Faculty Review and Evaluation
Division of Music
Calendar Year 2023

FACULTY SELF-EVALUATION

Name: Michael Lively

Teaching

My teaching load for the Spring semester of 2023 was 11.0 and my teaching load for the Fall semester of 2023 was also 11.0.

Course evaluations in the Spring semester were favorable with an average score to all questions of 4.62 for MUTH 1301 (response rate of 70%), 4.48 for MUTH 2130 (response rate of 50%), 4.75 for MUTH 2230 (response rate of 53.85%), 4.88 for MUTH 4300 (response rate of 100%), and 4.58 for MUTH 6300 (response rate of 83.33%). The departmental average score to all questions was 4.52 and the school average score to all questions was 4.51. During the Spring semester I taught one class (MUTH 1301) that is part of the Common Curriculum.

Representative comments on the student evaluations from the Spring semester would include (MUTH 4300): "One of the elements that contributed most to my learning was going over practice quizzes as a class before taking the graded quiz. The clear explanations the professor gives during lectures has also helped me learn the material. Good examples of the concepts we were studying Interesting stories about the composers we were learning about that kept me engaged. The examples Dr. Lively went through were always very helpful and so were the assignments which weren't busy work but actual problems that applied to the course material."

Course evaluations in the Fall semester were favorable with an average score to all questions of 4.87 for MUTH 1301 (response rate of 57.89%), 4.82 for MUTH 1129 (response rate of 56.25%), 4.74 for MUTH 2229 (response rate of 66.67%), and 4.78 for MUTH 3500 (response rate of 76.92%). The departmental average score to all questions was 4.46 and the school average score to all questions was 4.38. During the Fall semester I taught two classes (MUTH 1301 and MUTH 3350) that are part of the Common Curriculum and one class (MUTH 3350) that was associated with a previous (Fall 2021) SMU Libraries Information Literacy Stipend Award.

Representative comments on the student evaluations from the Fall semester would include (MUTH 2229): "I liked that Professor Lively clearly explained the topics and material in class and allocated class time to work on our final project. This way we could ask him questions when they arose without needing to email back and forth. I also liked that he individually called on us to answer questions when reviewing concepts which kept us focused and understanding the material. He is a very understanding professor and SMU needs more people like him! The fun, respectful, and healthy class environment. Dr Lively is such a wonderful human being, everything he did contributed to my learning and I really appreciate that about him. Our piece analyses were quite helpful as I got to see theory concepts being put into action. Dr. Lively is an incredible teacher, always outlining the content very clearly and in a concise manner. He walks us through examples in class, making sure we understand the information before we apply it on the homework and quizzes. I can't recommend this class enough!"

During the Fall semester the average response for every question, in every one of my classes, was above both the "school" and "department" average for each individual question. In addition, the median response for every question, in every one of my classes for the Fall semester, was 5.0, the highest possible median score.

Creative Activity, Research, and/or Other Scholarly Output

Having recently published four (4) peer reviewed journal articles, I published another peer reviewed article during 2023. The title of the new article was "Multi-Linear Continuity and 'Songs to the Dark Virgin' by Florence Price" and it was published in *College Music Symposium*, the academic journal of the College Music Society. The article provides an original analysis of the music of Florence Beatrice Price, an important African American woman composer from the early twentieth century.

Service

During 2023, I served as an application reader for the SMU President's Scholars program and as an independent reviewer for the 9th edition of the McGraw-Hill music theory Textbook *Tonal Harmony* (Kostka), one of the most highly esteemed and most frequently used music theory textbooks in the United States. I also continued to serve as a member of the Meadows Academic Policy Committee and as a member of the SMU association of Asian and Pacific American Scholars.

Summary

During the 2023 calendar year, I maintained a consistent teaching load, with favorable course evaluations averaging above department and school averages in both semesters. Student feedback praised my clear explanations, engaging examples, and supportive classroom environment. I published a peer-reviewed article analyzing the work of composer Florence Price, adding to my previous scholarly contributions. My service included roles as an application reader for the SMU President's Scholars program, an independent reviewer for a major music theory textbook, and participation in various academic committees.