Welcome to *Clarion*, the newsletter of the Division of Organ and Church Music at the University of Kansas. The past two years have been a wonderful time for our program and for our alumni, several of whom have done very well in national and international competitions and a third who is serving two terms as president of the American Guild of Organists. We are fortunate to have had many great students at KU over the years who have gone on to distinguished careers and are serving our profession each in their own unique way. We celebrate the accomplishments of all our alumni and hope that you will stay in touch and let us know about what you are doing each year.

Finally, it has been a time of exciting programs and growth at KU and we look forward to more of the same in the coming year. Read about the many activities that have gone on the past two years and find out what we are planning for this year. A special focus of this year is our celebration of Jim Higdon’s thirty-year teaching career at KU on March 4-5, 2011. We hope to see you at this event, giving you an opportunity to renew your relationship with Jim Higdon and with one another.

**Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Welcome</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Profiles</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Higdon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Bauer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student News</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni News</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview with Eileen Guenther</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Past Two Years

- Bales Artist Series 09-10 | 6
- KU European Organ Study Tour IV | 8
- Russian article | 10
- Yale Conference | 10
- American Liszt Society | 10
- Undergraduate minor in church music | 10

The Upcoming Year

- Bales Artist Series 10-11 | 11
- Russian festival/competition |  |
- Higdon celebration | 13
- Other news | 14
James Higdon

Since our 2008 newsletter James Higdon has been active playing, teaching, lecturing, and adjudicating. Activities include:

Recital (which may include teaching or lecturing) engagements:
- Wichita State University
- Brown University
- Houghton College
- The College of Holy Cross
- The Poulenc Organ Concerto and works of Alain with the Orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières at the church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Montréal
- Philharmonic Hall, St. Petersburg, Russia, Church of the Incarnation, Dallas
- A performance of the Duruflé Requiem with KU choirs

This coming year he will presents recitals at:
- Chartres Cathedral, France
- Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris

Adjudication:
- He has served on the juries of the Canadian International Organ Competition, the Moscow round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition, and chaired the jury at the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition in Kaliningrad, Russia.

Upcoming adjudication includes:
- Serving on the 2010 jury at the Chartres International Organ Competition
- Serving on the jury for the 2011 Canadian International Organ Competition
- Chairing the jury at the North American round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition, 2011
- Serving on the jury for the final round of the Tariverdiev competition in Kaliningrad, 2011

Panelist
- Chair and presenter, University of North Texas dedication conference for the new Wolff Organ

Michael Bauer

Since our 2008 newsletter, Michael Bauer has been working on a variety of different projects. These include:

Recital (which may include teaching or lecturing) engagements:
- Wichita State University
- The City of Vienna Recital Series:
  - Klosterneuburg Monastery
- St. Michael’s Church, Eutin, Germany
- The American Church, Geneva, Switzerland
- Completion of the works of Buxtehude with Marie Rubis Bauer (seven concerts)

Upcoming engagements include:
- The State University of New York, Binghamton
- Saint Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha

Organ Study Tours
- In 2009, Michael Bauer led KU European Organ Study Tour IV: North Germany
- Upcoming tours include:
  - KU North American Organ Study Tour I: The Northwest May, 2011
  - KU European Organ Study Tour V: Italy, May, 2012

Book
- Michael Bauer’s major research project for a number of years has been writing a book entitled Arts Ministry: Fostering the Creative Life of God's People. This will go to a publisher in the fall of 2010.

Organ Consulting
- Hope Lutheran Church, Shawnee, Kansas – opus 21 by Martin Pasi organ to arrive in 2011

Adjudication
- Served on the jury for the Region VI AGO competition
- Will serve on the jury for the North American round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition, 2011

Lectures
- Region VI Regional Convention, Wichita, 2009
- St. Joseph AGO chapter clergy/musicians banquet
- Yale Institute of Sacred Music/AGO National Pedagogy Conference
- St. Louis Pipe Organ Encounter
This past year there were twenty-one organ and church music majors at KU. This included four undergraduates and seventeen graduate students. Among the accomplishments of students from the division are the following:

**Elisa Williams Bickers** (DMA 2010) traveled to Lubeck, Germany to participate in the 2009 International Buxtehude Competition, and was a semifinalist in the 2010 NYACOP (National Young Artist's Competition in Organ Performance). She has been instructor of organ at Washburn University since 2008, and recently joined the faculty of the UMKC Conservatory as the instructor of organ. She is Associate Director of Music and Principal Organist at Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. In addition, she is the organist/harpischordist for the Bach Aria Soloists, a chamber music group dedicated to performing the works of Bach and those inspired by him. Recent recitals include Louisville, KY; Amarillo, TX; and Wessington Springs, SD.

