

Advocacy Committee 2021 report

The Advocacy Committee met online in February 2021. We were happy to welcome Mari Itoh to the committee. Lellan Reed has stepped down and we will be looking to fill her and other vacancies.

Committee members reported on new developments. There was discussion on how we could work with the web and communications team to advocate through social media. Our main stumbling block in this area is time commitment.

There is an interest in a project around job descriptions and competencies and on how to get the best people into new positions. First step would be to scope what is already available.

During a follow up on pandemic issues we focussed on some positive outcomes and would like to explore how to provide support on a personal level.

The Meet the AMO Committees during the Online 2021 congress was attended by approximately 40 people. The morning started with a brief introduction of the committees to the attendees and people shared stories from their work environments. One of the topics mentioned was the importance to build close relationships with other organizations such as IMC. Music library closures have a significant impact on professional and amateur music making. There are also challenges in the area of institutional licenses for digital resources and digital asset management. Since March 2020 many people have been working from home and often returned on a flexible basis. As a consequence, some libraries have struggled to keep their spaces, with institutions looking into how to use spaces differently and for different purposes. There were some concerns about libraries being "ready for the future" and the financial and organizational challenges of digitization projects.