

Department of Music

October 8, 1992

To: Jeffrey Kurtzman

From: Michael Beckerman, Seth Carlin, Marion Guck

As you know, it is the policy of the music department to periodically review the chair as prescribed in the departmental procedures document (Page 13, VII./A./1.) Each department member was asked whether or not she or he chose to renominate the chair, and what the reasons were for their decision. These ballots were submitted to a committee of three, representing the three divisions within the department (Performance, Theory, and Musicology). This committee was charged with writing a letter to the Dean of the Faculty conveying the results of the balloting, and summarizing the main points of view. It is the further mandate of this committee to "provide the chairperson with a summary evaluation which respects the confidential nature of faculty responses." What follows, then, is a brief summary of the report which was sent to the Dean.

Most of the faculty is convinced that you have done an admirable job in reviving the sagging fortunes of the music department, and many department members are deeply grateful to you for the support you have given them. But there is strong feeling among a majority of the faculty as a whole, and especially among the senior faculty, that for many reasons, it is time for a change in the leadership of the music department.

The objections fell largely into three categories: general faculty relations, relations with women faculty members, and questions of nepotism. Many faculty members also feel that your style is often divisive and autocratic.

It was not the role of the committee to agree or disagree with such assessments, nor is the Dean bound by the result of the balloting. It was our task to create a report which was both representative and fair. We have tried to the best of our ability to do so, and we feel that the procedure was carried forth and completed with the greatest respect for you ,

Ballot count

Renominate: 5

Not Renominate: 8

Abstain: 1

Breakdown by rank*Non-tenured*

Renominate: 3

Not Renominate: 3

Tenured

Renominate: 2

Not Renominate: 5

Abstain: 1

Memo to file 6/30/94
Jeff strongly disagrees with the
assessment of his role as chair,
and has asked me for a point
by point reputation. I cannot
carry on a detailed investigation
of vague statements like "relations
w women faculty members", but
there is no proof of any improper
behavior. See my long letter
to Jeff of this date. MWH