ICTM-STUDY GROUP ON MUSIC OF OCEANIA
Mini-Circular to Respondents to Questionnaire

27 August 1990

Questionnaires have been returned from 8 Study-Group members. I waited a few days after what I proposed as a 'deadline' to be able to include any slightly delayed responses (if more are received later, they can be fit into whatever tentative plans we make as a group).

I telephoned Bell Yung, Programme Committee Chair, yesterday and he seemed enthusiastic (though, of course, final decisions will be made by the Committee as a whole) and suggested that we propose both a session of formal papers and a round-table session of Study-Group members. I presume the Committee could place other papers in a session of those from our Study-Group members as needed to find a place for them, to fill out our session if needed, etc. (Bell did not seem concerned that Oceania is not in Asia, however one Study-Group member suggested that a title such as 'Connections between Asia and Oceania' might be helpful to establish a bridge to the main conference themes.) Your ideas are welcome.

Members 'quite definitely' planning to attend are: Simon, Stillman, Trimillos, Wild, (& Smith); those with 'reasonable hope of attending are: Feltz, Kaeppler, Lawrence, Myers.

All indicated a desire to participate in an Oceanic Music/Dance session.

In format preference, those preferring formal papers (and/or both formats)—and suggesting a topic/title for the paper are: Kaeppler 'The role of the State Gods Lono and Ku in Hawaiian Music and Dance'; Lawrence 'On the origins of drum dance in central Polynesia: current and future research'; Stillman 'Prolegomenon to a Comparative Investigation of Protestant Hymnody in Polynesia'; Trimillos 'Hawaiian music as commodity'; Wild 'The Internationalisation of Aboriginal Music'. Judging from my conversation with Bell, we do not need to propose a title for the session of formal papers. Each paper proposal will be judged on its own merit. Each paper proposer should contact Bell Yung directly by mail, Fax, or e-mail at the address given in the April 1990 ICTM Bulletin. I would appreciate receiving a copy of the abstract to be able to remind the Committee that there may be enough papers for a whole session.

Of members preferring a round-table session, and those hoping for both formats, all but one checked the topic 'Current and Future Research in Oceanic Music' (to which we should add 'and Dance'). One other suggestion, which we should at least remember for a future occasion, is 'Music/dance and religious rituals'; if, by chance, enough of you would prefer to discuss this topic at this meeting, please let me know. If we were to move in that direction for this meeting, I might suggest a title such as 'The Role of Religions in the Music and Dance Traditions of Oceania' to be somewhat analogous to the second official theme of the conference. I will plan to stay with the chosen topic on current and future research unless I receive a considerable number of responses expressing special interest in changing to a different one.

For the round-table type of session, we must submit not only a proposed title but also a paragraph stating the focus/aim? to show that the content will be appropriately substantive rather than merely anecdotal. I will welcome any suggestions and will be happy to try to incorporate them into a paragraph to submit to Bell and the Committee.

Please send suggestions, especially for the round-table content as quickly as possible to: Barbara B. Smith, Music Dept., University of Hawaii, 2411 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822.