**David B. Pruett, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Music

Chair, Department of Performing Arts,

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**Ethnomusicologist**

Research Specializations: American folk and popular musics, commercial country music, MuzikMafia, musics of the Middle East and India, composer Carl Orff and the Güntherschule, and German language and literature

**Percussionist**

Western percussion – since 1983

*Darabukka* (doumbek) – since 1989

Steel band – six years

Indian *tabla* – Since 1998, including three years under guru Nalini Vinayak.

Italian folk and popular music (Salentine hand drumming and Neapolitan music) – two years

Education

2007 **Ph.D. Musicology** (emphasis ethnomusicology), Florida State University

Dissertation title: “MuzikMafia: Community, Identity, and Change from the Nashville Scene to the Popular Mainstream”

Committee: Frank Gunderson, Dale Olsen, and Barry Faulk

2000 **M.M. Musicology** (emphasis ethnomusicology), Florida State University

**Certificate in World Music**

Thesis title: “Preserving Cultural Identity: WPAQ Radio and the Dissemination of Bluegrass and Old-time Music.”

Committee: Andrew Killick, Denise Von Glahn, and Bruce Grindal

2000 **M.A. German**, Florida State University

1996 **B.M. Music Performance** (Percussion), Appalachian State University

**B.A. in German** (equivalent)

1. York Comprehensive High School, York, South Carolina

**University Teaching Experience**

Courses Taught (as primary instructor)

University of Massachusetts at Boston

MUSIC 111 Introduction to Music

MUSIC 115 World Music

MUSIC 117 History of Country Music

MUSIC 241 American Music

HONORS 290-06 Music and the Southern Working Class

MUSIC 315 Seminar in World Music

MUSIC 404 Percussion Methods

MUSIC 479 Independent Study

Middle Tennessee State University (spring 2004 – spring 2009)

MUHL 1030 Introduction to Music

MUHL 1610 Music History I (Survey of Western Art Music)

MUAP 2521 Applied Middle Eastern Percussion Techniques

MUHL 3670 History of Popular Music in America

MUHL 4130/5130 Survey of World Music (undergraduate/graduate)

MUHL 4140/5140 Music of the Middle East (undergraduate/graduate)

Florida State University: (summer 1998 – fall 2003)

MUH 2019 Modern Popular Music

MUH 3053 Minority Musics in North America (American Roots Music)

World Music Cultures (FSU Summer Music Camp)

GER 1120 Beginning German

GER 1121 Intermediate German

GER 2230 Advanced German

Appalachian State University (Summer Abroad Program in Trier/Munich/Würzburg):

GER 1040 Intermediate German (3 summers, 2000-2002)

GER 1050 Advanced German (3 summers, 2000-2002)

**Other Teaching Experience**

1997 - 1998 Language Instructor (English/German), Berlitz International, Essen, Germany.

1996 Language Instructor, (German/English) Berlitz International, Charlotte,

North Carolina.

**Publications**

Monographs

*MuzikMafia: From the Nashville Scene to the Popular Mainstream*. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi. 2010.

Edited Volumes

*Broadening Stages: Towards an Ethnomusicology of Popular Music* (proposal submitted to Oxford University Press, summer 2015)

Peer-Reviewed Journals

“When the Tribe Goes Triple Platinum: A Case Study Towards an Ethnomusicology of Mainstream Popular Music in the U.S.” *Ethnomusicology* 55(1) (winter 2011): 1-30.

“Orff before Orff: The Gntherschule (1924-1945).” In *Journal of Historical Research in Music Education* 24:2 (April 2003): 178-196.

“Response to Younkin ‘Sing We and Chant It: Revisiting Some Musical Terminology’.” In *Discourses in Music* 4:1 (Fall 2002). [<http://www.discourses.ca>].

“WPAQ Radio: The Voice of the Blue Ridge Mountains.” In the *Country Music Annual 2002*, Charles K. Wolfe and James Akenson, eds. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2002.

