

ITA Board of Directors

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Minutes of Sunday June 11, 2023

2:00 P.M. Eastern

Via Zoom

Officers Present: Brad Palmer, Chair, Chris Shook, Secretary/Treasurer, Natalie Mannix, Ben McIlwain

Directors Present: Magnus Nilsson, Executive Director

Membership Present: Members at large and other members

Special Welcome and Call to Order: Chair, Brad Palmer greeted all members present and welcomed and introduced all Officers and Directors present of the ITA, ITF and Board of Advisors.

Chair, Brad Palmer called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M.

Minutes of July 3, 2022:

Motion: Motion by Chris Shook supported by Natalie Mannix to approve the Minutes of 7-3-2022. Motion carried.

ITA AWARDS 2023

- Ava Ordman, Chair of the Awards Committee presented the awards briefly outlining the criteria in each category as follows:
 - ITA Award – Jorgen Van Rijen
 - Humfeld Award – Dudley Bright
 - Lifetime Achievement Award – Vivian Lee
 - Lifetime Achievement Award – Michael Powell

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- The membership of the organization is 2,986, 80% of which is from the United States. Continual efforts are being made to increase membership and those efforts are being realized.
- Magnus then highlighted and recognized the staff discussing the changes occurring within the operation. Chase West is the Competitions Coordinator position replacing Donny Pinson.
- Digital Newsletter is in production publishing 9,000 monthly as part of a strategy to reach out to more users.
- The ZOOM sessions with artists continue to be well liked.
- He then discussed that volunteers are always welcome and that if there is any interest to please contact him for more information.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- ITA Secretary/Treasurer Chris Shook highlighted the attached report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

All reports attached to the Minutes

- Awards (Ava Ordman)
- Commissions (Don Lucas)
- Competitions (Hana Beloglavecs)
- Finance/Audit (Chris Shook)
- Governance (Ben McIlwain)

ADVISORY COUNCIL'S REPORTS

All reports attached to the Minutes

- Diversity (Natalie Mannix)
- Literature (J. Mark Thompson)
- Pedagogy (Dee Stuart)
- Research (Brett Baker)

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Attached with the Minutes

Old Business

- Don Lucas asked Hana Beloglavec, Chair of the Competitions Committee about ideas to get more applications to the Competitions. Discussion followed with Heather Buckman inquiring about the possibility of an every other year event and Megumi Kanda discussing a Japanese model.

New Business

- Don Lucas discussed a transcription for brass quintet of a string piece by William Grant Still.

Chair, Brad Palmer ended the meeting by thanking Magnus Nilsson and all the staff, committee members and all volunteers especially the Chairs of the committees and made a special thank you to Doug Yeo for all his professional writing, performing and teaching advancing the mission of the ITA.

Chair, Brad Palmer adjourned the meeting at 3:43 P.M. Eastern

Respectfully submitted,

By: Christopher J. Shook, Secretary/Treasurer

ITA AGM Treasurer's Report 2023

The financial health and status of the ITA is good despite membership declines and a narrow budget shortfall. The organization is feeling the effects of these lowered expectations and has made accommodation in the budgets since the AGM 2022, and it is continually being reviewed for possible changes as we move through the year. The operating accounts are stable and in good fiscal standing, thanks to careful balancing, engineered by the ITA Executive Director Magnus Nilsson. Magnus' management and operational leadership of the ITA is of great value to the ITA as it navigates through this period.

The ITA is also very fortunate to have the expertise of Ben Baldanza, Bill Lentz, CPA and Milt Sabin, CPA all member/volunteers of the Audit/Finance Committee for with their professional guidance of ITA finances over the last few years. These individuals are all trombone performers who bring their specific professional area of expertise to the organization.

The current balance of the Endowment Funds of the ITA, held by Vanguard Investments is \$429,000, approximately the same as one year ago, the majority of which is held in earmarked or specially designated funds. These investment funds adhere to the ITA Investment Policy. The Investment Policy is reviewed annually for changes in law as well as for need and was most recently reviewed last week by the Audit/Finance Committee.

