We trust that you have had a fun and rewarding summer and that you are refreshed and ready for the fall semester.

Some news to share: Dr. Marianne Pfau is on sabbatical leave in the fall and Dr. Christopher Adler is on sabbatical leave in the spring. We will have some new faces around in new roles: Alyze Dreiling-Hammer (who often teaches Violin for us) is teaching MUSC 130 Music and Society and Serafin Paredes is directing our new Mariachi Ensemble (see below). Sad news to convey is the passing of Dr. Nathan Brock, who died quite suddenly over the summer. Dr. Brock taught music technology in our Department for many years and he will be greatly missed.

Two New and Under-enrolled Ensembles are Mariachi Ensemble and Gamelan Ensemble. The Mariachi Ensemble (MUSC 158/358) is brand new. We are looking for students interested in singing, playing guitar or vihuela, guitarron (acoustic string bass), trumpet, and violin. The ensemble will meet on Thursday night 7-9:30 pm in C-153. Our ensemble director is Serafin Paredes, one of the great instructors in the San Diego area and a tremendous music educator. Mr. Paredes will bring instruments to class, so you don’t need your own. The ensemble will be working with FAMA (Folkloric and Mariachi Association), the student organization.

As many of you know, this will be our second semester of Gamelan Ensemble (MUSC 157/357, Tuesdays from 7-9 pm in C-153). Last semester, we hosted a Balinese dancer who presented a number of masked dance characters and we played the dynamic, scintillating, and percussive music of Bali, Indonesia, which features metallophones, gong-chime, drum, gongs, and cymbals. We need new students! No previous percussion or background experience is necessary.

We hope that many of you will register for the heart and soul of our instrumental program, the Chamber Ensembles (MUSC 150/350 TR 10:45-12:05 C-144), or the Jazz Ensemble (MUSC 155/355 W 7-9 pm Shiley), or the Concert Choir (MUSC 153/353 M 7-9 pm Shiley). No auditions are necessary for Gamelan, Mariachi, and Concert Choir; just show up or sign up!! The success of a music program is reflected in the quality of its ensembles. Please help by registering and participating!

Study Abroad in Bali: I will be leading a credited intersession abroad course to Bali, Indonesia during January (January 3-23). Students will study Music and the Arts, engage in cultural events such as temple festivals and cremations, witness performances by the leading musicians and dancers of Bali, and visit cultural heritage sites. Please contact me for more information on this unique opportunity.

Good news about Opera: San Diego Opera (SDO) will be holding some masterclasses for our students in the spring and we expect to again participate in the Student Ticket Initiative this opera season. More information on our collaborative relationship with SDO will be coming throughout the year.

The single-subject teacher credential in music: Though we were unable to begin our course sequence for the teacher credential program, we are definitely planning to begin in the spring semester. I will keep you informed about this exciting new program.

Applied Lessons: As most all of you know, we have an improved free applied music lesson policy this year. Please refer to the distributed message (or with Dr. Shaheen) and be in touch with the music faculty about the new opportunities.

Concerts: We are holding some fantastic concerts and recitals this semester including a guitar recital by Eric Foster; a performance by viola and clarinet (and cello and piano), including Dr. Angela Yeung; Rebekah Rylant’s junior recital, the Choral Scholars and College Music Society International Perspectives concert; a faculty chamber recital featuring Dr. Kay Etheridge; the Tamir Hendelman Trio Jazz Concert (not to be missed!); our student ensemble concerts (Gamelan, Chamber Music Ensembles, Lessons and Carols with the Choral Scholars and Concert Choir, Mariachi, Choral Scholar Christmas Concert, Jazz, Student Recitals); and we conclude with the Messiah Sing-Along benefitting the James H. Kolar Amadeus Music Fund. More on these events will be posted throughout the fall.

Have a tremendous semester!
Save the date

USD’s violinist instructor, Alyze Dreiling has recently become a member of the Grossmont Symphony Orchestra and String Quartet. Join her as she performs at “An evening of Chamber Music” doubling on both viola and violin for the first concert in the 2012-2013 season.