**Brian Campbell** (DMA 2010); following the completion of his doctorate, Brian Campbell was appointed Organist / Associate Music Director at Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler, Texas. He performed on the Rie Bloomfield Organ Series Recital Series at Wiedemann Hall of Wichita State University in 2009.

**Stephan Casurella** (DMA 2010) was appointed Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral (Episcopal) in Cincinnati, Ohio. Prior to his appointment there, he was principal organist and associate director of music at Village Presbyterian Church in Prairie Village, Kansas.

**Ben Keseley** accepted a position as Director of Music at St. George’s Episcopal Church, Arlington, VA.

**Brian Mathias** was accepted into the Chartres International competition. He taught at the BYU organ workshop. Recitals include the LDS Conference Center and the Salt Lake Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, and a carillon recital at the GCNA Congress in Naperville, IL.

**Anna Myeong** (DMA 2010) played recitals at Adolphus Busch Hall, Harvard University; Trinity Church in Copley Square in Boston, Good Samaritan Episcopal Church in Corvallis, Oregon, Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Wichita for the AGO Region VI convention, Wichita State University on the Rie Bloomfield Organ Series, Trinity Lutheran Church, Mission, KS; she played the Duruflé’s Requiem with the Kansas City choral ensemble Te Deum at Village Presbyterian Church and William Jewell College in November 2009. Her first CD, *Voice of the Organ*, received five-star rating from the *Orgelnieuws* in the Netherlands. Upcoming programs this year include three recitals in England, at: Westminster Abbey in London, Coventry Cathedral in Coventry, and St. Paul's Church in Birmingham; and her second recital at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris.

**Jared Ostermann** was in a second place at the Miami International Organ Competition. His recent recitals include St. John the Evangelist Cathedral in Milwaukee, WI, St. Andrew Cathedral, Grand Rapids, MI, Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis, IN.

**Sunny Son** (DMA 2010) was a semi-finalist in the Canadian International Organ Competition and competed in the Dublin International Organ Competition and the Luxembourg International Organ Competition; she presented recitals at St. Michael and All Angels, London, UK; the Cathedral of Notre Dame, Paris, and in Lapa, Porto, Portugal.

**Brent Stull** was an Organ Historical Society E. Power Biggs Fellow at the 2009 Organ Historical Society National Convention in Cleveland, OH.

**Chelsea Vaught** came in second in the Arthur Poister national organ playing competition at Syracuse University. She was also a finalist in the national organ playing competition sponsored by First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne, IN, and a quarterfinalist in the NYACOP national competition (AGO). She played a recital at Bethel College in Newton, KS.

**Alan Gagnon, Nicholas Mourlam, Elisa Bickers** and **Chelsea Vaught** all performed at the Kansas City AGO Bachathon in 2010.
The Division of Organ and Church Music boasts a strong and active group of alumni. Please send us your news so that it may be included in future newsletters. Among the accomplishments of our alumni the past two years are the following:

**Marie Rubis Bauer** (MM 1986 and DMA 1991) Director of Music for the Cathedral of Saint Cecilia and the Archdiocese of Omaha, was a judge for the final round of the National Competition in Organ Improvisation (NCOI) at the Minneapolis convention of the American Guild of Organists and serves as current chair of the NCOI committee. She performed the Rheinberger First Organ Concerto with the Omaha Symphony, and will perform the Rheinberger second concerto during the upcoming concert season, she co-founded Omaha Baroque, a new baroque chamber ensemble in Omaha, presented a paper at the Minneapolis conference of the AGO Task Force for U.S. Academic Organ Programs, performed a series of recitals of the complete Buxtehude organ works with her husband Michael Bauer.

**Laura Ellis** (DMA) was elected national councilor for Region IV of the AGO in 2010.

**Ekaterina Gotsdiner** (MM 2009) was appointed to the staff of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Turlock (CA) from September 2009 to June 2010 and First Presbyterian Church of San Luis Obispo (CA) from July 2010 to the present. She has presented recitals at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Turlock, CA., the small Hhali of the Moscov Conservatory, Moscow, Russia, and St. Mary’s of Assumption Cathedral, San Francisco, CA.

**Eileen Morris Guenther** (BM 1970), Lecturer in Church Music at Wesley Theological Seminary, was elected President of the American Guild of Organists.

**Robert Horton** (DMA 2003), won the Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition held in Russia (2007).

**Stacie Lightner** (DMA) accepted the position as Director of Music and Organist at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Beatrice, NE.

