



## **Motion for approval at the 2022 General Assembly**

**That the Forum for Instrumental and Vocal Teaching be elevated to the status of an ISME Commission and with that receive the benefits and undertake the responsibilities of a Commission under ISME's Bylaw XIV (Constituent Bodies Items 1, 2 and 3a).**

**In approving this change the membership also approves a change of name to the Instrumental and Vocal Music Teaching Commission (IVMTC).**

### ***Bylaw XIV – Constituent Bodies***

- 1) *Constituent bodies of various types may be established to conduct the work of the Society. They may be designated as Commissions, Councils, Special Interest Groups, or Committees.*
  - a) *Provisions governing the functioning of these constituent bodies shall be established by the Board of Directors.*
  - b) *Except in the case of the Council of Professional Associations, every person serving on a Commission, Council, or Committee, and every member of a Special Interest Group must be a member of the Society eligible to vote pursuant to Bylaw III (Sections 2a, 2b, and 2c), and every person participating in an activity sponsored by a Commission, Council, Committee, or Special Interest Group must be a member of the Society.*
  - c) *No Commission, Council, Committee, or Special Interest Group shall have access to any funds of the Society except as specifically authorized by the Board of Directors.*
  - d) *Prior to each meeting of the General Assembly, the Chair of each Commission, Council, Committee, and Special Interest Group shall submit to the Board of Directors a written report on its activities since the previous meeting of the General Assembly.*
- 2) *Commissions devoted to research and practice in specific fields of interest within music education may be established or terminated by a vote of the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Board of Directors.*
  - a) *Each Commission shall consist of six (6) members, including a Chair. Two (2) members of each Commission shall be appointed each biennium. Commission members and Chairs shall be appointed by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Commission. Each*

*Commission member shall serve a term of six years and shall not be eligible for reappointment to that Commission. Each Commission Chair shall serve a term of two (2) years. A Chair may be reappointed, but any appointment as Chair shall expire when the term of that member on the Commission expires.*

- b) *Each Commission shall be responsible for organizing one or more sessions for the membership at each Biennial World Conference. These sessions shall be organized by the Chair of the Commission in cooperation with the local organizing groups.*
- 3) *Councils devoted to facilitating and supporting the work of the Society may be established or terminated by a vote of the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Board of Directors.*
- a) *The Chairs of the various Commissions shall constitute the Council of Commission Chairs. The President-Elect of the Society shall serve as Chair of the Council of Commission Chairs. The Council of Commission Chairs shall be convened during each Biennial World Conference of the Society.*

### **Background to the proposal and motion**

- *The Forum for Instrumental and Vocal Teaching was established in 2008*
- *The establishment of the Forum involved several leading ISME members and was initially convened by*
- *When established the Forum was given a unique status along with some of the privileges of a Commission including the approval to stage and receive funding to hold a Pre-Conference Seminar prior to each World Conference.*
- *The 2016 amendments to the ISME Constitution and Bylaws allow for only three types of constituted permanent bodies – Commissions, Committees and Councils. The Forum as an operational element of ISME became unconstitutional under the new constitution when it was that document was activated in July 2018 following the General Assembly held in Baku.*
- *The motion before the membership seeks to bring the Forum into an alignment with the current constitution otherwise the Forum. The choice is that the Forum will in future operate as a Commission or as a Special Interest Group*
- *The creation of a Commission requires the vote of the membership at the General Assembly.*
- *The process of establishing a new Commission is detailed as follows in Section 4.1(XV) of the ISME Policy Manual **The Creation, Modification, Alteration or Termination of Commissions***

**Creation of new Commission** *ISME encourages and welcomes members' initiatives to create new Commissions.*

*The normal procedure for establishing a new Commission is that ISME acts in consultation with the protagonists, to establish the need and potential viability of the new Commission by establishing:*

