

William Marsh Rice University  
Minutes of the Faculty

Meeting of Monday, April 28, 1975

Attendance: Approximately 82 persons

Robert L. Patten, Secretary

President Hackerman called to order the sixth meeting of the faculty for the academic year 1974-75 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chemistry Lecture Hall.

Six items were announced as agenda in the notice for the meeting (Attachment #1, file copies only).

1. Approval of the minutes of March 24, 1975 as circulated.  
The minutes were approved without objection.
2. A proposed curriculum for the Shepherd School of Music, recommended to the general faculty by the University Council. (A summary of the five-year program leading to the Bachelor's of Music and the Master's of Music degrees is attached to the agenda; the complete program is included as Attachment #2, file copies only).

Ms. Brown, Secretary of the University Council, moved, Mr. Sterling seconded,

THAT the program be approved (first reading).

Mr. Jones, Director of the Shepherd School of Music, reviewed the curriculum, and then with Mr. Hackerman answered questions from Messrs. Badner, D. Baker, Bearden, Burrus, Camfield, De Bremaecker, Grob, Heymann, Michel, O'Neil, Roberts, Rorschach, Sterling, J. Thompson, Veech, C. Ward, and J. B. Wilson. The following points were clarified or announced as policy:

Admissions: All students must audition before entering. Next year approximately 20 new students, including 4 transfers, will be admitted. At full strength 40-50 new students will be admitted each year; about 200 students will then be enrolled at any one time. These 200 students will be added to the present "normal base" of 2400 undergraduates.

Curriculum: Students in the Shepherd School of Music may fulfill the University's distribution requirements over five years, rather than four. The B.A. degree will be awarded simultaneously with the M.A., but not "retroactively." There will be no degree awarded at the end of the fourth year. The expectation is that few if any students will fail the examination at the end of the fifth semester, but any students who wish to transfer out of the School into another major program at Rice should have little difficulty. However, it will be extremely difficult to transfer into the School, or to combine music with another major. There will be courses offered to non-majors. Contemporary music will play an important role in the curriculum: there will normally be a composer in residence.

Summer school work will be transferrable for credit if approved by the School; however, most students will probably be engaged in non-credit summer workshops, music camps, or festivals.

Faculty: At full strength, the School should have a student-faculty ratio of 10-1. That compares to ratios of approximately 6-1 (Curtis), 8/9-1 (Julliard), and 10-1 (Eastman), but the Shepherd School figures do not include the faculty that teaches outside the music curriculum.

Space: The Space Assignment Committee is currently surveying the available space, and the School has already installed some portable practice rooms. The President was insistent that Rice, with a very high space per student or space per faculty ratio, has sufficient room already constructed to house the School. The donors of the School expressed a desire for, but did not stipulate, a Georgian front to any building erected for the School; such a building will be added only if more funds are raised.

Funding: Approximately \$400,000 a year is currently generated from the endowment, and from 200 students additional monies net of indirect costs and scholarships will raise the available funds for the program to \$550,000-\$600,000 annually. Acceptance of the endowment many years ago implied acceptance of the program by the University, so the President believes it would be inappropriate to charge any indirect costs to the endowment. If the School wants additional faculty, it will have to raise the money for salaries itself.

Financial Aid: Undergraduates will be eligible for Rice financial aid supplied in part through the School's endowment; aid for fifth year students will have to come from the School or sources outside Rice.

Need for School: Despite the chronic oversupply of performers, there is a lack of good instrumentalists trained in the orchestral and small ensemble repertoire. The Shepherd School curriculum is unique in its combination of liberal arts and professional training, and should therefore produce highly desirable graduates. The influence of up to 20 members of the music faculty, and 200 music students, on the life of the campus should be "a very positive benefit to this place" (Hackerman).

The question being called, the motion PASSED with 1 negative.

3. A proposed professional Master's degree program in Education, recommended to the general faculty by the University Council.  
(A copy of the proposal is attached to the agenda.)

Mr. Margrave, Chairman of the Graduate Council, moved, Mr. Bearden seconded, a motion

THAT the program be approved (first reading).