**Laura Palmer** (DMA 2010) accepted the position as Director of Music Ministries at All Saints Episcopal Church in Omaha.

**David Pickering** (DMA 2001), performed recitals at the Community of Christ Temple, Independence, MO; Southminster Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village, KS; and First Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, MO. Tantara records released his latest CD, entitled *The Leroy Robertson Organ Legacy*. Beginning in the fall semester, 2010, he will be Assistant Professor of Organ at Kansas State University.

**Wolfgang Reisinger** (DMA 2003), Church Music and Organ Consultant for the Archdiocese of Vienna and Organ Teacher at the Vienna Church Music Conservatory, received a PhD in Musicology from the University of Vienna. In addition to his duties in Vienna, he now teaches at the University of Graz. Recent concert tours include Poland and Scandanavia.

**Joseph Ripka** (MM 2006), won the Dublin International Organ Competition, he also won the Fort Wayne National Organ Playing Competition in Indiana and the Elizabeth Elftman National Organ Competition, held in San Marino, California.

**Lynn Trapp** (DMA, 1997) co-authored the book *In Harmony With God: Choral Preparation and Prayer* which was released in 2008 by the Liturgical Press.

**Kevin Vogt** (DMA 2009) accepted a position as Music Director at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Leawood, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City.

**Lara West** (DMA 2009) After completing her DMA Lara West accepted a part-time position as Director of the Liturgical Choir in the Department of Music at Benedictine College, Atchison, KS as a complement to her ongoing work at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lawrence.
Eileen Guenther, an alumnus of the Division of Organ and Church Music at KU, has now been elected twice as president of the American Guild of Organists. The following interview was conducted by Michael Bauer several months after her initial election.

MB: Congratulations on being elected President of the AGO. We are excited to have a Kansas alumnus holding this prestigious position. Could you tell us about some of your goals while you hold this office?

EG: I have several ideas I would like to see happen over the next two years. One, is for the AGO to become a more market based organization, assessing the needs of the church as well as the teaching studio and the concert hall, and equipping our members with the skills they actually need to work in these venues today. Two, I would like to see more outreach to choral conductors, particularly those who direct church choirs, as a way for the AGO to support these individuals and, at the same time, broaden its base of support and its influence. Three, I would like to see organists and choral conductors valued by their employers as the artists they are and for the dedication they bring to their ministry. The concept of ‘clergy-musician teamwork’ must be strengthened. Fourth, I would like to see ‘leaves added to the table’ for a broader acceptance of music from other cultures besides the standard Western European-based repertoire. Finally, I hope that we can always operate out of a spirit of hospitality to welcome into the Guild all interested people, regardless of their musical skill level, the kind of instrument they play, or the type of institution they serve.

MB: What memories would you like to share about your time at KU? How did this school help prepare you for your subsequent career.

EG: I had a great experience at KU, doing two degrees: a BA in English and a BM in organ. The practice facilities and teaching faculty in the music school were tremendous and I felt like I got a firm grounding that prepared me well for my graduate school experience at The Catholic University of America in musicology and in organ, and that has served me well in my work as a church musician in the Washington, DC area.

MB: Please trace for us your own professional journey since you left KU. What new directions and interests have opened up for you along the way?

EG: After KU I received a scholarship support to attend graduate school, all concentrating on the organ and classical music repertoire. I served as minister of music and liturgy at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Potomac, MD before moving to Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, DC, where I was on staff for many years. There I directed a wonderful choir of volunteers and professionals, and which was able to sing the large works of the Western sacred repertoire (requiem settings by Mozart, Brahms, Faure, Rutter, Thomas Beveridge, masses, oratorios, all with the orchestra.) For a number of years we presented Concerts for Life that raised funds for organizations providing direct support to persons with HIV/AIDS in the Washington, DC area and in southern Africa - over $600,000 was raised by these concerts. I hosted a radio program of organ music for the classical music station in the Washington, DC area for a long time - and during those years I was totally steeped in organ music and was privileged to become acquainted with organists from around the world. I have also privileged to be invited to play recitals in Europe, Asia, and Latin America and have had fun incorporating the "narrative" approach from my radio program in the organ recitals I played.

SEE EILEEN GUENTHER page 14
Bales Artist Series 2009-10

Frédéric Champion

Winner of the 2008 Canadian International Organ Competition (CIOC) held in Montreal, Frédéric Champion’s career since 1998 has seen him perform organ music of the 16th through the 21st centuries as a solo organist and with orchestras and choirs around the world. Recent performance venues include Chartres Cathedral (France), the Frauenkirche in Dresden (Germany), St. Thomas Church in Leipzig (Germany), Kawasaki Symphony Hall, Suntory Hall and Musashino bunka kaikan in Tokyo (Japan), and Symphony Hall in Osaka, Japan.