Other Articles

“Alabama,” “Alan Jackson,” “Alison Krauss,” “Big & Rich,” “Brooks and Dunn,” “Clint Black,” “Dixie Chicks,” “Faith Hill,” “George Strait,” “Gretchen Wilson.” “Hank Williams Jr.,” “Keith Urban,” “Kenny Chesney,” “Kid Rock,” “MuzikMafia,” “Shania Twain,” “Steve Earle,” “The Judds,” “Tim McGraw,” and “Vince Gill,” “In *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*, 2nd ed., edited by Charles Hiroshi Garrett. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Heindl, Christian. “Two Pannonian Cosmopolitans:  Jenő Takács and Ernst von Dohnányi,” trans. David Pruett, *International Dohnányi Research Center Newsletter* 2:1 (Spring 2004): 1-2.

“Radio Broadcasting,” **“**WMMT**,”** “WNOX,” and “WPAQ.” In *Encyclopedia of Appalachia.* Rudy Abramson and Jean Haskell, eds. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2006.

“The Appalachians.” In the *Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World*, Volume IV: *North America*. John Shepherd and David Horn, eds. London: Continuum International Publishing Group, 2005.

Book reviews (solicited):

Fox, Aaron. 2004. *Real Country: Music and Language in Working-Class Culture*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. In *Yearbook for Traditional Music* 40 (winter 2008): 173-175.

Russell, Tony. 2007. *Country Music Originals: The Legends and the Lost*. New York: Oxford University Press. In American Music 26(4) (winter 2008).

I am also a reviewer for Oxford University Press, Prentice Hall, University of Massachusetts Press, Bloomsbury Academic (formerly Continuum), and the journal *Ethnomusicology*.

###### Academic Conference Presentations

National and International Conferences

“Nashville’s *Nashville*: A Country of Country and Country.” Society for American Music annual meeting. Sacramento, CA. March 2015.

“Fieldwork: The Human Element.” As part of the Society for American Music Student Forum panel entitled, “Archives, Fieldwork, and Grants, Oh My! Planning Your Research Trip.” Society for American Music annual meeting. Sacramento, CA. March 2015.

“Country Music Capital: Portrayal, Professionalization and Profit as Practices of Revitalization,” panel organizer and chair. Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Pittsburgh, PA. November 2014.

"Meta-Country: Mediation and Authenticity in Nashville’s *Nashville*." Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Pittsburgh, PA. November 2014.

“Changing the Sound and Image of Commercial Country Music: The John Rich Effect.” Society for American Music annual meeting. Charlotte, NC. March 2012.

“Selling Out or Buying In? Shifting from the Local to the National Commercial Music Scene.” Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Philadelphia, PA. November 2011.

“That Rich Nashville Sound.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, TN. May 2011.

“Selling Out or Buying In? Shifting from the Local to the National Commercial Music Scene.” Experience Music Project. Los Angeles, CA. February 2011.

“MuzikMafia: The Beginning of the End.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, TN. May 2010.

“Music City U.S.A.: The Nashville Scene.” International Association for the Study of Popular Music. New Orleans, LA. April 2010.

“Who is Cowboy Troy? A Case Study in Identity Hierarchies.” The International Country Music Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. May 2009.

“Demystifying the Popular: Towards an Ethnomusicology of Mainstream Popular Music (Part 2).” Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Middletown, Connecticut. October 2008.

“Afro-Cauca-Choca-Nese: Cowboy Troy and the Hierarchy of Identity.” Society for American Music annual meeting. San Antonio, Texas. February-March 2008.

“Demystifying the Popular: Towards an Ethnomusicology of Mainstream Popular Music (Part 1).” Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Columbus, Ohio. October 2007.

“MuzikMafia: Defining an American Popular Music Phenomenon,” Society for American Music annual meeting. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. February-March 2007.

“Almost Famous: Ethnomusicological Fieldwork inside Nashville’s MuzikMafia.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. May 2006.

“Perspectives from Five Decades: Members of SEM Who Have Joined Each Decade since 1955 Contribute Their Thoughts on the History of SEM,” panelist. Panel organized by Bruno Nettl and chaired by Ruth Stone. Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. November 2005.