Performances are scheduled for:

Thursday, September 13, 2012 7:30 pm
Grossmont College Recital Hall (26-220) El Cajon, CA
Admission: General $10, Student $5

And

Friday, September 14, 2012 8 pm
All Saints Episcopal Church
(located at 6th and Pennsylvania Avenues— in San Diego’s uptown district
Admission: Free will offering

Saint-Saëns’ Cello Concerto featuring Bailey Gordon in Shiley Theatre

Come hear music major, sophomore Bailey Gordon in her concerto debut with the Greater San Diego Community Orchestra in two performances: Thursday, October 4 at 7:30 pm and Saturday, October 6 at 2:30 pm, both in the Shiley Theatre at USD. Also in the program will be the first movement of Mozart’s Symphony No. 40, K 550, and the complete Haydn’s London Symphony, No. 104. Tickets are $10 general admission and $5 for students and seniors, with a special discount ticket of $2 for USD students enrolled in any music class this semester. Contact Dr. Angela Yeung at ayeung@sandiego.edu for more information. This performance is part of Daniel Pearl World Music Days, an annual global concert network affirming the ideals of tolerance, friendship and our shared humanity. For more information about Daniel Pearl World Music Days, visit http://www.danielpearlmusicdays.org/about.php.

Music Department Summer round up!!

Sophomore music major Bailey Gordon has had an eventful summer in San Diego:

From June 16 – 23, Bailey attended Alasdair Fraser’s Sierra Fiddle Camp, in Nevada City, California, learning styles from Scotland, Ireland, Finland, and the region of Galicia, Spain. At Sierra Fiddle Camp, Bailey was able to learn from many prominent fiddlers, including Natalie Haas, Hanneke Cassel, and Alasdair Fraser himself. Held in the middle of the Sierra Nevada Forest, the camp provides a total immersion experience, with participants and instructors living, learning, jamming and playing together in community. The camp concludes with a free park concert featuring all of the fiddlers that has become a treasured tradition to the Nevada City community.

Bailey took the tunes she’d learned from camp and integrated them into her repertoire for Balboa Park, where she performed on weekends throughout the summer in front of the Botanical Gardens or on The Prado.

Along with busking in the park, Bailey also participated in the Summer Chamber Music Festival at USD from June 25 to July 7. She also held an internship with the artistic department of the San Diego Symphony during their Summer Pops season on the Embarcadero near downtown San Diego. She was thankful have the chance to work closely backstage with such artists as Roberta Flack, Marvin Hamlisch, Burt Bacharach, Doc Severinsen, Wilson Phillips, and many others. In the finale to the Summer Pops season, the “1812 Tchaikovsky Spectacular”, Bailey was given the responsibility for cueing the cannons for the final piece, the 1812 Overture.
Spotlight: Dr. Christopher Adler

Christopher Adler taught as the composer-in-residence at the annual nief-norf Summer Festival at Furman University in June, where he worked with four composers, ranging in experience from undergraduates to university faculty, on preparing percussion repertoire. His composition Once, in a Grove of Tamarisk for percussion trio was also premiered at the festival. He performed with the ensemble NOISE at the annual soundON Festival of Modern Music in La Jolla, CA, including works by Judd Greenstein and Salvatore Sciarrino.

Spotlight: Dr. Angela Yeung

In June, Dr. Angela Yeung conducted a concert, “Il modo religioso” with the Greater San Diego Community Orchestra and Chorus, and the Coterie Celli. The concert was held at the Founders Chapel at USD on June 2 and repeated at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Allied Gardens on June 3.

In July, Dr. Yeung directed the Seventh Annual Summer Chamber Music Festival at USD. She also conducted the cello ensemble, Coterie Celli at the concert series presented by the Carmel Valley Library on July 31.

In August, Dr. Yeung completed a recording project featuring music composed by USD music alumnus Adam Johnson (’00). The CD will be released in early 2013.

Spotlight Dr. David Harnish

David Harnish visited Indonesia twice over the summer to prepare the January intersession class in Bali, to present research (“Between Traditionalism and Postmodernism: The Balinese Performing Arts Institution, Çudamani”) at an international conference, and to conduct follow-up music research on Bali’s neighbor island of Lombok. He also attended a conference on Southeast Asian music and dance in Manila, The Philippines, where he shared a presentational session with Supeena Adler, the wife of Dr. Chris Adler, who is a specialist on Thai music. He performed with two groups during the summer – a Latin rock group, La Revancha, that operates out of LA, and an Indian rock group headed by sitarist Ashwin Batish situated in Santa Cruz – and sat in on some gamelan sessions in Indonesia. He will perform with La Revancha for the mega media conglomerate Univision’s 50th anniversary later in September. Dr. Harnish also submitted four research articles during the summer, edited a volume of chapters for a book on Indonesian religions and arts, wrote a review, taught a world music course, attended his 40th (!) high school reunion, and tried, after 17 years in Ohio, to get back into bodysurfing (with mixed results).