CONSTITUTION

AND

BYLAWS

Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association

2007

CONSTITUTION

Article I - Name

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the Mid-Atlantic Region of the American Music Therapy Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the Region or the MAR.

Section 2. The Region exists as a subordinate organization within the structure of the American Music Therapy Association, Inc., hereinafter referred to as AMTA.

Section 3. This document does not supersede the Bylaws adopted by AMTA.

Article II - Purposes

The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and/or scientific purposes under the section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and specifically:

(a) to advance the use of music for restoring, maintaining, and improving mental and physical health;

(b) to train and educate music therapists;

(c) to advance and support research about music therapy;

(d) to provide a forum for the exchange and publication of information about music therapy; and

(e) to provide assistance and support to its members to facilitate their role in the foregoing purposes; and

(f) to engage in any other lawful activity incidental to the foregoing purposes, except as restricted herein.

In order to accomplish the foregoing charitable and educational purposes, and for no other purpose or purposes, this organization shall also have the power to:

(a) sue and be sued;

(b) make contracts;

(c) receive property by devise or bequest, subject to the laws regulating the transfer of property
by will, and otherwise acquire and hold all property, real or personal including shares of
stock, bonds, and securities of corporations;
(d) act as trustee under any trust whose objectives are related to the principal objects of the
corporation, and to receive, hold, administer, and expend funds and property subject to such
trust;
(e) convey, exchange, lease, mortgage, encumber, transfer upon trust or otherwise dispose of all
property, real or personal;
(f) borrow money, contract debts and issue bonds, notes, and debentures, and secure the payment
of any performance of its obligations; and
(g) do all other acts necessary or expedient for the administration of the affairs and attainment of
the purposes of this organization; provided, however, that this organization shall not, except
to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in
furtherance of the primary purposes of this organization.

Article III - Membership
Section 1. Types of membership in the Region shall correspond to membership categories of
AMTA.

Section 2. Membership privileges and responsibilities shall be specified in the Bylaws.

Article IV - Officers
Section 1. The officers of the Region shall be elected and appointed. The authority and duties
of each officer shall be as defined in the Bylaws. The methods of the election and appointment,
and terms of office, shall be specified in the Bylaws.

Section 2. The elected officers of the Region shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice
President for Conference Planning, Vice President-Elect for Conference Planning, Vice President
for Membership, Immediate Past-President, Treasurer, Government Relations Chairperson,
Public Relations Chairperson.

Section 3. The officers elected by the Mid-Atlantic Regions Association of Music Therapy
Students, hereinafter referred to as MARAMTS shall be the Student Affairs Advisory Board
Representative and the Student Representative. The officer elected by the Assembly Delegates
and Alternates shall be the Assembly of Delegates Chairperson.

Section 4. The appointed officers of the Region shall be the Secretary, Editor of the official
Article V - Executive Board

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board consisting of eleven (11) voting members: President, President-Elect, Vice President for Conference Planning, Vice President-Elect for Conference Planning, Vice President for Membership, Immediate Past-President, Treasurer, Student Affairs Advisory Board Representative (elected by MARAMTS), Government Relations Chairperson, Public Relations Chairperson, and Student Representative (elected by MARAMTS). The Secretary, Editor of the official regional publication, Parliamentarian, Historian, and Assembly of Delegates Chairperson (elected by Assembly Delegates and Alternates) shall be ex-officio members without the right to vote.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall have the power to transact the general business of the Region and shall be responsible for the management and control of its funds. The Executive Board shall review and approve a budget for the forthcoming fiscal year at the Executive Board meeting at the annual conference.

Section 3. Notice of all meetings shall be given to all members entitled to vote at the meeting by mail or email not less than 10 nor more than 60 days prior to the meeting.

Article VI - National Assembly of Delegates

Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Assembly of the American Music Therapy Association shall be elected by the Region. The number of Delegates is determined by directive of the National Executive Board. Their election and terms of office shall be specified in the Bylaws.

Article VII - Representatives to National Standing Committees and Judicial Review Board

Section 1. A representative shall be appointed to each of the National Standing Committees and the Judicial Review Board.