“Smokin’ Grass without Prejudice: Kentucky’s Bluegrass Connection to Nashville’s MuzikMafia.” International Bluegrass Symposium, Bowling Green, Kentucky, September 2005.

“What is the MuzikMafia?: A Critical Analysis.” International Country Music Conference, Nashville, Tennessee. May 2005.

“Ethnomusicology and the Classroom: Effective and Innovative Teaching Strategies.” Panel chair and organizer. Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Tucson, Arizona. November 2004.

“Teaching American Music,” panelist. Panel organized by the SAM Student Forum. Society for American Music annual meeting. Cleveland, Ohio. March 2004.

“Pathways *from* the Ph.D.: On the Job Market in Academia.” Panel chair and organizer, Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting, Miami, Florida. October 2003.

“Commercial Country as Process: WBT, Charlotte, and the Creation of a Country Music Center.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. May 2003.

“Music City: U.S.A.: Charlotte, North Carolina.” Society for American Music. Tempe, Arizona. March 2003.

“Pathways *to* the Ph.D.: The Graduate School Experience,” chair and organizer. Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Estes Park, Colorado. October 2002.

“The Pitchmen-Entertainers of Old-Time Radio: A Case Study.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. June 2002.

“Uncle Joe Johnson: Pitchman-Entertainer of Old-Time Radio.” Society for American Music. Lexington, Kentucky. March 2002.

“WPAQ Radio: The Voice of the Blue Ridge Mountains.” International Country Music Conference. Nashville, Tennessee. June 2001.

“Preserving Cultural Identity: WPAQ Radio and the Dissemination of Bluegrass and Old-Time Music.” Society for Ethnomusicology annual meeting. Toronto, Ontario. November 2000.

This same paper was also presented at the Society for American Music annual meeting, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. May 2001.

Regional Conferences,

“Trends, Concerns, and Career Trajectories in Ethnomusicology,” presidential roundtable chair, organizer, and participant. Society for Ethnomusicology Northeast Chapter. Providence, RH, April 2015.

“Professional Trajectories in Ethnomusicology,” presidential roundtable chair, organizer, and participant. Society for Ethnomusicology Northeast Chapter. Norton, MA, April 2014.

“Camtasia 4.2: Lecture Recording and Its Pedagogical Effectiveness.” UMass Boston Educational Technology Conference. Boston, MA: May 2013.

“Selling Out or Buying In? MuzikMafia and Its Shift from the Local to the National Commercial Music Scene.” Society for Ethnomusicology Northeast Chapter. Boston, Massachusetts. April 2011.

“Educational Technology and Faculty Development: Personal Accounts/Multiple Tools and Blackboard and Camtasia as Learning Tools.” UMass Boston Educational Technology Conference. Boston, MA: May 2010.

“Country Boy, B-Boy: Renegotiating Southern and Hip-Hop Identity in Rural Upstate South Carolina in the Early 1980s.” Presented at “The Train Just Don’t Stop Here Anymore: An Interdisciplinary Colloquium on the Soundscapes of Rural and Small-Town America.” Decatur, Illinois. April 2009.

“World Rhythm Concepts for the Music Educator.” Tennessee CMENC: The Collegiate National Association for Music Education. Murfreesboro, Tennessee. September 2007.

“Moving beyond the Secondary: Towards an Ethnomusicology of Mainstream Popular Music.” Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast-Caribbean Chapter. Athens, Georgia. March 2007.

“Been Baptized in Muddy Waters: Taking a Chance on Religion, Sin, and Southern Hip-Hop.” Society for Ethnomusicology Midwestern Chapter (MIDSEM). Columbus, Ohio. April 2006.

“Almost Famous: Ethnomusicological Fieldwork inside the Popular Mainstream.” Pushing Boundaries: Extreme Folklore and Ethnomusicology Conference. Bloomington, Indiana. March 2006. (*Note*: this paper differs in structure and content than one with a similar title presented at MIDSEM in April 2005).

“When the Tribe Goes Triple Platinum: Conducting Ethnomusicological Fieldwork in the Popular Mainstream.” Society for Ethnomusicology Midwestern Chapter (MIDSEM). Bowling Green, Ohio. April 2005.