The accounting firm of Seber Tans, PLC performs the annual review of ITA's financial statements as well as the 990 tax returns which will be posted when completed, approved, and submitted.

By: Christopher J. Shook, Treasurer

Commissions Committee Report

for this past year 23/24 submitted July 2024

On behalf of the ITA Commissions Committee, John Marcellus, Paul Compton and myself, I am reporting that this past year, a composer contacted me for consideration of our committee, a commission by the ITA. The asking price for this composition was way, way far beyond our resources. I did communicate this back to the composer. It is always a challenge to balance the value of a potential work with realistic financial means.

There are 2 possible ideas on the horizon that I will present to the committee for consideration. They are contacting Costa Rican Composer, Vinicio Mesa for a potential commission and secondly an idea for a joint commission by all four of the Brass Associations. ITA, ITG, IHS and ITEC for a quartet piece written with one instrument from our organizations. This would potentially have wider usage and appeal while also combining our financial resources for this commission.

Respectfully Submitted.

Don Lucas,

Chair, ITA Commissions Committee

ITA Competition Committee Annual Report 2023

Hana Beloglavec (chair), Ron Barron, Brandt Attema, Donny Pinson (ex officio), and Chase West (Competitions Coordinator, ex officio)

The Competitions Committee had a positive year working toward the 2023 International Trombone Festival. Input on competition repertoire came from everybody on the committee.

1. Competition entry numbers update in 2023

Competitions in red are categories that we would like to see an increase in numbers. (Data provided by Donny Pinson and Chase West)

Competition	2019 Entries	2020 Entries	2021 Entries	2022 Entries	2023 Entries
Remington	18	22	13	18	19
Winding	7	7	1	1	9
Smith	7	10	34	26	10
Yaxley	21	17	28	35	39
Roberts	45	36	30	34	35
Kleinhammer	17	14	36	20	19
Van Haney	38	25	39	25	32
Alto	9	14	11	14	11

Fontana	19	11	10	16	16
Gagliardi	28	43	32	37	17
Quartet	36	35	26	29	22
Wiehe	10	29	9	24	27
Johnson	20	16	9	16	15
Marsteller	62	21	43	42	43
Totals	347	300	321	337	314

2. Overall, entries decreased by about 7% in 2023. The largest decreases were seen in Smith, Kleinhammer (not a decrease, but not a recovery from before) and Gagliardi, so we will take a look at the repertoire and make sure the first round is approachable. Wiehe remained strong in 2023. We will continue to keep track of the numbers and try to get more students involved if possible by choosing our rep strategically.
3. Donny Pinson has stayed on as an ex officio member of the committee due to his wealth of institutional knowledge and his interest to stay involved - thank you for your continued service! Chase West has done a wonderful job as the competitions coordinator in his first year in the position.
4. Ron Barron has decided 2023 will be his last year serving on the competitions committee. Ron has served on the committee for the past 15 years (maybe longer!). He began serving on the committee while Vern Kagarice was involved in the competitions and has been able to share his experience he has gained from over 50 years of performing solos and nine (!) solo albums. We thank Ron for his service to the committee, competitions, and the ITA.
5. 2024 Competition Repertoire

The committee has been working together to create the repertoire list for the 2024 competitions, and it should be coming out soon.

In conclusion, the competitions are a vital component of the ITA and ITF, bringing in new members and offering a great opportunity for the trombone students of the world to compete at a high level.

Respectfully submitted, Hana Beloglavec, competitions chair

ITA AGM
Finance/Audit Committee
2023

The Committee, consisting of Ben Baldanza, Bill Lentz, Milt Sabin and Chris Shook whose duties are to oversee the finances of the ITA which are currently stable as mentioned in the Treasurer's Report. Despite a volatile stock market the Endowment Fund was able to maintain its balance and the committee recommended the ITA Executive Board stay the course with these investments. The Committee relies on the excellent management of the operating accounts by Executive Director, Magnus Nilsson. Without his expert supervision the financial management would be markedly different. The operating accounts are in excellent shape.