Section 2. The manner in which these committee and board representatives are selected shall be specified in the Bylaws.

Article VIII - Regional Councils and Committees

Section 1. There shall be two standing councils: The National Service Council, and The Conference Council. Members to these councils shall be appointed by the President, with approval of the Executive Board. All council members shall perform such duties as specified in
Section 2. The National Service Council shall be chaired by the Immediate Past-President and include regional representatives to the AMTA standing committees, regional members who sit as members of the AMTA Board of Directors, and the regional representative to the Judicial Review Board.

Section 3. The Conference Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for Conference Planning and shall include the Vice President-Elect for Conference Planning; the Conference Coordinator, the Exhibits Coordinator, the Local Host Committee and the Continuing Music Therapy Education Coordinator.

Section 4. Members of the Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Government Relations Committee, Public Relations Committee, Research Committee and Regional Ad Hoc Committees shall be appointed by the President with Executive Board approval. The Finance Committee, Nominating Committee, Government Relations Committee, Public Relations Committee, Research Committee shall perform such duties as specified in the Bylaws. The regional ad hoc committees shall perform such duties as authorized by the Executive Board.

Article IX - Special Interest Groups and State Chapters

Members of the Region may petition the Executive Board to approve the formation of Special Interest Groups or State Chapters of the MAR. The Executive Board, in turn, may approve such Special Interest Groups or State Chapters, in accordance with procedures specified in the Bylaws.

Article X - Meetings

Section 1. An annual regional conference shall be held. The location and date shall be determined by the Executive Board. Business meetings, including all voting meetings shall be held before the final day of the annual regional conference to ensure maximum participation.

Section 2. A meeting of the Region may be called at the National Conference at the discretion of the Regional Executive Board.

Section 3. Additional meetings of the Region shall be called by the President, if requested by seven (7) members of the Executive Board or upon signed petition by thirty-five (35) professional members of the Region.

Section 4. A minimum of two (2) meetings of the Executive Board shall be held annually.
Article XI - Quorum

Section 1. Quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of at least six (6) elected officers of the Executive Board.

Section 2. Regional business meetings: quorum of the Executive Board plus twenty-five (25) other professional members of the Region shall constitute quorum. At no time shall the lack of quorum at a non-business session prevent those present from proceeding with the program of the day.

Article XII - Publication

There shall be an official publication of the Region. Publication circulation shall be stated in the Bylaws.

Article XIII - Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at a business meeting during the regional conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided that there is quorum and provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted to the membership at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. If more expedient or more fiscally appropriate, a mail vote may be implemented if sent to all voting members with at least quorum response.

Section 2. Bylaws may be adopted, amended, or replaced at any business meeting of any regional conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present provided there is quorum and provided that the proposed changes are presented to the members present and submitted in writing no later that one (1) day prior to that meeting. If more expedient or more fiscally appropriate, a mail vote may be implemented if sent to all voting members with at least quorum response.

Article XIV - Charitable Activity Restrictions

No part of the net income of the organization shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to its
Directors, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and
empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services actually rendered and to make payments
and distributions in furtherance of the purposes and objects of this organization. No substantial
part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying of propaganda or otherwise
attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in or intervene in
any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other
provisions set forth in this Constitution, at any time during which it is deemed a private
foundation, the organization shall not engage in any act of self-dealing as defined in Section
4941(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent
federal tax laws; the organization shall distribute its income for each taxable year at such time
and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by
Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any
subsequent federal tax laws; the organization shall not own any excess business holdings that
would subject it to tax under Section 4943 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or
corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; the organization shall not make any
investments in such manner as to subject the organization to the tax imposed by Section 4944 of
the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax
laws; and the organization shall not make any taxable expenditures as defined in Section 4945(d)
of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax
laws. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Constitution, the organization shall not
conduct or carry on any activities not permitted to be conducted or carried on by an organization
exempt from tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding
provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws, or by an organization contributions to which are to
be deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of such Code, or corresponding provisions of any
subsequent federal tax laws.

