the Eastern Division contributed approximately 41% of Decade 1 editorial committee members, but the North Central Division led in each of the remaining three

Table 3
*Committee Members' Doctoral-Degree-Granting and Affiliated Institutions by Decade and Division in Percent and in Relation to Population*

| | 1953–62 | 1963–72 | 1973–82 | 1983–92 | Total | $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 3) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Eastern Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 27.59 | 26.86 | 24.74 | 23.18 | 25.59 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 9.00 | 8.00 | 6.00 | 5.00 | 28.00 | |
| % | 40.90 | 26.67 | 20.69 | 17.24 | 25.45 | 12.49** |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | 2.58 | 0.00 | 0.36 | 0.88 | 0.00 | |
| Affiliated Institution. | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 4.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 3.00 | 19.00 | |
| % | 14.29 | 16.22 | 19.35 | 9.68 | 14.89 | 3.30 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | 4.22* | 2.62 | 0.66 | 5.54* | 2.82 | |
| **North Central Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 25.26 | 24.61 | 23.19 | 21.39 | 23.61 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 8.00 | 14.00 | 12.00 | 8.00 | 42.00 | |
| % | 36.36 | 46.67 | 41.38 | 27.59 | 38.18 | 5.11 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | 0.20 | 6.82** | 5.12* | 0.78 | 3.44 | |
| Affiliated Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 10.00 | 11.00 | 9.00 | 7.00 | 37.00 | |
| % | 35.71 | 29.73 | 29.03 | 22.58 | 29.26 | 2.96 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | 1.78 | 0.48 | 0.66 | 0.04 | 0.60 | |
| **Northwest Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 3.64 | 3.69 | 4.03 | 4.21 | 3.89 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3.00 | 0.00 | 3.00 | |
| % | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.34 | 0.00 | 2.73 | — |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | — | — | 2.77 | — | — | |
| Affiliated Institution | | | | | | |
| n | 1.00 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 8.00 | |
| % | 3.57 | 5.41 | 9.68 | 6.45 | 6.28 | 3.14 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | — | — | 2.32 | 0.46 | 0.56 | |

*(Table 3 continues on next page)*



Table 3 *(concluded)*

| | 1953–62 | 1963–72 | 1973–82 | 1983–92 | Total | $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 3) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Southern Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 20.74 | 20.61 | 21.84 | 22.73 | 21.48 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 0.00 | 2.00 | 4.00 | 11.00 | 17.00 | |
| % | 0.00 | 6.67 | 13.79 | 37.90 | 15.45 | 55.51*** |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | 20.74*** | 7.12** | 1.36 | 11.07*** | 0.98 | |
| Affiliated Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 7.00 | 4.00 | 5.00 | 5.00 | 21.00 | |
| % | 25.00 | 10.81 | 16.13 | 16.13 | 17.02 | 3.74 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | 0.40 | 3.06 | 0.86 | 1.12 | 0.52 | |
| **Southwestern Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 12.84 | 12.74 | 13.45 | 13.95 | 13.25 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 3.00 | 3.00 | 3.00 | 5.00 | 14.00 | |
| % | 13.64 | 10.00 | 10.34 | 17.24 | 12.73 | 2.68 |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | 0.02 | 0.33 | 0.40 | 0.28 | 0.01 | |
| Affiliated Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 3.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 12.00 | 27.00 | |
| % | 10.71 | 16.22 | 19.35 | 38.71 | 22.25 | 20.94*** |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | 0.20 | 0.42 | 1.06 | 11.64*** | 2.28 | |
| **Western Division** | | | | | | |
| Population | | | | | | |
| % | 9.93 | 11.49 | 12.76 | 14.55 | 12.18 | |
| Granting Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 2.00 | 3.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 6.00 | |
| % | 9.09 | 10.00 | 3.45 | 0.00 | 5.45 | 11.70** |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[a] | 0.04 | 0.10 | 5.33* | 14.52*** | 2.57 | |
| Affiliated Institution | | | | | | |
| $n$ | 3.00 | 8.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 15.00 | |
| % | 10.71 | 21.62 | 6.45 | 6.45 | 11.31 | 13.61** |
| $\chi^2$ ($df$ = 1)[b] | 0.02 | 3.10 | 2.08 | 3.12 | 0.04 | |

[a] The $\chi^2$s were computed on division differences between percentage of national population and percentage the national total of doctorates granted from each division.
[b] The $\chi^2$s were computed on division differences between percentage of national population and percentage the national total of affiliations from each division.

