

Hello and welcome to another academic year! I hope that you have had a successful beginning to your semester and that the routines of the new school year are enjoyable. As I transitioned into a new job this past summer, I was frequently reminded of all our students go through in their job preparation and search process – how exciting it is to do something different, how scary it is to leave the comfort of the familiar to branch out to the unknown, and how thrilling it is to meet new colleagues, students and friends. I am reminded that change is good, but the steadfastness of those close to us is incredibly important. I am sure we all serve in that comforting capacity for our students, current ones and alumni, and I am incredibly proud of the hard work of the music teacher educators in our state!

I would also like to take the opportunity to offer a warm welcome to all of our new SMTE/PMEA Higher Education colleagues! We are glad to have you in Pennsylvania! This journal's column is especially designed for you as a list of important websites and tidbits to help ease your transition into PA, PMEA and PDE, but all of us may benefit from a quick reference source from time to time. Please let me know if I have inadvertently left something out—I'll be happy to email it out to everyone if you share it!

PMEA:

- www.pmea.net (an excellent site for conference & membership information, as well as useful information about music education activities in the state)
- <https://netforum.avectra.com/eWeb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=PMEA&WebCode=boardmembers> (a layout of the PMEA leadership and a helpful tool in making connections across the state)

Research and Professional Development Information:

- Music Researcher's Email Directory (an incredibly helpful list serve of research opportunities in music education):
Contact ed.asmus@miami.edu or go to <http://www.music.miami.edu/musicResearchers/>
- Music Research Web Site - <http://www.music.miami.edu/musicResearch/>
- Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE) – smtte.us
- Special Research Interest Groups (SRIGs) - <http://musiced.nafme.org/resources/special-research-interest-groups-srigs/>

Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE):

- http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennsylvania_department_of_education/7237
- http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/teachers_and_teacher_certifications/7199 (specific teacher certification information)
- http://www.education.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/codes_and_regulations/7241 (specific information on clearances and other regulations)

Your PMEA SMTE/Higher Education Coordinator:

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As always, please know that you are more than welcome to email or call me with your questions or concerns at any time! New colleagues, please email me soon and let me know you are here so I can get all of your information into our database and can send you important emails as they arise.

Best of luck to you in your fall semester!



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