Born in Lyon, France, Mr. Champion studied at the Conservatoire de Région in Lyon with Louis Robilliard, at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique in Paris with Michel Bouvard, and at the Centre d’Études Musicales Supérieures (CEMS) in Toulouse with Jan Willem Jansen.

Past awards in competition include First Prize at the Minoru Yoshida Tokyo Competition and Bach Prizewinner in Leipzig, both in 2004; First Prize at the International Competition Gottfried Silbermann in 2001; Second Prize at both the International Competition “Musica Antiqua” in Bruges in 2000 and the Luzern Competition in 2002; as well as Second Prize at the 2002 Concours de musique de chambre FNAPEC in Paris.

Mr. Champion has been heard on Radio-France, Austrian radio stations, and Japanese TV/Radio broadcasts. Many compositions have even been dedicated to him. Following his latest victory at Montreal’s Canadian International Organ Competition, he was – and can still be – heard on Radio-Canada and CBC. These two broadcasters have aired the Frenchman’s finals recital in Montreal’s Notre-Dame Basilica.

Hans Davidsson

Hans Davidsson is Professor of Organ at the Eastman School of Music. He also serves as Project Director of the Eastman-Rochester Organ Initiative and since 2007, he also serves as professor of organ at the Bremen Hochschule für Künste, Fachbereich für Musik. Davidsson received his Soloist Diploma from the Conservatory of Göteborg, Sweden in 1985, having studied with Hans Fagius. A special interest in early music led to three years study with Jacques van Oortmerssen at the Sweelinck Conservatorium in Amsterdam and postgraduate research on North German Baroque organ music focused on Matthias Weckmann for the University of Göteborg. In September 1991, his thesis Matthias Weckmann: the Interpretation of his Organ Music (writing, edition and recording) was defended and he became the first doctor of music performance in Sweden.

Since 1974 he has given regular recitals in the Scandinavian countries including tours to England, Germany, the Netherlands and in the USA.

In 1986, he was appointed organ teacher at the School of Music, Göteborg University and appointed organ professor in 1988. Since 1989, he was responsible for the establishment of an organ center for research in performance practice and a program of organ instruments which was built according to historical principles (such as a full-grown North-German baroque organ, which was inaugurated in 2000).

From 1995-2000, he was the director of the Göteborg Organ Art Center, GOArt, and he is currently its General Artistic and Research Director as well as the Artistic Director of the Göteborg International Organ Academy. In 2001, he was appointed Professor of organ at the Eastman School Music, Rochester, NY, USA, and Project Director of the Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative (EROI).

In 2001 he was awarded the ÅForsk research prize (the Research Foundation of the ÅF Group), one of Sweden's most distinguished research awards, and
in January 2004 he was awarded the King's medal, the highest national award in Sweden, for "significant accomplishments in musicology and music, primarily in the fields of organ research and organ education".

**Martin Jean**

Martin Jean is professor of organ, professor in the practice of sacred music, and director of the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University. Prior to assuming his position at Yale, he served as Associate Professor of Music and University Organist at Valparaiso University in Indiana and as Associate Professor of Music at Concordia College in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He holds a doctorate in organ from the University of Michigan where he studied with Robert Glasgow. In the fall of 1999 he spent a sabbatical studying with Harald Vogel in North Germany.

Professor Jean has performed widely throughout the United States and Europe and is known for his broad repertoire. He was awarded first place at the international Grand Prix de Chartres in 1986, and in 1992 at the National Young Artists’ Competition in Organ Performance. He has performed on four continents and nearly all fifty states. In 2001 he presented a cycle of the complete organ works of Bach at Yale, and his compact discs of *The Seven Last Words of Christ* by Charles Tournemire and the complete Six Symphonies of Louis Vierne, both recorded in Woolsey Hall, have been released by Loft Recordings. Recordings of the organ symphonies and *Stations of the Cross* of Marcel Dupré are forthcoming on the Delos label. Prof. Jean is on the board of directors of Lutheran Music Program.