The 990 tax returns for 2022 were filed early in April, the work being performed by Seber Tans, PLC

Bookkeeping by Lisa Tullius (ITA) and Allyson Johnson (ITF) gets very high marks for accuracy and timeliness.

INTERNATIONAL TROMBONE ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Standing Committee on Governance

Ben McIlwain, Chair

June 2023

I have 3 items to report today from the Standing Committee on Governance.

First: Members of the ITA Executive Board serve three-year terms, and the Governance Committee is responsible for recommending to the ITA Board of Advisors a candidate for positions when a term is expiring. The Governance Committee was pleased to recommend to the Board of Advisors that Brad Palmer (current Chair of the Executive Board) be reelected to a new term. They voted to approve this recommendation and Brad agreed to continue to serve in his current role with a term that expires in 2026. Thank you, Brad, for your continuing service to the ITA.

Next: According to the ITA bylaws, the Standing Committee on Governance “oversees and facilitates” the nomination and election of Officers and Board of Advisors of the Association triennially. Voting on the ballot for the 2023-2025 ITA Officers and Board of Advisors took place in March 2023 and we are honored to report the results to the membership – both on the website and social media along with in the upcoming July 2023 ITA Journal. The 3 year term for the newly elected starts today at our Annual General Meeting. I would also like to thank our outgoing Officers and Board of Advisors for their leadership and contributions to the Association for the past 3 years. Also, thank you to each of the candidates that appeared on the ballot and were willing to serve if elected.

Lastly, over the past 2 and a half years, the ITA Standing Committee on Governance has examined the ITA Bylaws (last amended in 2011) and the ITA Constitution (last amended in 2007) to ensure that these governing documents align with the mission and goals of the Association and are concise, clear, and effective. As a result of this examination, the Governance Committee concluded that it would be in the best interest of the ITA to engage in a rewrite of these documents, and this has been undertaken with the approval of the Executive Board. I am happy to report that the new bylaws have been approved by the Executive Board and are our current guiding governance document for the ITA. Magnus will be posting these on the website soon. I would like to share some changes that have been reflected in the new bylaws.

The new Bylaws preserve the general flow of topics that exist in the previous Constitution and Bylaws. Among the most important changes that appear in the new Bylaws are the following:

- The Bylaws employ gender inclusive language.
- A new procedure for amending or revising the Bylaws has been included.
- The ITA Executive Board, which did have three members, has been increased to five members. In addition to a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer—who comprise the newly named Executive Committee of the Executive Board—the Chairs of the Standing Committee on Governance and the Advisory Council on Diversity will serve as full, voting members of the Executive Board by virtue of their position.
- The old Constitution and Bylaws were not clear on how the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Executive Board are appointed. Language is included that the Governance Committee is committed to increasing the diversity of the Executive Committee of the Executive Board by advancing nominees of the ITA Executive Board who reflect the diversity of the world-wide community of trombonists.
- The new Bylaws bring the International Trombone Festival into the ITA's Bylaws as the Standing Committee on the International Trombone Festival.
- Duties of all officers, executive board members, standing committees, and advisory councils are outlined.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Governance Committee for their diligent work over this past year: Nathaniel Brickens, JoDee Davis, and Christopher Shook (ex-officio). I would also like to thank past member of the Governance Committee that served part of this past year and – Doug Yeo.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben McIlwain, chair

Advisory Council on Diversity Report

AGM 2023

Now in our third year, the ITA's Advisory Council on Diversity (ACD) was reformed in November 2020 by the direction of the ITA Executive Board. Members include: Natalie Mannix, chair, Tony Baker, Nathaniel Brickers, Marcia Medrano, Shannon Barnett, and Jennifer Wharton.