Article XV - Dissolution
Upon the dissolution of the organization or the winding up of its affairs, the assets of the
organization shall be distributed exclusively for charitable or educational purposes within the
meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue code. Organizations having purposes
similar to those of this organization shall be preferred
BYLAWS

Article I - Membership

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all persons and organizations who hold any type of membership in the American Music Therapy Association, and who are residents, employees, students, or organizations in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, or the District of Columbia.

Section 2. Such membership shall provide the privileges of participation in the activities of the Region and of receiving the official regional publication and all other publications of the Region.

Section 3. Only professional members in good standing and Honorary Life Members who are eligible for professional membership may hold office or vote.

Section 4. Student members in good standing shall have the right to participate in the activities of the Region, to receive the official regional publication, or other publications of the Region, and to hold the office of Student Representative to the Executive Board.

Section 5. All other members in good standing, except those delineated in Sections 3 and 4, shall have the right to participate in the activities of the Region, and to receive the official regional publication, or other publications of the Region.

Article II - Dues

Section 1. All members are required to pay dues to AMTA and the Region concurrently. Any member in good standing in another Region coming into Mid-Atlantic Region will be accepted in good standing for the duration of the fiscal year. Any AMTA Honorary Life Member living in the MAR shall be extended an Honorary Life Membership in MAR.

Section 2. The membership year shall begin January 1 and end December 31.

Article III - Duties of Elected Officers

Section 1. The regular term of office of all officers except the President shall commence eight (8) weeks after the adjournment of the annual spring conference. The incoming President shall be formally introduced at the closing session of the annual spring conference and assume duties of the office immediately thereafter.

Section 2. The President shall: preside at all meetings of the Region; call and preside at all meetings of the Executive Board; be ex officio member of all ad hoc committees except the
Nominating Committee; be a representative to the Assembly of Delegates; make all designated appointments subject to the approval of the Executive Board; perform all other duties commensurate with the stated purpose of the organization; communicate with, advise, and guide corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and submit an annual written report at the regional conference.

