

International Trombone Association (ITA)  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
Saturday, June 19, 2004 at 12:00 p.m.  
33rd International Trombone Festival  
James J. Whalen Center for Music  
Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

**MINUTES**

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

President Nathaniel Brickens introduced ITA Officers, members of the Board of Advisors and Past Presidents who were in attendance.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes from the 2003 ITA General Meeting were approved unanimously by the membership.

**III. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Steven Greenall listed some of the 2003 accomplishments of the ITA for the general membership. These included: the presentation of awards, statistics on competitions, the status of journal publication, the enormous success of the ITA website, an overview of the International Trombone Festival 2003 held in Helsinki, Finland, the work of the ITA Board, the association's financial standing and a breakdown of ITA membership statistics by musical status and country.

In accessing the association's current standing, Greenall mentioned four problems: membership numbers are leveled off and not increasing, members renew at a very slow rate, the association lacks adequate funds, and it has yet to become truly international.

Greenall felt that, in addition to accepting even more inclusive and higher quality of mission and vision for the association, the following objectives should be pursued: double the membership number, achieve an eighty per cent renewal rate within three months, and make the association more visible through advertising and use of the website. In pursuit of these objectives, general strategies should be to: support and/or create an environment for personal interaction, celebrate diversity, provide an authoritative and informative critique, provide a platform for scholarly development and create an interactive and multimedia website.

In closing, Greenall thanked the advertisers, exhibitors, sponsors, staff, committee members, Board of Advisors, Council of Past Presidents and the members of the ITA Board for their hard work and continued support of the ITA.

#### IV. Treasurer's Report

(See Finance Committee report below).

#### V. Committee Reports

##### A. Standing Committees:

1. **Awards Committee** (John Drew). The newly formed Awards Committee presented its first slate of nominees to the Board in December Of 2003. Since this was its initial effort, it encountered some problems and issues, which will be rectified by the time of the next ballot. The committee plans to post the call for nominations in the *Journal* earlier than it did this past year. Hugo Magliocco has resigned from the Awards Committee and Drew plans to contact the ITA Board concerning replacement.
2. **Commissions Committee** (No report).
3. **Competitions Committee** (Denis Wick). Wick reported that the combination of a Competitions Coordinator with a Competitions Advisory Committee has been a very successful change in the governance structure of the association. Vern Kagarice, as Competitions Coordinator, submitted an in depth report to the ITA Board in March which elaborated on the following points; experience is helping to improve all aspects of the competitions; rules will continue to be fine-tuned; entries continue to increase in number with 2004 boasting a record of 188 (entries were well-balanced but for the Rosolino competition and most interest came from those in the age bracket "22 and under" which is making the Marstellar competition a bit too large); the list of judges is very high in quality and efforts are continuing to utilize non-U.S. judges; procedures for score tabulations must continually be evaluated and fine-tuned (Kagarice and Greenall continue to work on the system); the competitions now list alternates (which created a slate of students from 49 different schools and 69 different teachers); and the issue of prizes must continually be considered as instrument companies may not be willing to continue supplying horns.
4. **Composition Competition Committee** (Marta Hofacre for Andrew Glendenning). The Composition Competition Committee offered a number of observations from past activities and recommendations for future activities. Via discussion group emails, committee members decided to recommend a competition every two years, increased prize money and rejection of any restrictions on level, instrumentation, etc. for submitted works, use of a panel of judges, and that the association encourage performances of a winning work beyond the competition. Included in the committee report was the "Call for Compositions" for the proposed 2005 competition, which outlined all rules, and procedures for interested competitors.
5. **Diversity Committee** (Sam Burtis). Burtis reported that the Diversity Committee had not met during the year but had had some online communication. He felt that, following the report it had submitted to the ITA Board in 2002, many positive steps

had been taken to increase the diversity and inclusiveness of the association such as the sort of articles appearing in the *Journal*, membership enlistment and governance changes. Burtis pointed out to the membership that the ITF'04 slate of performers was also testimony to the associations increased and continuing attention to diversity.