The ACD's activities since our last AGM have included:

1. Helping maintain the ITA composition diversity database. We are always accepting submissions through the webpage for anyone to input works. The database can be found at <https://www.trombone.net/diversity-composer-database-search/> or simply googling "trombone diversity". We currently have 166 entries of works written by composers from underrepresented demographics.

2. Distributed a diversity survey to membership. 474 trombonists responded. We shared the results with the social media manager, Journal editor, and ITF leadership. The Diversity council will be meeting to discuss results and set new action steps based on several suggestions from our respondents this coming year. Thank you to all who participated.

3. Continuing to work with ITA executive board, social media manager, and Journal Editor in supporting diverse content in our print and online offerings.

For other suggestions, please e-mail diversity@trombone.net.

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Mannix

INTERNATIONAL TROMBONE ASSOCIATION

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LITERATURE

ACTIVITY REPORT

Annual General Meeting 2023

Membership Term Year (/4)

J. Mark Thompson (Professor, Northwestern State University of Louisiana) 2 [2021-25]

Michael Davidson (Trombone Professor, University of Kansas) 3 [2020-24]

Timothy Howe (Trombone Professor, University of Missouri) 2 [2021-25]

Luis Fred (Trombone Professor, University of Central Florida) 1 [2022-26]

Jessica Butler (Professor, University of Illinois-Carbondale) 1 [2022-26]

Nick Kazmierczak, (Graduate Student, University of Kansas) 1 [2022-26]

There have some changes in committee personnel this year. Mark Thompson is stepping down as chair of the Advisory Council on Literature after 34 years of service. We thank Mark for his faithful dedication and service to the ITA in this capacity! Well done! Tim Howe has been elected Chair, and Mark, along with Mike Davidson, continues to serve on the council. We have also added three new members: Luis Fred, Nick Kazmierczak, and Jessica Butler.

The council met in October and had a healthy and productive discussion on all areas of literature: performance literature, pedagogical literature and historical literature. As a result of this discussion, the council would like to suggest the following initiatives for the consideration of the ITA:

1. Planning and advocacy for commissions and new performance literature needs more focus on literature that is playable by a wider audience of trombone performers, esp. Grades 2-4 (high school through college level performers). We also felt it was important to commission or advocate for works by underrepresented composer groups at this level, adding to the canon of solos with pedagogical use from more diverse composers. As showcase for this level of literature also might have a place on the ITF program as well. If we really want to diversify our performance literature, it must reach into the Grade 2-4 level as well. In connection to this literature emphasis Mike Davidson as recently commissioned four pieces for trombone and piano that would be appropriate for high school/early undergraduate use. These will all soon be published. In addition, they are to be recorded in early July 2022, and will be available for purchase Fall 2022.

They are: "Grace" by Tom Davoren,, a Welsh composer of mostly band works, who won the 2020 American Band Association Merrill Jones Memorial Young Band Composition Contest, "Two Pieces for Trombone and Piano" by Stuart O'Neil,"Victory Lap" by PJ Kelley; and a new solo by David Wilborn.

2. Create a more robust and updated bibliography for Grade 1-3 literature and Grade 4-6 literature. This could be done in conjunction with the literature reviews database connected to the ITA journal that is now taking shape thanks to the dedicated work of David Stern, Mike Hall and others.
3. ITA Diversity database is a great new feature, we would urge adding links ITA literature review, to composer's websites, and an recording link if possible. With the increase in self-publication by composers this would help members to connect with more literature.
4. Consider the develop of a trombone pioneers e-book or online book, similar to the Glenn Bridges *Pioneers in Brass* book from many years ago. This would be more robust than other online sites. This would require multiple contributors and an editor to compile a list, solicit articles/chapters, create a page or link to resource on ITA site if possible or promote as an e-book.
5. Other topics of discussion: Promotion of a book about history of trombone pedagogy, and/or a historically informed warmup/fundamentals text, and also a text for early music and sackbut pedagogy.
6. Develop a chamber music resource [2 – 7 parts]
7. Identify works in danger of going out of print (or having already done so) and work with publishers to reprint/republish the work, or create a digital edition
8. develop digital archive for all public domain trombone works
9. create a resource of program notes about composers of trombone music