Section 3. The President-Elect shall: assist the President as requested; study the duties of the President in order to be prepared at the appropriate time to take over the responsibilities of this office; assume all duties of the President in case of resignation or removal of the President; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; be a representative to the Assembly of Delegate during the 2nd year of the President-Elect’s term; seek input, lead on-going study and propose changes in the Constitution and Bylaws as may be deemed necessary; oversee long-range planning; serve as a member of the Nominating Committee; serve as a member of the Finance Committee; ensure that all new officers and appointees receive their handbooks outlining job responsibilities; maintain on computer all officer handbooks; update the handbooks on a yearly basis following the Fall Executive Board meeting with input from officers and the Executive Board; present the updated handbooks to the officers and Executive Board on a yearly basis at the annual Spring conference; establish and/or maintain communication with Co-Editors of the official regional publication on a quarterly basis; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 4. The Vice President for Conference Planning shall: assume the duties of the President in case of absence of both the President and President-Elect; succeed to the presidency in case of the resignation of both the President and President-Elect; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; chair the Conference Council; serve as Program Chair, taking complete charge of program planning for the annual regional conference, conferring on all details of management with any committees appointed to arrange for conference programs; develop and send out conference publicity; work with the Conference Coordinator, the Local Chair, the Continuing Education Coordinator, and the Exhibits Coordinator; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 5. The Vice President for Membership shall: succeed to the presidency in case of the
resignation of the President, President-Elect, and the Vice President for Conference Planning; chair the Regional Services Council; serve as regional representative to the Membership Committee of AMTA; maintain official statistical records of the membership for the Mid-Atlantic Region; correspond with members on related matters; correspond with the national Director of Membership Services to facilitate the transmission of information to the regional members; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; serve as Regional Membership Chair; coordinate the implementation of the website and email tree; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual written report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 6. The Immediate Past President shall: endeavor to effect a smooth transition of power by assisting and advising the new President as necessary; chair the National Services Council; chair the Nominating Committee appointed by the President; present the slate of nominees to the membership; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; serve as a member of the Assembly of Delegates for the first year of the Past President's term; serve as a member of the Constitution and Bylaws Revision Committee; communicate with, advise, and guide corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual written report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 7. The Vice President-Elect for Conference Planning shall: study the duties of the Vice President for Conference Planning in order to be prepared at the appropriate time to take over the responsibilities of the office; assist the Vice President for Conference Planning as requested; maintain communication with the Vice President for Conference Planning; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; maintain handbooks that outline the duties of the regional conference local host committee; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 8. The Treasurer shall: pay all bills authorized by the Executive Board and issue reimbursement within 30 days of receipt of the request; keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements; present a financial report to the Executive Board regularly; publish the financial report in the regional publication; provide AMTA with financial information necessary to complete tax filing as requested by AMTA; chair the Finance Committee appointed by the
President; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual written report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 9. The Public Relations Chairperson shall: coordinate regional public relations efforts; serve as regional representative to the Employment and Public Relations Committee of AMTA; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; request that the President appoint Public Relations and Media specialists Representatives, as needed, to coordinate use, distribution, and maintenance of the regional display, pamphlets and videos, and any other available Public Relations materials; maintain regular communication with Public Relations Representatives to assist them in fulfilling their duties as outlined in Article V, Section 1, of the Bylaws; organize and maintain the Job Placement Hotline; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual, written report at the regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 10. The Government Relations Chairperson shall: serve as regional representative to the Government Relations Committee of AMTA; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; submit annual written report at the regional conference; coordinate the efforts of the Government Liaisons; propose to the President fourteen (14) Government Liaisons for areas specified in Article V, Section 2 of the Bylaws; direct and assist the Government Liaisons in advocating change in public policy conducive to the practice of music therapy; assist Government Liaisons in facilitating communication among music therapists in their areas; direct issues and concerns from the membership, and/or the Government Relations Liaisons, to the Executive Board and the appropriate committees; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 11. The Student Affairs Advisory Board Representative shall: serve as the regional representative to the Student Affairs Advisory Board of AMTA; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; serve as a conduit for student problems and concerns, referring to appropriate committees and officers; keep the Regional Executive Board advised of all regional and national student activities; communicate with, advise, and guide corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit a written report at the annual regional conference; coordinate and administrate the Jenny Shinn Memorial Scholarship, the
Sophomore and Junior Scholarships, and any other student scholarships/awards initiated by MAR or MARAMTS; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 12. The Student Representative shall: communicate with other music therapy students in AMTA affiliated schools; report student views and concerns to the Board; attend Regional Executive Board meetings; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Article IV - Duties of Appointed Officers

Section 1. The Recording Secretary shall: send out meeting announcements; distribute agendas; keep minutes of all meetings of the Executive Board and the general membership; and assure that corporate minutes are maintained. The Recording Secretary shall submit copies of all minutes to the Executive Board, Regional Delegates to the AMTA Assembly and Alternates, and the Archivist. Minutes shall be made available to the general membership upon request. The Recording Secretary shall also: communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 2. The Editor and Assistant Editor shall: edit, supervise, and publish the official regional publication which shall be published tri-annually pending availability of funds; and submit a report at the annual conference. The Editor shall: attend Regional Executive Board meetings; establish and/or maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; and communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer. The Editor and Assistant Editor shall carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Parliamentarian shall advise the meeting chair when asked for clarification, in adherence with Robert's Rules of Order in all meetings of the Region; communicate with, advise, and guide the corresponding student officer; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 4. The Assembly Chair shall: serve as a liaison among the Executive Board, Assembly Delegates and Alternates and the general membership; attend Regional Executive Board meetings, disseminate information related to issues expected to come before the Assembly to the
general membership; solicit feedback from the membership on issues that are to come before the  
Assembly; ensure that Alternate Delegates receive a copy of the any correspondence from the  
Speaker, including the mid-year report; submit a written report for publication in the newsletter  
following the annual Assembly of Delegates meeting; and carry out such other duties as may be  
assigned by the President or the Executive Board.