6. **Finance Committee** (Edwin K. Myrick). Myrick outlined some objectives for the Finance Committee most of which concerned increasing membership and/or revenue. He put forth such ideas as encouraging present members to solicit new members, personally contacting teachers, offering incentives and offering new payment methods. Ideas for increasing revenue included: offering an ITA credit card, selling items featuring the ITA logo, advertising, news releases, and gift annuities (particularly for the 21st Century Fund).
7. **Nominations and Elections Committee** (Steve Wolfenbarger). Wolfenbarger took over the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee during the past year. In September of 2003, the committee was asked to submit names of individuals to be considered for First Vice President/President Elect, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the Board of Advisors. More than forty names were considered. Following long deliberations via email and telephone, the committee decided to include only one candidate for each of the elected offices. This was the first time only one name was placed on the ballot for First Vice President/President Elect. While the committee will not make this the norm, it felt it necessary in this election because only one of the top four candidates allowed his/her name to stand.

Plans for the upcoming year include identifying and mentoring outstanding potential candidates for First Vice President/President Elect for the next election and devising a plan to expand the Board of Advisors to more members particularly from all countries and/or regions of the world in order to continue the ITA's goal of becoming truly international.

8. **Pedagogy Committee** (No report).
9. **Publications and Literature Committee** (Mark Thompson). Thompson recognized and thanked the members of his committee. The annotated literature project, *Solos for the Student Trombonist, 2nd Ed.* was in print May 10th of 2004 and order forms were posted outside concert venues at the ITF'04 for the benefit of the membership. The committee continues to lobby for republication of out-of-print works and has been successful so far with the Bartles *Elegy*. It reports excellent progress regarding the Childs *Sonata*, Ross *Prelude, Fugue and Big Apple* and some of Pederson's works. The committee received 15 compositions for consideration for publication by The ITA Press and three were accepted.
10. **Research Committee** (Marta Hofacre for Jim Roberts). The Research Committee engaged in one activity this year. That was the selection of the research presentation for the ITF'04. Four research proposals were submitted which was a twofold increase. Although the committee was concerned with the quality of the submissions,

it did feel that the submission chosen for presentation was both substantial and timely. The committee would be willing to entertain a project designed to help the membership understand how to shape valid research projects and draft effective proposals.

Because the 2002 annual report was submitted late, the committee could not receive feedback from the ITA Board for most proposed changes. These were reiterated: possible appointment of an additional committee member, the committee would act as an editorial review board for the website for any papers/articles presented for electronic publication, inclusion of “research” as a stated goal of the ITA, increasing the number of research presentations at each ITF, and an increase in financial support for these research presenters.

B. Ad hoc Committees:

1. **Ad hoc Committee on International Trombone Week** (Chris Hayes). The second annual International Trombone Week (ITW) was held during the first full week of April with 52 events taking place around the world including performances and presentations in the United States, Canada, Greece and England. Hayes outlined the sort of events that took place calling the memberships’ attention in particular to the online presentations. Next year’s ITW will be 3-9 April. He asked the membership for its input so that each ITW may be an improvement on the last.
2. **Ad hoc Committee on Focal Dystonia** (Heinz Fadle). Fadle gave a brief report on the work of this *ad hoc* committee. The membership currently includes Heinz Fadle, Jan Kagarice and Denis Wick. They met several times during the past year and Kagarice has been increasing successful work with trombonists afflicted with focal dystonia. The results of their work culminated in the panel discussion session on Friday of the ITF’04 entitled *A Pedagogical Approach to Focal Dystonia*.

VI. **Old Business**

There was no old business.

VII. **New Business**

- A. Constitutional changes proposed by the ITAB were presented to the general membership for its consideration.

**ARTICLE II – PURPOSES**

Section 1. MISSION STATEMENT. The International Trombone Association strives to promote the trombone and all trombone related issues around the world.

*New: The ITA shall promote, nurture and celebrate the trombone and trombone related activities.*

Section 2. VISION STATEMENT. Every person in the world with an interest in the trombone becomes a member of the International Trombone Association.

*New: The ITA is a fully inclusive organization and the hallmark for the trombone.*

## **ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT**

Section 2. ITA BOARD. The ITA Board has ultimate responsibility for all the activities of the Association. The ITA Board, Chaired by the President, shall consist of the six officers and two representatives from the Board of Advisors and Council of Past Presidents appointed by the President for two year terms.

One half of the ITA Board in attendance at meetings, or responding by mail, fax or e-mail shall constitute a quorum in which to transact business. Decisions are made by a simple majority of those voting. The Executive Director shall normally attend meetings of the ITA Board but have no voting rights.