- *That there is interest from a committed and diverse nucleus of potential leaders,*
- *That the work would be of sufficient strategic importance to the development of music education to warrant a permanent Commission,*
- *That the nature of the work justifies its establishment as a permanent entity rather than as, for instance, a Board committee or special interest group of limited life,*
- *That the work would fulfil a need for at least 10 nations,*
- *That the proposed sphere of interest does not uncomfortably overlap that of an existing commission or existing international organisation,*
- *That the operational and administrative consequences can be accommodated within the*

*capabilities of ISME,*

- *That the probable capabilities of the protagonists to organise a viable Commission have been adequately assessed,*
- *That the planned operations include broad dissemination through ISME, and possibly other channels, of the results of the Commission's work.*

*To assess the above, ISME will appoint a steering committee of proponents, a representative Commission Chair, and at least two ISME Board members (including someone from the Executive), and charge it with the responsibility to prepare an operational plan specifying objectives, structure, finances, a program for the first four years of operations, and election of initial Commissioners, which can be presented to the ISME Board for ratification and then acceptance by a simple majority at an ISME General Assembly.*

### **Application and review**

- The Forum convenors were asked by the Board for their preference – to apply to become a Commission or be given the approval of the Board to operate as a Special Interest Group.
- A formal request to apply for Commission status followed
- An application was made by the Forum leadership and prepared against the criteria listed above from section 4.1 of the ISME Policy Handbook.
- In the second half of 2021 the Forum leadership worked with a review Committee comprising members of the current ISME Board with President Elect Bo Wah Leung, acting in this role as Chair of the Council of Commissions.

Against those criteria the Review Committee agreed:

- That there is interest from a committed and diverse nucleus of potential leaders and that there is a track record of the Forum staging successful pre-conference seminars since 2012 including an extensive online event held in 2020
- That the work would be of sufficient strategic importance to the development of music education to warrant a permanent Commission given the particular focus on studio teaching and that this area of activity justifies its establishment as a permanent entity given the extent and nature of this form of music education across a diverse range of genres and locations around the world
- That the work would fulfil a need for at least 10 nations and in fact all nations practice some form of studio teaching
- The establishment of a Commission in this sphere of interest does not uncomfortably overlap that of an existing commission but has alignment or operates in parallel to the activities of several existing Commissions including MISTEC and CEPROM
- The establishment of an Instrumental or Vocal Teaching Commission within ISME is not in conflict with any other established organisation and that existing bodies representing these teachers operate only at a local or national level
- That the operational and administrative consequences can be accommodated within the capabilities of ISME given that the Forum has operated as a quasi-Commission since 2016
- That the capabilities of the protagonists to organise a viable Commission have been adequately assessed and that a track record of activities is well established and that the current leadership has identified and engaged future leaders within their scope of interest. The proposed initial Commissioners are:
  - Yiannis Miralis, Chair, Cyprus (Committee member since 2016, serving until 2024)
  - Sylvain Jaccard, Switzerland (Committee member since 2018, 2022 - 2026)
  - Pirjo Nenonen, Finland/Austria (Committee member since 2016, 2022 – 2024)

- Sumit Pokhrel, Nepal (Committee member since 2018, 2022 - 2026)
  - Bridget Rennie-Salonen, S. Africa (Committee member since 2021, 2022 - 2028)
  - Leon de Bruin, Australia (Committee member since 2021, 2022 - 2028)
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- That the formal establishment of a Commission operating to serve and support the interests of studio teachers will be a benefit to both those involved in that community of practice and as a result for the potential growth and development of ISME
  - The final application and committee review was presented to the ISME Executive for its meeting on February 10, 2022
  - The application and review outcomes were discussed by the ISME Board at its February 17, 2022. The Board approved the application following a motion from President elect Bo Wah Leung that the Board endorses the application and that a motion be put to the membership at large to accept the Board's recommendation that the **Instrumental and Vocal Music Teaching Commission (IVMTC)** be established by a vote at the 2022 General Assembly on July 21, 2022.