**Section 5.** The Historian shall publish new and past findings in the regional publication;  
coordinate historical displays and the dissemination of historical information; establish and/or  
maintain a handbook outlining job responsibilities; submit an annual written report at the  
regional conference; and carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the  
Executive Board.

**Article V - Appointed Positions**

Appointed positions shall consist of the following: Public Relations Representatives,  
Government Liaisons, Archivist, Continuing Music Therapy Education Coordinator, Exhibits  
Coordinator, Conference Coordinator, and Exhibits Coordinator. Specific duties of each position  
shall be defined and assigned by the President and/or the Executive Board. The Region will  
maintain handbooks delineating the current duties of each appointed position.

**Article VI - Elections, Terms of Office, and Vacancies**

**Section 1.** A Nominating Committee consisting of the President-Elect and five (5) professional  
regional members representing five (5) different areas of the Region shall be appointed by the  
President with the approval of the Executive Board.

**Section 2.** The Nominating Committee shall draw up a slate of consenting candidates for each  
elective office to be presented along with respective biographical information to the general  
membership at the annual regional conference. The Committee shall make every attempt to  
present at least two (2) candidates for each elective office. They shall also draw up a slate of  
twice as many nominees as there are designated positions for the Assembly of Delegates.  
Additional nominees of consenting candidates for elective offices shall be accepted from the  
floor at the annual regional conference.

**Section 3.** All regular and special elections shall be held by secret mail ballot directly following  
the annual regional conference. All nominees shall be listed with accompanying biographical
information. For each office, the nominee receiving the greater or greatest number of votes shall be considered elected. In the event that this greater or greatest number is a tie, a deciding vote shall be cast by the members of the outgoing Executive Board. This shall apply to tie votes for the Assembly only when the tie would result in (a) one candidate serving on the Assembly and the other serving as an Alternate; or (b) one candidate serving as an Alternate and the other not being included as an Alternate. Ties within the list of Alternates shall be ranked and called at the discretion of the President. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall present the results for publication in the first edition of the official regional publication following the election and shall notify AMTA of the election results.

Section 4. Votes for Assembly Delegates will be tabulated and nominees will be ranked from highest to lowest. Primary Delegates will be those receiving the highest number of votes. Alternate Delegate positions will be filled from the remaining nominees in rank order until all positions have been filled. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall present the results for publication in the first edition of the official regional publication following the election and shall notify AMTA of the election results.

Section 5. All elected officers except the President and Assembly Delegates shall commence office eight (8) weeks after the adjournment of the annual spring conference and continue for a term of two (2) years or until the next subsequent election. The incoming President shall be formally introduced at the closing session of the annual spring conference and assume duties of the office immediately thereafter. The Assembly Delegates’ term of office will coincide with the terms of the national officers.

Section 6. The President and President-Elect may not hold the same office for more than one (1) consecutive term.

Section 7. Should a vacancy occur in an elective office, which is not filled through regular succession of that office, the President shall appoint someone to fill that position until the next annual regional conference. Immediately thereafter, the vacant position shall be filled by regular or special election, as specified in the Bylaws, Article VI, Sections 2 and 3.

Section 8. Removal of an officer shall be dealt with as stated in Article XIII-75, Trial of Members of Societies in Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VII - Assembly of Delegates
Section 1. The Regional Delegates elected to the AMTA Assembly of Delegates shall attend all business meetings of the Assembly and represent the interests of the Region.

Section 2. Delegates and Alternates shall commit themselves to attendance at all regional business meetings, as well as regional and national conferences during their term of office. If a Delegate cannot attend a national or regional conference, he/she shall inform the President at least one (1) month prior to the conference so that the President may ensure that an Alternate attend in the Delegate's place. The President may at the time of the annual Assembly of Delegates substitute an active Mid-Atlantic member for an absentee Delegate or Alternate.