Finally, though we did not have the opportunity to discuss it together, as chair I am concerned about recent developments regarding the removal of the literature reviews from the ITA journals without explanation. The plan for continued literature reviews needs to be articulated to the membership. It is valuable resource and needs to continue in some form online.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy Howe, Chair

ITA Advisory Council on Literature

University of Missouri

June 7, 2023

Hello to the ITA Annual General Meeting,

As Chair of the Pedagogy Advisory Committee, I would like to submit this report of our activities. Our group consists of Brad Edwards, Josh Bynum, Kirsten Lies-Warfield, John Lofton and me. We are each very active on the pedagogy front as well as under the umbrella of the PAC. As you may know, we each we have books, articles, columns, audios, websites, etc. which point to our involvement in the field.

Collectively PAC continues to produce "Nuggets of Wisdom" each issue in the ITA Journal. I must point out that the assistance of Amy Maclean and her associates is a great help in the concept and execution of Nuggets.

We actively recruit and gather nuggets from members of ITA as well as our own collections. At this point we have around 200 on file and growing. Using six or eight each issue should last us quite a while. We are very selective about the ones that we feature. However, there are many aspects of pedagogy as you know, and we try to keep each issue as interesting as possible. The contributions come from all sources such as sports, philosophy, humor, medicine, decorum, etc., as well as all avenues of music.

We hope that the offerings have meaning to our membership. Sometimes a brief quote has as much import as a paragraph of text. Here is one of my favorite quotes:

"Don't be nervous. My God this is the Philadelphia Orchestra!"

Eugene Ormandy

M. Dee Stewart

On WindSong Lake

Dear AGM,

Research Committee Report 2023

For context an open letter to the membership that appeared in the January 2022 ITA Journal asking the membership to supply me with articles relating to playing and performing of repertoire sadly did not lead to any responses in the past 12 months at all hence our change of direction.

This past 12 months the research committee decided a good course of action was to task an individual to interview and collate oral and written histories of Past Presidents. Inspired by Irv Wagners celebratory zoom calls that took place over the lock down periods and suggested by Trevor Herbert. This individual is Peter Fielding who has been appointed to do this research.

Peter has contacted all the Past Presidents with a small number yet to reply. Interviews will take place in July-September. The analysis and writing up will then occur in the October / November with drafts being ready for the end of December 2023.

The committee which is made up of myself, Irv Wagner and Trevor Herbert will now look at other initiatives related to relevant research that will benefit the ITA.

Respectively submitted by,

Dr L B Baker
Chair of the Research Advisory Council

INTERNATIONAL TROMBONE WEEK

June 11, 2023

International Trombone Week's 20th Anniversary was celebrated from April 16-23, 2023—and throughout the month.

Thank you to everyone who marked this successful and happy milestone!

Activities included concerts, live streams, educational workshops, recitals, premieres, radio events, and more—and much of it was spotlighted on ITA online channels.

Examples of this year's activity include:

- Alex Iles led an open online warm-up with host Kevin McManus.
- Michael Pilley and The British Trombone Society led a collaborative video project.
- Germany offered many trombone events around the country.
- Colombia hosted its extensive *Semana del Trombón*.
- Jazz station WBGO-FM hosted a Trombone Party for its 300,000 listeners all over the world.

Please mark your calendar: Next year's official week is April 7-14, 2024... and any day in April is fine, too. ;-)

If you'd like ideas and inspiration, please explore the ITW webpage's collection of community-generated resources and world event map:

<https://trombone.net/international-trombone-week>

International Trombone Week welcomes every trombone player and trombone fan on our planet. You are invited to be part of ITW 2024! Please join us.

Respectfully submitted by Colleen Wheeler, Chair