*$p < .05$; **$p < .01$; ***$p < .001$.

decades and over the four decades combined (Table 3). As a percentage of the national total, production from the Eastern and Western divisions declined significantly across decades, while Southern Division production increased significantly. All other divisions remained constant across decades within statistical limits ($p > .05$).

Relative to their respective percentages of the national population, granting institutions from the Southern Division were significantly underrepresented on the committee in Decades 1 and 2, as was the Western Division in Decades 3 and 4. The North Central Division was significantly overrepresented in Decades 2 and 3, and the Southern Division was overrepresented in Decade 4 (Table 3). Granting institutions from the Northwest Division produced no committee members for three of the four decades. No division was significantly over- or underrepresented relative to its percentage of the national population over the four decades ($p > .05$).

Editorial committee members were affiliated with 73 American institutions. The University of Kansas led all other institutions in contributions of faculty members to the editorial committee ($n = 7$), followed by two institutions with five each, four institutions with four each, and seven institutions with three each (Table 4).

Forty-eight percent ($n = 54$) of committee members were affiliated with these 14 institutions. Only one institution (Kansas) contributed more than two people in a single decade, and only four institutions (Florida State, Indiana, Kansas, and Washington) contributed committee members in all four decades.

The North Central Division led in institutional affiliations for Decade 1 with 36% ($n = 8$) of the members, and over the four decades with 29% ($n = 37$) (Table 3). The Northwest Division contributed only 6% ($n = 8$) of the total members. The Southwestern Division's contributions increased significantly from 11% of the total in Decade 1 to 39% in Decade 4, whereas the percentage of members from the Western Division peaked in Decade 2 and then declined significantly. As a percentage of population, the Eastern Division was significantly underrepresented in Decades 1 and 4, and the Southwestern Division was significantly overrepresented in Decade 4. No division was significantly over- or underrepresented over the four decades ($p > .05$).

The percentage of editorial committee members who published in the *JRME* before joining the committee increased from 11% ($n = 3$) in Decade 1 to 97% ($n = 28$) in Decade 4 ($\chi^2 = 71.48$, $df = 3$, $p < .001$) (Table 1). Similarly, the total number of *JRME* articles published by committee members before appointment increased significantly from Decade 1 ($n = 3$) to Decade 4 ($n = 75$) ($\chi^2 = 85.54$, $df = 3$, $p < .001$).

Women appointed in Decades 1 and 2 published no *JRME* articles before their terms began, but women in Decade 3 published more than twice as many articles prior to appointment than did their male counterparts, a statistically significant rank-order difference for Decade 3 (Mann-Whitney *U*, corrected for ties, $Z = -1.96$, $p < .05$) (Table 1). Furthermore, there was a significant difference in the number of articles published prior to appointment in favor of women for the four decades combined ($Z = -2.08$, $p < .05$). However, there was no significant difference for Decade 4 ($Z = -.86$, $p > .05$).



Table 4
*Institutions with three or more faculty members on the* JRME *Editorial Committee* (n = *14*)

| Institutions | Decade | | | | Total | Rank |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1953–62 | 1963–72 | 1973–82 | 1983–92 | | |
| Kansas | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 1.0 |
| Georgia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2.5 |
| Indiana | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2.5 |
| Florida State | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5.5 |
| Illinois | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5.5 |
| Penn State | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5.5 |
| Washington | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 5.5 |
| Colorado | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11.0 |
| Iowa | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 11.0 |
| Michigan | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 11.0 |
| North Texas | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11.0 |
| Ohio State | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11.0 |
| Oregon | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11.0 |
| Texas | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 11.0 |

## DISCUSSION

Women wrote approximately 43% of the research papers presented at the 1990 MERC biennial poster session (Hedden, 1992), 40% of *JRME* articles from the late 1970s through the 1980s (Hedden, 1993), and approximately 36% of doctoral dissertations on the history of music education and therapy completed in the 1980s (Humphreys, Bess, & Bergee, 1996/1997). Clearly, female membership on the *JRME* editorial committee for 1983–1992 (28%) lagged behind these indices of female researcher productivity. Furthermore, the fact that women appointed in Decade 3 had published more than