*New: (second paragraph) Two-thirds of the ITA Board in attendance at meetings...*

*New: Section 3. ITA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The ITA Executive Committee shall oversee the day-to-day operations of the association and recommend policy to the ITA Board. Membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of the ITA President, one ITA Board member (appointed by the ITA Board) and the Executive Director.*

Section 3. BOARD OF ADVISORS. The Board of Advisors shall consist of not fewer than twelve (12) or more than eighteen (18) additional members elected by the membership. The terms of these 12 to 18 "additional" members shall last four (4) years, and each member may be re-elected. The Board of Advisors shall advise the ITA Board on any issues arising in pursuit of its vision and mission.

*New: Section 4. BOARD OF ADVISORS. The Board of Advisors shall consist of not fewer than twelve (12) members of international representation, which are elected by the membership and may be appointed by the ITA Board. The terms of the Board of Advisors shall last four (4) years. Board of Advisors members may be re-elected but may not serve more than two terms consecutively. The Board of Advisors shall advise the ITA Board on any issues arising in pursuit of its vision and mission.*

*New: Add “Deputy Executive Director” to Section 7. ITA STAFF POSITIONS.*

Section 7. STANDING COMMITTEES. The standing committees of the Association shall be: the Standing Committee on Awards, the Standing Committee on Commissions, the Standing Committee on Competitions, the Standing Committee on the Composition Competition, the Standing Committee on Diversity, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Standing Committee on Nominations and Elections, the Standing Committee on Pedagogy, the Standing Committee on Publications and Literature, and the Standing Committee on Research.

*New: Section 8. STANDING COMMITTEES. The standing committees of the Association shall be: the Standing Committee on Awards, the Standing Committee on Competitions, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Standing Committee on Governance, and the Standing Committee on the ITA Press. The President, with the approval of the ITA Board shall appoint Chairs of standing committees.*

*New: Section 9. ADVISORY COUNCILS. The advisory councils of the Association shall be: the Advisory Council on Diversity, the Advisory Council on Literature, the Advisory Council on Pedagogy, the Advisory Council on Performance, and the Advisory Council on Research. The ITA Board shall appoint council Chairs and members.*

Section 12. ELECTIONS. Elections of officers for the Association shall be held during the spring of each even numbered year. One half of the Board of Advisors shall be elected in even numbered sequence years (2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2020, etc). The second half of the Board of Advisors shall be elected in even numbered sequence years (2002, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018, etc).

*New: Section 12. ELECTIONS. Elections of officers and members of the Board of Advisors shall be held during the spring of each even numbered year.*

## **ARTICLE VIII – QUORUMS**

Section 1. QUORUM OF THE ITA BOARD. One half of the members of the ITA Board at a meeting duly assembled or one half of the members of the ITA Board responding by mail, fax or e-mail shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and the act of a majority of the ITA Board, by the above, shall be the act of the ITA Board.

*New: Section 1. QUORUM OF THE ITA BOARD. Two-thirds of the members of the ITA Board at a meeting duly assembled or two-thirds of the members of the ITA Board responding by mail, fax or e-mail shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and the act of a majority of the ITA Board, by the above, shall be the act of the ITA Board.*

These constitutional changes were accepted by a unanimous vote of the membership.

## B. International Trombone Festival (ITF).

Hal Reynolds, host of the ITF'04 was recognized and special thanks and appreciation voiced for his hard work in presenting a truly outstanding ITF.

The ITF'05 will be held at Loyola University in New Orleans, LA.

## VIII. **Presidential Remarks**

President Brickens told the membership that although his two years as ITA President had been eventful; they seemed to have passed very quickly. He felt that his presidency had afforded him the opportunity to get to know many members of the organization quite well and to work shoulder to shoulder with the committed and capable members of the ITA Board. He expressed his gratitude for being allowed the opportunity to serve and thanked the association's founders, staff, committee members and volunteers. He assured the membership that he would remain ready to help the ITA in whatever way possible.

Brickens then introduced the new ITA President, Denis Wick assuring the membership that the ITA is in very capable hands as Wick assumes the presidency.

President Wick remarked that he felt the ITA had been good to him through the years and that now he wanted to do something in return. He commended Brickens on his excellent job and presented him with an award of appreciation on behalf of the ITA membership.

Wick felt that a "Brit." becoming the president of an organization that was 80 per cent, American was worthy of special mention. He considers the ITA a very special organization of a very special group of people (trombonists) and renewing friendships each year at the ITFs is important to him. He feels that the association should continue to be a vehicle to foster friendships, if not a brother- and sisterhood of trombonists throughout the world.

## IX. **Adjournment**

As his first act as ITA President, Wick called for the adjournment of the meeting This was moved, seconded and approved unanimously by the membership at 1:12 p.m.