

Music Student Advisory Council Meeting

Monday, November 28, 2022, from 4-5 p.m., UCA 142

Attendees: Michelle Stanley, Heather Bellotti, Merritt Jones, Ben Pouncey, Arjen Wynja, Leah Dunphey, Riley Busch, Rachael Kovaly, and John Friskney.

Follow Up

The admin team is working on resolving some financial obstacles for the UCA Café, which is planned for Fall 2022. There are unexpected start-up costs, but solutions are being explored with the upper admin of CSU.

We still need to order a fridge for music students. Once this arrives, we will need to give voice students access to the basement to use both the microwaves and fridge.

The admin team is also continuing to ask for an Around the Horn route to/from the UCA.

The music department is still planning to eliminate the two-ensemble rule next fall. Faculty are very supportive of this idea.

We also hope to make evening rehearsals more balanced; the new orchestra schedule next fall will help with this need.

For the online degree, there have been evening meetups added since the last meeting, which has been helpful.

No solution yet for **History of Jazz** course meeting at the same time as ensembles, but we are still hopeful the scheduling committee can find an answer.

Aural Skills Tutoring needs are being discussed and planned for the spring term.

Our Orchestra and Voice Searches are progressing well, and students can expect to see candidates visiting campus in the spring term.

New Updates

The Music Minor is going through curriculum changes. If they are approved during this cycle, they will be effective in Fall 2022. There will be a performance track and an academic track. Academic Advisor will change to Drew Leslie.

The Choirs will be performing for two school visits in the spring semester to help with recruiting. Voice is having issues with retention, which may be particularly related to covid, and any clues to why students opt to leave is helpful to hear.

The Instrumental Rehearsal Hall will be under construction next summer. The ceiling will be lowered, and the room will be essentially cut in half with permanent walls. There will still be storage. It's likely construction will continue into the FA23 semester.

We are working with the President's office on the NASM accreditation health and safety concern for marching band field lights, so that this can be resolved for the future.

The next President of CSU should be announced early in the spring term.

Suggestions/Concerns

A new online degree concern was mentioned related to two-week blocks for projects and the inability to work ahead to pace the workload.

Conducting and Aural Skills sections aren't balanced for enrollment; capping sections in the spring to monitor this more carefully.

Concert Dress may be considered for the Bands area, rather than Tuxedos, and students appear to support this idea.

Suggestion to offer a Soprano/Alto Choir. University Chorus doesn't count as a major requirement, but options can be limited when students don't get into the top Choir or Opera.

The new marching band schedule is creating some concerns for students and may impact retention. The length of the rehearsals is larger and is causing more conflicts for students. **We will try to get a better understanding of why this change occurred.**

Students are reminded to advocate for their needs and come to Michelle Stanley with any concerns.