
Attending Research Sessions: PMEA 2021 Virtual Conference

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Do you remember where were you the first time you attended or presented a music education research presentation? I do. The first research session I attended also was the first research session in which I presented. That year, 1992, PMEA held its conference in the since-raised Adam's Mark Hotel on the Main Line in Philadelphia. Dr. Joanne Rutkowski, then Chair of PMEA Research, facilitated the research session. At that time, the PMEA Research Committee was host to only one or two research sessions at PMEA Annual Conferences (Rutkowski, 2018).

Since then, with the continual support of PMEA and the PMEA Research Committee Chairs, members have increased the PMEA Research Sessions annually to a maximum of six sessions, and published this Research Column, typically quarterly, in *The PMEA News*. Additionally, PMEA has supported PK-12 music teachers and music teacher educators in their collaborative action research endeavors. The PMEA Research Committee thanks PMEA for its support of research over the past 30+years. Unwaveringly, they have provided

publishing and physical spaces for its members and guests to engage in what the committee strives to provide: enjoyable, accessible, inclusive, and meaningful discourse fueled by systematic research.

With PMEA's support, the research committee has a history of tackling challenges that PMEA helped solve. For example, as Dr. Rutkowski describes in her 2018 PMEA News retrospective of PMEA's 30+ years of offering research sessions, the committee went to considerable efforts to build, store, and transport wooden easels to PMEA conferences on which researchers displayed their trifold research posters, and PMEA ultimately facilitating that process with their purchase, storage, and transport of lighter and more easily stored easels. She also described how researchers worked in research cells prior to Skype, benefitting from PMEA's funding to reimburse expenses for phone calls, "snail" mail, and travel to meet in person during the research project.

Like all of us in the COVID-19 era, PMEA Research Committee members recently have tackled challenges related to offering

conference research presentations. In 2020, when the PMEA Annual In-Service Conference had to be cancelled, the Research Committee invited already-confirmed conference poster presenters to submit a PowerPoint presentation of their research, along with an abstract for posting on the PMEA Research webpage in lieu of a research poster session presentation. We invited paper presenters to come together for synchronous Zoom sessions, resulting in two evening PMEA Webinars hosted by Abi Young, and facilitated by Dr. Brent Talbot and Dr. Nancy Beitler, respectively. As so much of everyone's attention was focused on pivoting to online instruction, Dr. Elizabeth Cassidy Parker agreed to postpone her appearance as invited researcher until 2021, and the cancelled the research-to-practice workshop sessions.

2021 PMEA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE RESEARCH SESSIONS

Knowing that the 2021 PMEA Virtual Conference is entirely online, the Research Committee is pleased to announce that all four types of research sessions will be at your fingertips during this year's conference: Invited Researcher, Poster Session, Paper Presentations, and Research-to-Practice Workshops. We invite you to register for the 2021 PMEA Virtual conference, which will ensure you have online access to the research sessions—with synchronous and asynchronous options during the conference dates, and for 90 days asynchronously after the conference. You'll meet persons from diverse geographic locations—not entirely unusual at PMEA Research sessions, but definitely easier in a virtual conference format!

Days and times for participating in the following sessions during the conference are still being refined, and instructions are forthcoming which will describe how conference attendees will be able to engage in synchronous sessions and a researcher whose poster content intrigues them! Following is an overview of the Research Sessions at this year's conference.

2021 PMEA INVITED RESEARCHER

On behalf of the PMEA Research Committee, we welcome Dr. Elizabeth Cassidy Parker (Associate Professor of Music Education, Boyer College of Music and Dance, Temple University), the PMEA 2021 Invited Researcher. In her presentation, *Listening to Adolescent Voices in Music and Music Education Research*, she will summarize researchers'

examinations of adolescent perspectives of music and music education over the past 20 years, including her own research. Dr. Parker will focus on (a) what educators can learn from adolescent music research and (b) how educators might collect adolescent perspectives to inform and transform their teaching practice. She will begin her session with 15 minutes of prerecorded lecture during which she will interact via chat with participants. In the next 30 minutes, she will make research-to-practice connections, including offering potential directions for gathering adolescent perspectives, inviting participants' engagement. During the last 15 minutes, she will offer an open space for questions and discussion. Looking for reading on this topic? Check out Dr. Parker's recent book, *Adolescents on Music* (2020), published by Oxford University Press.