**Roberta Gary**

Roberta Gary is Professor of Organ and Head of the Division of Keyboard Studies at the University of Cincinnati’s College-Conservatory of Music where she has been a member of the faculty since 1967. Gary studied piano with Olga Conus and organ with Wayne Fisher, David Craighead, Arthur Poister, Bernard Lagace, William Porter, Harald Vogel and Edward Parmentier. She received the BM and MM degrees from the University of Cincinnati and the DMA and Performer’s Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. Her solo recitals and workshops have been given in Dallas, Atlanta, New York City, Los Angeles, Seattle, Boston, Pittsburgh and Montreal. She taught at the Choate Organ-Harpsichord Seminars in Wallingford, Connecticut from 1973-80. In 1966, 1976 and 1990 she was a recitalist at National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists. She taught Bach Week at Columbia College, SC (1987-1996); Scranton Summer Organ Week (1981-83); and at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio (1965-67). She has given lectures and master classes on Bach, 19th century romantic literature, early performance practice, movement and ease based on the Alexander Technique and organ pedagogy. She has recorded Liszt and Reubke (2001), Franck (2005), and most recently Bach's Art of Fugue (2008) on the Arsis Label.
From July 28-August 10, 2009 twenty-eight travelers embarked on the fourth University of Kansas European Organ Study Tour. Led by Michael Bauer, the group traveled to North Germany to play instruments by Schnitger, Dropa, Niehoff, Hans Scherer the Younger, Ahrend, Sauer, Silbermann, Klapmeyer, Metzler, Ladegast, Stellwagen, and anonymous renaissance builders. The tour consisted of KU students, alumni and friends. All of the organists had the opportunity to play nearly every instrument on the tour.

The most important goal of the tour was to experience the finest Schnitger instruments. In pursuit of this goal, we played no less than eight Schnitgers, including the famous organs at Norden, Steinkirchen, Stade, Ganderkesee, Grasberg, Ludingworth, and the Sherer organ that Schnitger restored at the Joacobikirche in Hamburg. Alongside the Schnitger organs we experienced renaissance instruments (Westerhausen, Rysum), 17th century organs (Lüneburg, Tangermunde and the Jacobikirche in Lübeck), organs by Schnitger’s major competitor (Altenbruch), 19th century instruments by Sauer and Ladegast (Bremen Dom and Schwerin), and twentieth century organs by Metzler and Ahrend (Eutin and the Martinikirche in Bremen). A special treat was having the opportunity to play Hugo Distler’s own home organ which is now located in a hall across the street from the Jacobikirche in Lübeck.

We were locked in the Dom in Bremen where we played no less than three organs: the large Sauer in the balcony, a small Gottfried Silbermann in a chapel underneath the balcony, and a modern copy of a Baroque Italian organ in another hidden chapel. This was one of two Italian baroque style instruments we played, the other being an original 17th century organ in the Cathedral in Lübeck. We also had an impromptu lecture on organ restoration by Rowan West, a leading restorer of German organs, when we arrived at St. John’s church in Lüneberg and he was at the church taking pipe measurements.

In addition to seeing organs, we had a thorough and very educational tour of the Ahrend organ building shop led by Hendrick Ahrend. We also heard organ recitals at Norden, the Jacobikirche in Hamburg, and the Jacobikirche in Lübeck. There were opportunities to attend church services at the Catherininkirche in Hamburg (the church of Scheidemann and Weckmann), the Jacobikirche in Lübeck (Hugo Distler’s church) and the Marienkirche in Lübeck (the famous church where Dieterich Buxtehude was organist).

The tour enjoyed a wonderful and informative walking tour of Hamburg given by a long-time resident of the city – the daughter of Dave Rhodes, our travel agent! We also visited the famous Hamburg Maritime Museum. In Lübeck we had some free time. Various tour members visited St. Anne’s Museum - Germany’s greatest collection of medieval altarpieces and ecclesiastical art, toured the museum in the Lübeck gate, visited the famous Niederegger marzipan shop to sample the confections and buy gifts. We took a boat ride around the island city of Lübeck, toured a manor house in Eutin, and had a festive closing meal in the Town Hall at Lübeck.

To see the complete itinerary of this trip, as well as pictures, please visit our web site. It’s not too early to plan to join the fun in 2012, when from May 15-28, we will embark on KU European Organ Study Tour V: Italy. Francesco Cera will help direct this tour of organs, art, and church architecture which will include stops in Rome, Venice, Florence, Bologna, Sienna, Ravenna and much more.
Alumnus Lara West plays Distler organ at Jacobikirche

Rysum renaissance organ

Nick Mourlam plays at Evangelical Reformed Church, Rysum

St. Nicolai, Altenbruch

Ahrend organ, Bremen

1668 Arp Schnitger organ at St. Cosmae, Stade
Article about the KU Division of Organ and Church Music appears in Russian national organ journal

This spring, an article on the KU Division of Organ and Church Music appeared in the new national organ journal in Russia.