Section 3. The Delegates and Alternates shall be elected by secret mail ballot as outlined in Article VI, Section 4. Immediately following the bi-annual meeting of the Assembly-Elect, the Delegates shall elect one (1) person who will serve as Assembly Chair and perform the duties as outlined in Article IV, Section 4. Current voting members of the Executive Board shall be deemed ineligible to serve as Assembly Chair.

Section 4. The term of office for Regional Delegates shall be two (2) years.

Article VIII - National Standing Committees and Boards

Section 1. The National Standing Committees are: Academic Program Approval Committee, Association Internship Approval Committee, Continuing Education Committee, Government Relations Committee, Reimbursement Committee, Research Committee, Standards of Clinical Practice Committee, Affiliate Relations Committee, Employment and Public Relations Committee, International Relations Committee, Membership Committee, Professional Advocacy Committee and Special Target Populations Committee.

Section 2. The National Board is the Judicial Review Board.

Section 3. Representatives to each of these committees and national boards shall commit themselves to attendance at all national meetings, which occur during their terms, perform the functions of the committee, and submit a written report to the National Services Council Chair prior to each Regional Executive Board meeting and at the regional conference.

Section 4. The representatives to the national standing committees and the Judicial Review Board shall be appointed for a two (2) year term by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. Representatives may be reappointed at the President's discretion.
Article IX - Regional Committees

Section 1. Members and duties of the Nominating Committee are set forth in Article VI of the Bylaws.

Section 2. The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer, who shall serve as chair, President, President-Elect, Past President and at least one (1) MAR member. Duties of the Finance Committee shall be to make recommendations to the Executive Board regarding fiduciary responsibility of the financial resources held by the region; to assist the Treasurer in the construction of the proposed annual budget; and to assist the Treasurer in developing and maintaining fiscal policy recommendations to the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Public Relations Committee shall consist of the Public Relations Chair, Media Specialist, Display Coordinator, and Pamphlet Coordinator. Duties of the Public Relations Committee are specified in the Bylaws, Article V, Sec. 1

Section 4. The Government Relations Committee shall consist of the Government Relations Chair, and 14 Government Relations Liaisons. There shall be a representative from each state in the Mid-Atlantic Region (7), and seven (7) representatives with knowledge in issues pertaining to government relations such as: occupational regulation, IDEA, reimbursement. Duties of the Government Relations Committee are specified in the Bylaws, Article V, Sec. 2

Section 5. The Research committee shall consist of the MAR Representative to the AMTA Research Committee, who shall serve as chair, and five (5) MAR members with expertise in music therapy research. Members to this committee will be appointed by the President with approval from the Executive Board. Duties of the Research Committee shall be to serve as a resource for MAR members interested in carrying out research projects; to submit research articles to the regional newsletter; to sponsor the Research Poster Session at the annual conference; and to sponsor research related activities.

Article X - Special Interest Groups and State Chapters

Section 1. Members of the Mid-Atlantic Region may petition the Executive Board for recognition as a Special Interest Group for reasons of professional development in specialized areas of clinical practice. Members desiring to form a Special Interest Group (SIG) must present a request in writing from five (5) members stating the specialty area involved, the need for the SIG, and the educational and professional goals for the SIG. SIGs may request special
programming for the annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their field of
specialization with the approval of the Executive Board.

**Section 2.** Members desiring to form a State Chapter of the MAR must present a request in
writing, a copy of their Constitution and Bylaws and a current roster to the MAR President.
These documents must be re-submitted when changes are made.

**Section 3.** SIGs and State Chapters may request special programming or meetings for the
annual conference and/or offer workshops and symposia in their field of specialization with the
approval of the Executive Board. Recognition is contingent upon an affirmative majority vote of
the Executive Board.

**Article XI - MAR Advocacy Award**
An annual award will be presented to an individual(s) who has made an outstanding contribution
to either the Mid-Atlantic Region or the field of music therapy.

**Article XII - Annual Regional Conference**
The annual conference of the Region will be not less than two (2) days.

**Article XIII - Rules of Order**
Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, most recent, shall govern this organization in all cases to
which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.