

S. J. McKee Archives



Dean of Music

<http://archives.brandonu.ca/en/permalink/descriptions166>

Part Of: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Description Level: Sub sub series
Series Number: 7.4.1
GMD: multiple media
Date Range: 1928-1983; predominant 1960-1980
Physical Description: 4.54 m

History /

Biographical:

The position of Director of the School of Music was changed to Dean of the School of Music in 1987.

DIRECTORS/DEANS OF THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC:

LONRE WATSON (1967-1981)

Lorne Watson was born ca. 1919 in Leamington, Ontario and is the founder and developer of the School of Music at Brandon University. Watson was admitted to the Toronto Conservatory of Music after an audition played for Sir Ernest MacMillan in 1938. He graduated from that institution with his L.T.C.M in 1940, winning the Conservatory Gold Medal. Further studies the following year took place in New York at the Mannes School of Music, under Rosalyn Tureck and James Friskin. Watson's studies were interrupted when he joined the R.C.A.F., where he became a radar specialist and later a signals officer. He was discharged in 1945. After the war, Watson took a B.A. (Honours Music) degree at the University of Toronto. Upon graduation in 1948, Watson accepted the position of Director of the Department of Music at Brandon College. He later attended New York University (1951) where he held a graduate fellowship and obtained an M.A. (Musicology). In 1961, Watson was awarded a Canada Council Arts Scholarship, which took him to Indiana University where he began work on his Doctor of Music degree.

Watson was the Director, and then the Dean of the School of Music from 1948-1980; from 1984-1991 he was director of the conservatory. During his time at Brandon College/University, he not only revived and expanded the program, he also revived and conducted the Brandon College Glee Club. He was also the artistic director for The S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatte National Competition for the Performance of Canadian Music, which is held annually on the campus of Brandon University. In 1988, the Recital Hall in the completed Queen Elizabeth II Music Building was renamed the Lorne Watson Recital Hall. Lorne Watson retired from Brandon University in August 1993.

In addition to his role at Brandon University, Watson helped the growth of music in the surrounding region by insisting that the first Bachelor of Music degree be offered in Music Education to improve the state of music in Manitoba schools; he was also a founding member of the Manitoba Music Educators Association and in 1978, he acted as program chair for the World Congress of the International Society for Music Education. Watson was a founder and conductor of the Brandon Choral Society and in 1964, he became one of the founders of the

Canadian Association of University Schools of Music, serving as its Secretary, President and Chairman of the Council of Members Schools at various times. In addition to the above activities, he also gave piano recitals, played radio broadcasts and began an adjudicating career.

In 1996, he was the recipient of a Prix Manitoba Award in recognition for outstanding contributions to the arts. Watson received the award in the category of education and communication for his 50 years of leadership in the development of music education in Manitoba. At present (January 2006), Lorne Watson lives in Winnipeg.

GORDON MACPHERSON (1981-1987)

Gordon Macpherson was born in Moose Jaw, SK on November 14, 1924. He obtained his LRCT in 1949, his Artist Diploma (Toronto) in 1953, and his M.Mus. from Indiana University in 1974. His teachers were Cyril Hampshire 1942-43, at the Hamilton Conservatory (RHCM) and Margaret Miller Brown and Bela Boszormenyi-Nagy 1946-53 at the RCMT, where Macpherson also received chamber music coaching from Boris Roubakine and himself taught piano 1948-50. Macpherson took doctoral studies with Menahem Pressler (piano) and in pedagogy and conducting at the University of Indiana in 1975-77.

He moved to Halifax Orchestra in 1965-66, and was conductor for the CBC TV program "Reflections" in 1960-62. He also wrote and conducted music for many CBC radio dramas, including some in the "Stage" series. Macpherson was head (1964-66) of the piano department at the Halifax (later Maritime) Conservatory. During his Halifax period, he took advanced training as a conductor at the Monteux School of Conducting in Hancock, Maine, and with Hugo Rignold, and as a pianist with Kendall Taylor. He founded the Halifax Trio in 1955 and moved his trio partners to Brandon College (later Brandon University) in 1966 to become artists-in-residence. They were renamed the Brandon University Trio.

Macpherson joined the teaching faculty at Brandon University in 1967, serving as Dean of the School of Music from 1982-87 (his first year was as Acting Director). He continued in 1991 to teach piano and chamber music. In 1988 and 1990, he was visiting professor at the Université Canadienne en France at Villegranche-sur-mer.

Macpherson retired from Brandon University on September 1, 1991. He and his wife later moved to Victoria, BC. Gordon Macpherson died on September 28, 2011.

LAWRENCE JONES (1988 - 1993/1994)

Lawrence Jones was born in Ninga, MB on March 26, 1936. He obtained his ARCT in 1954, his Associate Diploma, piano from WBM in 1954, his Licentiate Diploma, music (Manitoba) in 1957, his B.A. from the University of Manitoba in the same year, his M.Mus. from Yale in 1959, and DMA piano performance, pedagogy from the University of Iowa in 1985. In 1959, he moved with his family to Winnipeg where he began studies with Filmer Hubble. Following graduation from Yale, he taught briefly at the University of Manitoba, before joining the Faculty of Music at Brandon College in 1961. Meanwhile, he continued his studies at the University of Minnesota in 1960-62, with Bernard Weiser and at the Julliard school in 1967-68. In 1975, while pursuing doctoral studies, he attended the International String Workshop at Exeter, England, and in 1976, the Dartington Summer School. In 1985, he studied with Kendall Taylor at the RCM (London) and in 1986, with Jeaneane Dowis (New York).