“Reconstructing Cultural Experience in the Popular Music Classroom.” Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast / Caribbean Chapter (SEMSEC). Atlanta, Georgia. February 2004.

“Defining Chant in Its World Context.” Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast / Caribbean Chapter. Tallahassee, Florida. February 2002.

“WPAQ Radio: Examining a North Carolina Insider Archive.” Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast / Caribbean Chapter. Greenville, North Carolina. March 2001.

“Orff, Nazism, and Elemental Dance: The Gntherschule (1924-1945).” Florida State University School of Theater Symposium. Tallahassee, Florida. March 2000.

“Orff before Orff: The Gntherschule (1924-1945).” American Musicological Society Southern Chapter. New Orleans, Louisiana. February 2000.

UMass Boston On-Campus Presentations

“Ethnomusicology, Popular Music, and the Commercial Mainstream." Junior Faculty Colloquium Series. February 2011.

“When the Tribe Goes Triple Platinum: Doing Ethnomusicology inside the Popular Music Industry.” UMB Research Center for Urban Cultural Studies, February 2010.

#### Honors and Awards

2013 UMass Boston, Dean’s Travel Fund Award ($750)

2011 UMass Boston, Dean’s Travel Fund Award ($589)

2011 UMass Boston, Dean’s Travel Fund Award ($1,100)

2009 UMass Boston, Endowed Faculty Career Development Fund Award ($3000)

2008 Admitted to MTSU’s graduate faculty at the associate level

2005 MIDSEM JaFran Jones Award for best student paper presented at the regional meeting for the Society for Ethnomusicology Midwestern Chapter, Bowling Green, Ohio.

2004 FSU Dissertation Research Grant ($500)

2004 Pi Kappa Lambda, national music honor society

2000-2004 Graduate teaching assistantship (ethnomusicology), College of Music, Florida State University

2002 Conference Presentation Grant, Florida State University Musical Associates ($400)

2001 SEMSEC Prize for best student paper presented at the regional meeting for the Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast/Caribbean Chapter, Greenville, North Carolina.

1998-2000 Graduate teaching assistantship, German Department, Florida State University

1996 Winner of the First Annual Foreign Language Essay Contest in German, Appalachian State University.

1993 -1994 Woodson-Horine Scholarship for Study Abroad, Appalachian State University.

1994 *Prüfung zum Nachweis deutscher Sprachkenntnisse* (German Language Proficiency Exam) University of Würzburg, Germany. Passing this exam allowed me to enroll at any German-speaking university as a “normal” student.

**Professional/Academic Development and Service**

2015-2019 Chair, Department of Performing Arts, UMass Boston

2015-16 NECSEM Chair of Local Arrangements Committee for regional meeting to be held at UMass Boston in spring 2016

2015 Society for American Music, Local Arrangements Committee for annual meeting to held in Boston in spring 2016

2013-2015 President, Society for Ethnomusicology, Northeast Chapter (NECSEM) (2-year term)

2012-2013 Vice President of the Northeast Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology (NECSEM)

2003 Board of Advisors, Southern Music Hall of Fame, Charlotte, NC

2002-2003 Financial Coordinator, Florida State University Society for Musicology

2002 FSU Program for Instructional Excellence (PIE) Teaching Certificate

2001- 2004 Co-Chair, Society for Ethnomusicology Student Concerns Committee

2001- 2002 Student Representative, Society for Ethnomusicology Southeast/Caribbean Chapter.

1998 Interpreter, Orff-Zentrum, Munich, Germany.

1997 – 1998 Translator, Math Department, University of Duisburg, Germany.