In 2009 a quarterly journal entitled \textit{The Organ} began publication in Russia. KU MM organ alumnus Ekaterina Gotsdiner- McMahan, a native of Russia who studied at the Moscow Conservatory, published a six page article in the spring, 2010 edition entitled “Organ Education in the USA”. It is largely about the KU Division of Organ and Church Music. This article includes multiple pictures of the faculty and facilities as well as descriptions of our program. To see this journal online, go to http://www.organjournal.com/numbers/summary2010-02.pdf for more specific information about Ekaterina’s article.

KU Church Music Program featured at AGO National Pedagogy Conference Yale Institute of Sacred Music (Spring, 2009)

In the spring of 2009, the KU church music program was featured as one of six programs nationally that illustrated the state of church music education in America. The conference, held at the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, was entitled “Teaching Church Music in North America: An Old Vocation in a New Millennium.” Michael Bauer lectured about the KU program and about curriculum development in church music.

Organ and Church Music Division Students perform for American Liszt Society National Festival

From April 3-5, 2009 the American Liszt Society held its annual national festival at KU. As part of this event, the Division of Organ and Church Music sponsored a Liszt recital at the Bales Organ Recital Hall featuring three of our graduate students: Ekaterina Gotsdiner, Sunny Son, and Anna Myeong. They performed the \textit{Prelude and Fugue on BACH}, the \textit{Variations on Weinen Klagen, Sorgen Sagen}, and the \textit{Fantasy and Fugue on Ad nos, ad salutarem undam} for a very appreciative crowd of pianists and Liszt admirers who had gathered for the festival.

Division of Organ and Church Music Establishes Undergraduate Minor in Church Music

In the fall of 2010 the Division of Organ and Church Music begins offering an undergraduate minor in church music for the first time. This minor enables students to sample some of the applied skills and academic areas related to the discipline of church music. Requirements include organ study, conducting study, experience singing in the Bales Chorale, and two new courses that will be taught by our doctoral teaching assistants: Service Playing Techniques, and Church Music History and Literature.
Daniel Zaretsky

Daniel Zaretsky was born in Leningrad in 1964, and studied piano and organ performance at the Leningrad State Conservatory. He completed his Concert Diploma and Teaching Certificate in 1989 under the direction of Professors E. Bazanov and N. Oksentian, and his postgraduate education at the Kazan State Conservatory under the direction of Professor R. Abdoullin. From 1991 to 1993 he continued his studies at the Sibelius Music Academy in Helsinki with Professor Kari Jussila, graduating with the Concert Diploma with honours. In addition he has supplemented his studies in several Master-classes in Western Europe, including those of Guy Bovet, Marie-Claire Alain, Harald Vogel, Ludger Lohmann, Jean Guillou, David Sanger, Hans Fagius, Michael Radulescu, Daniel Roth and Peter Planyavsky.

Since 1988, Zaretsky has performed in all the former Soviet Union's important venues, including the Philharmonic Halls of Moscow, St. Petersburg, and the Cathedral of Riga, as well as in the Czech Republic, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Holland, Austria, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, France, Great Britain, South America and the USA.

John Grew

He received his musical education at Mount Allison University where he studied piano and organ, and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. From 1966 to 1973, he was lecturer at several US and Canadian universities. He served as organist and choirmaster for various churches in New Brunswick and Ontario, and then at Queen Mary Road United Church, in Montreal. A professor at McGill University beginning in 1973, he was appointed dean of its Faculty of Music in 1991. In 1985 he founded and became artistic director of Musique Royale, an early music summer festival held on historic sites of the Atlantic Coast. Organizer of many forums on organ and early music, he was responsible, with Donald Mackey, for the large 1981 symposium 'The Organ in Our Time' that attracted some 400 participants from Europe, the USA, and Canada at Redpath Hall, McGill U; he wrote the epilogue of the symposium papers and proceedings published in Montreal in 1982.

Beginning in 1976, Grew organized numerous master classes by famous organists. In addition to his teaching, he has pursued a career as a recitalist, earning many distinctions, including a first Medal at the Geneva International Competition (1970), and the title of University Organist of McGill University (1985). He has performed in Canada, England, Austria, Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia, and he has been heard on CBC radio. He has been a jury member for various competitions, notably in Boston and Nuremberg, Germany. He is the founder and artistic director of the Canadian International Organ Competition.

James Moeser and Susan Dickerson Moeser

James Moeser

James Moeser is Chancellor Emeritus, Professor of Music, and Senior Consultant for Special Initiatives at the UNC Institute for Arts and Humanities.