Jones has performed widely in the Atlantic provinces and in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in concert and on the CBC as soloist, ensemble pianist, and accompanist. With Francis Schaplin he premiered the piano version of S.C. Eckhardt-Grammatte's violin concerto in 1951 at Brandon College. He has been official accompanist at the Manitoba finals of the CIBC National Music Festival, and began in 1962 to adjudicate throughout Canada at music festivals. Beginning in 1970, he has assisted in curriculum preparation for the WBM, chairing

the sight-reading and ear-training committees. He was secretary of CAUSM (1973-75), chairman of the Brandon University music library committee (1969-77), and a member of the board of the International Music Camp, Manitoba (1981-87). In 1987, he was appointed Dean of the School of Music at Brandon, a position he continued to occupy until 1994. Jones retired on July 1, 1997.

At present (January 2006), Lawrence Jones resides in Brandon and teaches sessionally for the School of Music.

T. PATRICK CARRABRE (1994-1995/1996 and 1998)

For additional biographical information on Patrick Carrabre, see RG 6, sub-series 4.1 (Office of the Vice-President (Academic & Research)).

Carrabre's early compositional studies were with Dr. Robert Turner at the University of Manitoba and with Jules Leger Prize winning composer Peter Paul Koprowski at the University of Western Ontario. He later went on to work closely with Pulitzer Prize winning composer George Perle in the study of his system of Twelve-Tone Tonality.

Patrick Carrabre returned to his faculty position within the School of Music after his departure from the office of the Vice-President (Academic & Research). In addition to his teaching, he carries on an active program of composition.

R. GODDARD - acting (1995 - 1997)

Ron Goddard, currently on administrative leave (2005-2006), was dean of the Faculty of Education from 2000-2005 and provost of the College of Arts & Science from 2003-2005 at Okanagan University College in Kelowna, British Columbia. For that same period, Goddard was the founder and clarinetist of the OUC Woodwind Quintet, an artist-in-residence ensemble of professional musicians who perform frequently on the campuses of OUC and throughout the Okanagan Valley. Prior to his appointment as dean at OUC, he was an associate professor of music at Brandon University, chairing the Joint Department of Music Education and teaching clarinet and music education courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels. He served as acting dean of BU's School of Music from 1995 to 1997.

After receiving the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the University of Oklahoma, Goddard performed professionally as solo clarinetist of the Fourth US Army Band in San Antonio, Texas and the US Army Band of the Pacific in Honolulu, Hawaii. He won First Prizes with Distinction in Clarinet and Chamber Music at the Brussels Royal Conservatory of Music (Belgium). Goddard earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at Arizona State University in 1987.

Teaching appointments have included public school music in Oklahoma and serving on the music faculties of Southeastern Oklahoma State University and Mount Allison University in New Brunswick.

G. CARRUTHERS (1998 - July 31, 2008)

Glen Carruthers' early training took place in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where he studied with Winifred Hardiman (piano), Filmer Hubble (harmony) and Gwendda Owen Davies (counterpoint). In 1972, he entered Brandon University and graduated with a BMus in 1977. After a year of private study in Halifax, he entered the MA program in Canadian Studies at Carleton University, graduating with distinction in 1981. His thesis, "The Career and Compositions of S.C. Eckhardt-Gramatte," was the first comprehensive study of the composer's life and works. After teaching theory and ear training in the extra-curricular music programs of the Ottawa Board of Education, Carruthers completed his PhD in musicology at the University of Victoria graduating in 1986. His dissertation is entitled "Bach and the Piano

the University of Victoria, graduating in 1988. His dissertation is entitled "Eckhardt and the Piano: Editions, Arrangements and Transcriptions from Czerny to Rachmaninov."

Prior to coming to Brandon University, where he has served as Dean of the School of Music since 1998, Carruthers taught at Lakehead University (1988-1998), where he was chair of the Department of Music for seven years. He has served on the national boards of the Canadian Music Centre and Canadian University Music Society, of which he was President 2001-2003, and continues to serve on the Prairie Regional Council of the Canadian Music Centre and several other boards. A pianist, as well as a musicologist, teacher and administrator, he studied with Lorne Watson, William Tritt, Elaine Keillor, Bruce Vogt and Ronald Turini.

Glen Carruthers died at his home in Ontario on December 24, 2020.

MICHAEL KIM (August 1, 2008 - July 31, 2013)

No biographical information yet.

Custodial History:

The majority of these materials were held in the School of Music until their transfer to the Archives in the fall of 2003. Box 23 was donated by Lorne Watson in May 2004.

Scope and Content:

The bulk of the materials in this sub-series were generated during the course of Lorne Watson's years as Director and instructor of the School of Music. Records include correspondence, committee materials, financial information, audio tapes, posters, musical scores, concert programs, publications, records related to the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, lectures, proposals, minutes (including Faculty Council), teaching and course materials, photographs, newsletters, festival materials, and records related to the Winnipeg Symphony. One file (1979) contains Gordon Macpherson's correspondence.

Notes: A partial inventory exists as a Word document. Information in the History/Bio field for Lorne Watson was taken from his biography file in the McKee Archives. Information for Gordon Macpherson was taken from the Encyclopedia of Music in Canada at <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/emc/m17-119.01-e.php?uid=4650&uidc=ID> (January 2006). It was written by Kenneth Nichols. Information for Lawrence Jones was also taken from the Encyclopedia of Music in Canada at <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/emc/m17-119.01-e.php?uid=6068&uidc=ID> (January 2006). It was written by Mabel H. Laine. Biographical information on Goddard, Carrabre and Carruthers was provided by the School of Music (March 2006).

Storage Location: RG 6 Brandon University fonds
Series 7: Faculties and Schools
7.4 School of Music

Related Material: An article summarizing Lorne Watson's career appeared in the Saturday, August 12, 2006 edition of The Brandon Sun. A copy of the article has been placed in Lorne Watson's bio file in the McKee Archives reading room.