1997 Bilingualist, English Department, University of Duisburg.

I am also a manuscript reviewer for the journals *Ethnomusicology* and *American Music* as well as for Oxford University Press, Bloomsbury (formerly Continuum) Press, and the University of Massachusetts Press

**Language Ability**

German - Fluent in written and spoken German (German is spoken at home)

Spanish - Graduate reading knowledge and basic speaking

Dutch - Reading comprehension only

**Study Abroad (Germany)**

1996 – 1998 Student exchange, University of Duisburg

Summer 1996 Student exchange, Pedagogical University of Karlsruhe

Summer 1996 Teacher exchange, Sophie Scholl *Realschule*, Karlsruhe

1993 – 1994 Student exchange, University of Würzburg

1993 – 1994 Würzburg Conservatory of Music

**Commercial Recordings**

2009 Bella-Mūsīqā. *Bella-Mūsīqā*. Produced by Roger Hudson and David Pruett. Independently released. compact disc.

2009 *Soundcheck*, featuring Bella-Musiqa. Hosted by Beverly Keel. MTTV (MTSU television studios). DVD, thirty minutes.

  **Concerts and Recitals**

2013-2015 Everett-Pruett duo. Forty, three-hour performances of rock/pop music at a variety of local venues in the Boston area.

2014 *The Silence of Eternity: Seeking the Divine Through Music*. I accompanied the featured vocalist on Indian tabla for the Vedic chant “Guru Brahma.” Merrimack College, North Andover, MA, March 2014.

1. Bella-Musiqa. Invited Concert/Recital, The White Horse Pub, 7-10PM, Sarasota, FL, October 2013.

2013 Bella-Musiqa. Invited Concert/Recital, “Noche de Gala" in Micanopy, Florida, October 2013

2012 Bella-Musiqa in concert, UMass Boston. October 2012.

2011 *Dances with Animals: A Family Concert* with the Boston Neo-Politan Chamber Orchestra, The New School of Music, Cambridge MA. Program: Selections from *The Danserye* (Susato), Morris Dance, Set 1 (Holst), *Carnival of the Animals* (Saint-Saëns), December 2011.

2010 *Flamenco Al Andaluz* with the Ramon de los Reyes Spanish Dance Theater (with special guest artists from Spain, Italy, and Mexico). Kresge Auditorium at MIT, Cambridge, MA. 24 September, 2010.

2010 Bella-Musiqa in concert, Merrimack College, North Andover, MA. 1 October 2010.

2010 Bella-Musiqa in concert, UMass Boston. 2 October 2010.

2010 Bella-Musiqa, presentation-demo of Middle Eastern music for the Retired Faculty Luncheon, UMass Boston. 1 October 2010.

2008 “Bella-Mūsīqā & Friends” Middle Tennessee State University.

2008 Bella-Mūsīqā, as a featured Middle Eastern concert during the Tennessee Guitar Festival, David Pruett and Roger Hudson, Middle Tennessee State University.

2007 Bella-Mūsīqā, as a featured Middle Eastern concert during the Tennessee Guitar Festival, David Pruett and Roger Hudson, Middle Tennessee State University

2006 Bella-Mūsīqā, a concert of Middle Eastern music, David Pruett and Roger Hudson, Middle Tennessee State University

1996 Senior Percussion Recital, Appalachian State University.

*Marimba Spiritual* (Miki), *Rebonds I* and *II* (Xenakis), *Blues for Gilbert* (Glentworth), *Canaries* (Carter)

1995 Junior Percussion Recital, Appalachian State University.

*Michi* (Abe), *Space Model* (Ptaszynska), *Six Poems* (Stright), *Passacaglia* (Badings)

**University Service (UMass Boston)**

NEASC Accreditation Committee (Standard IV: Academic)

NEASC Accreditation Committee (Standard V: Faculty)

Appellate Committee for Academic Code of Conduct (Academic Dishonesty)

College of Liberal Arts, Faculty Senate

College of Liberal Arts, Senate Executive Committee

College of Liberal Arts, Dean’s Taskforce on Large Enrollment Classes (chair)

College of Liberal Arts, Majors Advising Committee

Departmental Personnel Committee

Departmental Curriculum Committee (chair)

Susan Cunningham Campbell Endowed Scholarship Committee (chair)

Various departmental search committees

**Professional Affiliations and Membership**

Society for Ethnomusicology (national)

Society for Ethnomusicology (Northeast Chapter) (former Vice-President and current President)

Society for American Music

International Association for the Study of Popular Music

College Music Society  
Massachusetts Teachers Association