Moeser received his undergraduate degree in organ performance at the University of Texas, where he was student of E. William Doty. As a Fulbright scholar, he studied in Berlin with Michael Schneider and in Paris with Marcel Dupré. He received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan, where he was a student of Marilyn Mason.
At the age of twenty-seven, he was appointed to the faculty of the University of Kansas. In addition, he served as organist-choirmaster of Plymouth Congregational Church in Lawrence. Over the next twenty years, he built a reputation as one of the nation’s leading recitalists, church musicians, and teachers. As a concert artist, he was represented by the Lilian Murtagh (later Karen McFarlane) Concert Management, the nation’s leading presenter of organ recitalists. He concertized widely in the U. S. and Europe. In 1975, he became dean of the KU School of Fine Arts, beginning a career that gradually led him into administration. In 1984, he was named to the Carl and Ruth Althaus Distinguished Professorship in Organ, the first academic dean at KU ever awarded an endowed faculty position.

Moeser left Kansas in 1986 to become the dean of the College of Arts and Architecture at Penn State University. During this time, he also served as president of the American Guild of Organists.

In 1992, he resigned from concert management, playing his last recital in 1992, and became the provost of the University of South Carolina. He was appointed chancellor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1996. He was UNC Chancellor from 2000-2008.

Susan Moeser

Susan Moeser is University Organist and Instructor in Organ at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a well known organ recitalist and teacher. Moeser received the BM, MM, and DMA in organ performance from the University of Kansas. She is a past winner of the prestigious Fort Wayne National Competition, and has concertized throughout the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Portugal, and South Korea. Her CD, titled “Susan Moeser plays Bedient Opus 59,” features the concert she performed at the 1999 Regional American Guild of Organists convention in Omaha, Nebraska. She has served the American Guild of Organists as Director of the AGO Regional Competitions for Young Organists and as AGO National Councillor. Moeser has held faculty appointments teaching organ, music history, and music theory at the universities of Nebraska, South Carolina, The Pennsylvania State University, and the University of North Carolina. Prior to her university appointments, she was Organist/Choirmaster at the Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia.

Robert Bates

Robert Bates is Associate Professor at the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston. Before coming to the University of Houston, he served as University Organist at Stanford University, where he also received his Ph.D. in Musicology. His teachers of performance include Marie-Claire Alain, Robert Anderson, Daniel Roth and Ray Ferguson. He is an internationally known recording artist and composer, and a specialist in early French and Spanish Organ Music, the history of music theory and early tuning systems. He is frequently invited to appear at national conferences sponsored by organizations such as the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, the American Organ Academy, the American Musicological Society, the Westfield Center and the American Institute of Organ Builders.

During the past few years, he has performed solo recitals at Stanford University, Cornell University, Arizona State University, the University of North Texas, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Notre Dame, the University of Michigan, Westminster Choir College, the New England Conservatory of Music, the Eastman School of Music, Duke University and the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

He has recorded the complete organ works of Brahms (Pro Organo), Daquin (Loft Recordings) and Correa de Arauxo (to be released by Loft Recordings). His three-CD set, "Viaticum" (Loft Recordings), contains eight of his own compositions. His live performance for the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists in 2000 is now available on CD ("Robert Bates in recital at Lagerquist Hall," ReZound Recordings). His music is published by Wayne Leupold Editions (ECS Publishing, Boston). Nebraska-Lincoln in 1996. He was UNC Chancellor from 2000-2008.
KU to Host North American Round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition

From April 7-9, 2011, the Division of Organ and Church Music will host a Russian cultural festival whose highlight will be the North American Round of the Tariverdiev International Organ Competition. International sites for first round competitions include Lawrence; Hamburg, Germany; Moscow; and Astana, Kazakhstan.

This event will be co-sponsored by the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (CREES) at KU. As part of the festival, alumnus Robert Horton will perform a recital. Horton won the Tariverdiev competition in 2007. Judges for the competition include Michael Bauer and James Higdon from KU, James David Christie from Oberlin College, and Lynne Davis from Wichita State University. The top three finishers will proceed to Kaliningrad, Russia in the fall of 2011 to compete for the international prize.

Earlier in the year, on August 27, 2010 the division will sponsor an organ recital featuring faculty students and alumni of KU in celebration of the 50th anniversary of CREES.

The Mikael Tariverdiev Competition is Russia’s first international competition for organists. It began in 1999 in Kaliningrad, which continues to be its home. Kaliningrad is a site that offers many connections with Europe and the Baltic states. Deepening the connections between Russian and the West is one of the stated objectives of the competition. Since its inception, the competition has been held every two years.

