

**To the  
National Association of Schools of Music**

***A response (and a progress report)  
to the Commission on Accreditation's action  
to defer renewal***

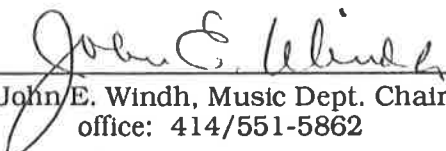
**by**

**The Department of Music  
Carthage College  
2001 Alford Drive  
Kenosha, WI 53140-1994**

We offer the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Music. Within that major we offer emphases in Music Education (Instrumental, Choral, and General), Performance, and Church Music, plus a Piano Pedagogy Certificate program.

The data submitted herewith is certified correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sept. 20, 1993  
date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John E. Windh, Music Dept. Chair  
office: 414/551-5862  
fax: 414/551-6208

## I. OUR RESPONSES

The NASM Commission on Accreditation, at its meetings in November of 1992, voted to defer action on renewing Carthage College's membership and asked us to respond to five concerns. We address each of those concerns below and also report on recent progress in music at Carthage.

### **NASM Concern #1**

*It is not clear that the NASM standard requiring students in the degree Bachelor of Arts in Music Education (Vocal/Choral and General options) develop "functional knowledge of wind, string, fretted, and percussion instruments" (see NASM Handbook 1991-92, Addendum-Part 2, page 20, item VIII.J.3.b.3).*

#### **Our Response**

The music education curriculum has been revised to require all music education emphasis students to take the following: 021 *Class Guitar* (or 055 *Private Guitar*), 205 *Woodwind Techniques*, 206 *Brass Techniques*, 207 *Percussion Techniques*, and 208 *String Techniques*. This curricular change took effect in Term II, 1992-93, and is described on page 42 of the 1993-94 Carthage catalog (enclosed).

### **NASM Concern #2**

*For the degree, Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, up to 172 credits may be required for graduation. This is considerably beyond the Institution's normal requirement of 124 credits for an undergraduate degree. However, this point is not clearly addressed in the institution's catalog. With respect to this matter the institution should demonstrate how it is in compliance with the NASM requirement that "institutional publications must be clear and accurate regarding the objectives, curriculum, equipment, accommodations, and faculty of the institution" (see NASM Handbook 1991-92, page 22, Article III).*

#### **Our Response**

On pages 42-48 of the 1993-94 catalog (enclosed) may be found a clearer, updated description of the music curriculum. The description of each emphasis now includes course numbers and credits and states the total music credits required beyond the basic major. The opening paragraph concerning music education also now includes the following statement, set off in italics: *Music Majors seeking licensure in any of the Music Education Certification areas will probably need more than four years to complete a course of study.*

(Note: Carthage requires 136 credits for graduation, not 124.)

**NASM Concern #3**

*The Music Chair and the Fine Arts Division Chair apparently must report to each other in various circumstances, a situation with potential for creating conflicts of interest (see NASM Visitors' Report, page 3). The institution should demonstrate how it is in compliance with NASM requirements that the institution "must maintain an effective administrative organization" and that "the executive's responsibilities shall be clearly delineated..." (see NASM Handbook 1991-92, page 45, item II.E).*

**Our Response**

At the end of the 1992-93 year Steve Smith stepped down as department chair and the department persuaded John Windh to serve as Music Department chair as well as Fine Arts Division chair. Therefore the chair of the Music Department no longer reports to a divisional chair who is himself a member of the Music Department. This fits well with the governance structure at Carthage where evaluation, budget, and much of the decision-making responsibilities rest with the Divisional chairs—who also serve as an advisory committee to the Academic Dean. It is also an effective solution within the Fine Arts Division where Music Department operations require more attention than those of Art and Theater.

**NASM Concern #4**

*Acoustical conditions, particularly in the band room and the Chapel, are in critical need of attention (see NASM Visitor's Report, page 6). Lack of climate controls and experiences with water damage contribute significantly to the frustration of attempting to maintain a quality program without basic facilities (see Self-Study Report, pages 23-24). The Commission acknowledges that some corrective steps are being taken (e.g., a large, heavy curtain is soon to be installed in the band room, Larry Kirkegaard is being consulted, and so forth), and requires confirmation when modifications have been completed (see NASM Handbook 1991-92, page 47, item II.H.5).*

**Our Response**

Problems with ground water in the band room were solved in the summer of 1992 (see paragraph 4 of our Response to the Visitor's Report) when contractors removed the carpet, dug trenches in the cement floor, laid new drain tile leading to the sump pump, and installed new carpet. Temperature/humidity conditions were good this past summer as the college was convinced to run the air conditioning continuously. Early in Term II of this past year (1992-93) the college installed sound-absorbing panels in the band room. This work was performed in April by Sound Sales, LTD. of Chicago at a cost of \$6064. The result is a strong success.

We believe the acoustical problems in the chapel are not nearly as severe. Since it would cost a great deal to make that space more reverberant, we are prepared to live with those acoustics and focus instead on improvements which provide a greater benefit. However, we have obtained an estimate of \$4608 from Sound Sales, LTD. to install sound-absorbing panels in the recital hall. We are moving ahead with this project in the context of an overall refurbishing of the recital hall as a multi-use room. The Fine Arts Advisory Committee, which includes the architect who designed the Johnson Arts Center, is assisting in this project.

**NASM Concern #5**

*There is a significant need for improvement in the music library facility (see NASM Visitors' Report, pages 7-8). The Commission notes that relocation of materials from the music listening library to the main campus library has begun, along with serious planning for the Media Center, scheduled to open this year. As part of its response, the music unit is requested to provide a report regarding the progress of these activities (see NASM Handbook 1991-92, page 47, item II.H.5).*

**Our Response**

After hearing requests from several Carthage departments, Music chiefly among them, the main campus library this fall established a media center. So we moved all materials except our long-playing records from the music library facility to the main campus library, where they have been cataloged and shelved. We still have those LPs and some generationally challenged audio equipment in the music library facility—older turntables, headphone amps, and one complete sound system—which we hope to staff with work-study students.

In the main library's media center, there are four small rooms equipped with various CD players, cassette players, turntables, amps, speakers, VCRs and video monitors. There is also a Macintosh computer and a small MIDI synthesizer so students may access the same music software and CD-ROM materials there which are available to them in the music computer lab. The main campus library also acquired several laser disk players recently.

In the near future, for general use in the Johnson Arts Center, there will be a Macintosh computer with a CD-ROM drive, a computer projection device for an overhead projector, and a laser disk player. Similarly, we will soon see a sophisticated projection system for laser disks, video tapes and computer images in the Recital Hall.

**II. A PROGRESS REPORT**

Both the revised Church Music Emphasis and the new Piano Pedagogy Certificate program (see pages 43 and 44 of the 1993-94 catalog) were approved by the college's Curriculum Planning Committee and faculty last year. We taught the first new course in the pedagogy program last spring and will graduate two students with a pedagogy certificate as well as a B.A. music degree this spring.

We also made a concerted and successful effort last year to recruit string players. As a result, we count 15 string players among our students this fall and therefore have launched our first Chamber Orchestra, directed by one of the members of the Lyra Quartet.

From his discretionary account, in February the Dean of the College graciously bought a fine Kawai grand for the choir room when one suddenly appeared on the local used market at a very attractive price.