RESEARCH-TO-PRACTICE WORKSHOP

In their session, Collegiate A Cappella and the Pursuit of Happiness, Dr. Brent Talbot (Associate Professor of Music, Sunderman Conservatory of Gettysburg College) and Dr. Roger Mantie (Associate Professor, Department of Arts, Culture, and Media, University of Toronto-Scarborough) reveal findings from their decade-long study of collegiate a cappella. Their 45-minute session will begin with 25 minutes of prerecorded content during which attendees can participate in a chat with Drs. Talbot and Mantie, followed by a discussion of the implications of their research on music teaching and learning. Dr. Parker, as invited researcher, will join their discussion. Looking for reading on this topic? Check out Dr. Talbot's and Dr. Mantie's recent book, *Education, Music, and the Lives of Undergraduates*, published by Bloomsbury.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Four paper presenters will offer pre-recorded presentations of their research, then join together with our invited researcher, Dr. Parker. The paper presenters and Dr. Parker will engage in dialogue together and participate in a Q&A session. Following are the four paper presentations and presenters:

1. **The Development of a Choral Music Teacher Self-Efficacy Scale (CMTSES), Douglas McCall, The Pennsylvania State University
2. ** Teaching Concerns of Novice Music Teacher Educators, Dr. Linda Thornton and Douglas McCall, The Pennsylvania State University

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3. ** Oral Histories of Women in College Marching Bands Surrounding Title IX, Michquelena Ferguson, The Pennsylvania State University
 4. ** Teaching Ensembles Online During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Dr. Wendy Matthews and Amy Bertleff, Kent State University

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Twelve research poster presentations, each of which will be a 5-minute pre-recorded video featuring their researcher's virtual poster, corresponding abstract, and audio narrative describing their research project. (Again, details about how to meet the researchers during the conference are forthcoming.)

1. College Students' Perceptions of Culturally Responsive Programming in Collegiate Music Ensembles, Jason Cumberledge, University of Louisville, and Dr. Matthew Williams, University of Arizona
2. Negotiated Music-Making: High School Bands During a Global Pandemic, Bethany Nickel, Case Western Reserve University
3. An Examination of Jazz Pedagogy in Pre-Service Music Teacher Education, Dr. Linda Thornton and Tristan Blankenship, The Pennsylvania State University
4. Hispanic/Latinx Career Identity as a Music Teacher Educator, Kay Pina, The Pennsylvania State University
5. A Survey of Non-Traditional Music Courses Taught in Pennsylvania Schools, Geoffrey Harman, University of Oklahoma
6. Strategies for measuring music performance data: The talent is everywhere!, Samuel Nebyu, Temple University and David Steiner, SAP AG, Germany
7. Trumpet Bell Covers and the Impact on Intonation Robert Hickey, The Pennsylvania State University
8. Factors that Influence the Programming of Diverse Styles of Music in Band, Samantha Andrejcisk, University of the Arts

POSTERS 9. – 12.: See four ** listings in the "Paper Presentation" section above in this article for the remaining poster session presentations.

JOIN US!

We hope that you already have long-taken advantage of what the PMEA research community has offered, whether reading a PMEA Research Column with a favorite beverage, mingling during a poster session, engaging in person in an invited researcher's or research-to-practice presenter's think-pair-share or music-making opportunity, or engaging in the Q&A during paper presenters' reports. If you haven't yet, we think this year could be a great year to start! Because our now-traditional series of research session offerings will be programmed in new entirely online formats, attending or viewing a PMEA Research session might be easier than ever. We invite you to join us during the 2021 PMEA In Service Conference.

Whether you're joining us for the first or umpteenth time, we predict you may never forget where you were when attending the online 2021 PMEA Research Sessions and engaging with the researchers! You might well answer the question about where you were with an answer unimaginable just a year ago: "I was [at my school and home]!" Regardless of your reply, we look forward to seeing you soon! 🍷