Mikael Tariverdiev (1931-1996) was a popular composer in Russia, who was particularly well known for his film scores. A student of Khachaturian, he composed music for over 130 films. In addition he wrote vocal cycles, works for the theatre, orchestral concerti, instrumental chamber music, operas, ballets, and organ works. His organ music includes three concertos, ten chorales, and the Chernobyl Organ Symphony.

James Higdon:
A Celebration of Thirty Years of Teaching at The University of Kansas March 4-5, 2011

It is hard to believe that James Higdon has been teaching for three decades at the University of Kansas. Today he is going strong as the Dane and Polly Bales Professor of Organ. On March 4-5, 2011 the KU organ family will gather to share their appreciation for the part he has played in their lives and to renew their relationships with him and with one another.

The schedule for these two days includes ample social time, open console time for those who would like to play the Bales Organ Recital Hall Wolff instrument, a lecture by alumnus Scott Feldhausen on the history of the Division of Organ and Church Music at KU, an alumni recital, a student recital, a banquet and roast of James Higdon, and a tour of organs and campus attractions.

A block of rooms are being held at:
Best Western Lawrence
2309 Iowa Street,
Lawrence, Kansas, 66046
Phone 785-843-9100; use the name “Higdon Celebration” when you are booking your room. Rooms are available for the evening of March 4, 2011 at the special rate of $65. They will be held until February 18, 2011. Please call and make your reservation before this date.

For further questions, please contact Dina Evans at phone: 785-864-4466, email: dpevans@ku.edu. Reservations may be made by downloading the form at the division web site.
KU to Sponsor North American Organ Study Tour I: The Northwest May 29 - June 4, 2011

A new venture in the Division of Organ and Church Music will be the launching of North American organ study tours beginning with a tour of the Northwest from May 29 - June 4, 2011. This tour is intended especially for KU organ students, alumni of the division and their guests. Michael Bauer will direct the tour.

The tour will begin in the Portland area with subsequent travel to the Seattle and Tacoma areas. Organs on the itinerary include instruments by Dan Jaeckel, Paul Fritts, Martin Pasi, Flentrop, Manuel Rosales, Metzler, Willis, Henry Erben, Fisk, and John Brombaugh. In addition there will be tours of the Fritts and Pasi workshops and some general sightseeing in this lovely part of our country.

James Higdon to Perform Complete Works of Jehan Alain at KU in Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Composer’s Birth

On February 18 and February 25, 2011 James Higdon will present a two recital series featuring the complete works of Jehan Alain in celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the composer’s birth. Higdon has previously recorded the complete Alain on the Jaeckel organ at Plymouth Congregational Church in Duluth, MN (RBW recordings). He is in demand as a performer and lecturer on the works of Alain. The 2010 Chartres Competition, at which he will both judge and perform, is dedicated to the memory of Alain. Higdon will also participate in an upcoming conference on Alain at Wichita State University in the fall of 2011.

KU European Organ Study Tour V: Italy

From May 15-28, 2012 KU will sponsor European Organ Study Tour V: Italy. Michael Bauer will lead this tour with the help of the noted Italian organist Francesco Cera, who presented a class at KU in the spring of 2010. The tour will be a little different than past tours. Rather than just an organ tour, this will be a tour of organs, art, and church architecture. We will spend time in Rome, Florence, Assisi, Ravenna, Sienna, Venice, and Bologna to name just a few places. Save your pennies....!

Eileen Guenther Interview

My work teaching at Wesley Theological Seminary has also taken me in new directions by bringing me into contact with a great diversity of ethnicities, languages, and cultural traditions. An inter-cultural immersion experience is required for all of our Masters of Divinity students, and am about to lead a seminary group to South Africa for the 5th time. In addition I have taught in Zimbabwe, Uganda and Côte d'Ivoire. Each of these places has traditions and music that are all their own, but which are able to broaden and deepen the worship of congregations in the US in powerful ways.

MB: Finally, do you have any words of wisdom as AGO President that you would like to share with aspiring organists and church musicians?
EG: I would hope organists might be less defensive than we sometimes are about the organ and its place in worship. The organ is an amazing instrument which supports congregational singing effectively just as it thrills listeners with the beauty of its repertoire. It is, indeed, a "royal instrument." But it's not the only instrument for worship - piano, guitar, drums, all sorts of other instruments can also enrich the worship of a congregation, and we don't serve ourselves well by being "threatened" by other instruments and by repertoire other than Western-European repertoire. There is a lot of beautiful music out there - and worship leaders today can expand their impact by expanding their repertoire. We aren't 'losers' in this scenario - we are 'winners' when more people are drawn to the music and to the church through the music we play and sing and pray.