

Dear Elma

Unfortunately I am unable to attend conference 2016. On the 31st March and 1st April I am part of the academic procession at graduation, and as I have two MMus students graduating as well as some BMus/BAHons students, I should be at their graduation ceremonies. Please convey my apologies to the AGM.

Last week (17th March) I attended a meeting of the UNISA Committee for Music Examinations; possibly the last meeting of this committee in its current configuration. The Directorate: Music is involved in an unbundling process, and this is part of a university-wide restructuring scenario. Moving into the future it is possible that an oversight committee/advisory board will be appointed to monitor UNISA's public music examination system, but if such a committee transpires its composition and standing within the university community will more than likely not resemble that of the present committee. If by the 26th September 2016 the relevant stakeholders have not yet signed the restructuring proposals then the committee will meet again on that date. However, the long-term continuance of this committee is not part of the university's restructuring plan.

Therefore, I request that the AGM consider my proposal that I remain the Society's representative until the committee is formally disbanded. My reading of the situation is that a meeting in September is highly unlikely, and that the restructuring process will be implemented within the next while. It is also most unlikely that a future committee - should one transpire - will include a representative from the SASMT. I cannot speak for how such a future possible committee may be constituted, but my sense is that a totally new configuration will prevail.

Please let me know the outcome of your deliberations, and all good wishes for a wonderful, fruitful conference.

Kind regards,

Jeff