

**Cultural Diversity and Social Justice ASPA  
SMTE Fall Symposium 2009**

Thanks to all of you who participated in our two meeting sessions. Through your collective contributions we developed and expanded our agenda to incorporate several exciting projects. Even more importantly we were able to identify “next step” actions to move forward with our projects.

Following is a summary of our work.

**First**, we identified three categories of action that directly relate to our ASPA’s mission:

1) Research, 2) Advocacy, and 3) Communication.

**Second**, we targeted and prioritized specific projects within each category that we believe will help us meet our objectives:

Research:

- Expand & annotate current bibliography and consolidate current research
- Develop a proposal for an MEJ focus Issue on cultural diversity and social justice

Advocacy:

- Develop a public website to disseminate information and provide resources about cultural diversity & social justice for music teacher educators, music teachers and the general public

Communication:

- Develop and expand content on our ASPA website
- Facilitate more efficient communication between and among our ASPA membership

The table below shows how these three areas and their related projects support the goals delineated in our mission statement:

Mission Statement	Category	Project
1. Investigating and disseminating information on culturally responsive pedagogies	Research	Bibliography MEJ Focus Issue
2. Exploring and reporting on issues affecting recruitment and retention of a diverse teaching force	Advocacy	
3. Challenging current perspectives of music, musicians, and music-making through online discussions and journal publications	Research, Advocacy, Communication	Public Website
4. Raising awareness of factors affecting equitable access to music teaching and learning through dialoguing and	Advocacy, Communication	Public Website

disseminating research among key stakeholders		
---	--	--

**Third**, we identified internal actions to improve and grow our ASPA:

1. Enhance our SMTE ASPA website by developing the content and improving online communication
2. Develop representatives for cultural diversity and social justice on other ASPAs
3. Develop and expand membership within our ASPA as needed

**Fourth**, we created an Excel worksheet outlining each of our projects that allows us to identify and connect the following: Action, Purpose, Next Step(s), Personnel, and Notes. This document is intended to function as a working document helping us to manage current and future projects as well as to track our progress. To view the most recent version click [here](#):

### **Homework**

1. Send mini-proposal or abstract of your ideas for one of the MEJ special focus topics to Connie or Abby
2. Update your information on our membership page: name, institution affiliation, title, contact information, areas of interest within cultural diversity and social justice, link to personal website.
3. Share ideas about public website with Marsha Baxter