

Dear all,

Thank you to those of you who participated in our very long and ongoing discussion this afternoon. Here is our contribution to the debate: <https://twitter.com/RachelGainMusic/status/1287865730063462402>. We will also be sending an apology email directly to Dr. Ewell momentarily, which you SSENT students can view in the Microsoft MHTE Team.

I am proud that we have come together so rapidly to denounce the racist remarks and tones made by many scholars of the recent JSS publication. Please continue to show your support and stand up for the diversity and inclusion that Dr. Ewell calls for not just in music theory, but across all disciplines of our division. Thank you!

Regards,

Dani Van Oort
DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu

From: Ragland, Catherine <Catherine.Ragland@unt.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Key, Stacey <StaceyKey@my.unt.edu>; Virani, Vivek <Vivek.Virani@unt.edu>; Van Oort, Dani <DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu>; SSENT <ssent@myunt.onmicrosoft.com>
Subject: Re: Journal of Schenkerian Studies

Thanks for sending this Stacey, I wanted to read this as well. I have communicated with Dr. Brand about how we should address these concerns. I imagine other faculty members have contacted him well.

Cathy Ragland, PhD
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Associate Professor, Ethnomusicology
Faculty Affiliate, Latina/o and Mexican-American Studies; Women's and Gender Studies
College of Music, University of North Texas
Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology
1155 Union Circle #311367
Denton, TX 76203
Author, [*Música Norteña: Mexican Migrants Creating a Nation between Nations*](#)
Editor, [*Sonic Crossings Book Series*](#), UNT Press

From: Key, Stacey <StaceyKey@my.unt.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Virani, Vivek <Vivek.Virani@unt.edu>; Van Oort, Dani <DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu>; SSENT <ssent@myunt.onmicrosoft.com>
Cc: Ragland, Catherine <Catherine.Ragland@unt.edu>
Subject: Re: Journal of Schenkerian Studies

Dear Dr. Virani,

Here is a link to the articles. I must say that as one of two black students in the MHTE area, I am deeply disturbed by this publication. Having read several of the articles and summaries, I am shocked at both the sentiments revealed and poor quality of scholarship used to support these arguments.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dTOWwllsuiwsgAa4f1N99AlvG3-ngnmG/view>

Best,
Stacey

From: Virani, Vivek <Vivek.Virani@unt.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 9:57 AM
To: Van Oort, Dani <DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu>; SSENT <ssent@myunt.onmicrosoft.com>
Cc: Ragland, Catherine <Catherine.Ragland@unt.edu>
Subject: Re: Journal of Schenkerian Studies

Dear Dani,

Do you have more information about how to access the full articles? The issue does not seem to be available via the digital collection as of yet.

From the segments I have read that were released on twitter, etc., I do not expect that fully reading the papers will substantially change my reaction to them. Nevertheless, it would be intellectually irresponsible (indeed unethical) to formulate a response against another scholar's work based on a gut-reaction to a few sentences without fully grasping their argument within context. Ironically, it would seem that is exactly what several of the authors in this issue have done - but it would not do to repeat that sin while critiquing others for doing so.

From: Van Oort, Dani <DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 5:21 PM
To: SSENT <ssent@myunt.onmicrosoft.com>
Cc: Ragland, Catherine <Catherine.Ragland@unt.edu>; Virani, Vivek <Vivek.Virani@unt.edu>
Subject: Journal of Schenkerian Studies

Dear SSENT Members,

Please excuse me using this email thread to discuss such a politically-charged concern, but unfortunately it is one that hits too close to home at UNT's College of Music and specifically within our Division of Music History, Theory, and Ethnomusicology. It has come to my attention today that our very own Center for Schenkerian Studies has released the latest issue of the [*Journal of Schenkerian Studies*, volume 12](#). The main thread of this issue is attacking the anti-racist research of Dr. Philip Ewell, particularly the [plenary talk](#) he gave at SMT last year entitled "Music Theory's White Racial Frame" and the following blogs that derived from his experiences following this

presentation. That one of our own faculty members would condone and participate in such irresponsibly dangerous racist rhetoric and scholarship is incredibly disgusting.

Here is a summary of the situation by [Dr. Kira Thurman](#) that I hope you check out if you are interested in being educated on this issue (if you are not already). If you would like more information on accessing the journal articles, feel free to reach out to me privately. However, I hope that you will join me in condemning the actions of Dr. Timothy Jackson and the Center for Schenkerian Studies for such blatant racism. I plan on sending another email asking if students are interested in a Zoom "town hall" meeting for us to discuss the issue and prepare a statement.

Thank you all for your time, and my apologies for sharing such disheartening news. I wish you all the best, and I hope that you and your families are safe and healthy!

Best wishes,

Dani Van Oort
DanielleVanOort@my.unt.edu