Teaching Skills Study Awards (TSSA) Reports

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Nancy Glen TSSA Spring 2007

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The funds from my TSSA Grant were used to attend the Mountain Lake Colloquium for Teachers of General Music Methods, which was held from May 20 – May 23, 2007 in Pembroke, Virginia at Mountain Lake Lodge. This colloquium is held every other year at this same location, and is the largest gathering of music educators not sponsored by an organization with political or merchandise/publishing connections.

The purpose of the gathering is to allow individuals who teach general music methods to both Music Education Majors, as well as Liberal Studies/General Classroom Teacher candidates. A theme for the colloquium is always established as an overriding guide for discussions and speakers. This year’s theme involved looking at the persons who have been, and continue to be, visionaries in the field of Music Education. Drs. Estelle Jorgenson and Bennett Reimer were the keynote speakers for their respective careers in Music Education at the public school and higher education levels. Throughout the following days of the meeting, Jorgenson and Reimer became active participants in all of the breakout sessions and group activities, providing very personal connections with all of the attendees. That was personally very rewarding to see, as they encouraged all of the Music Educators at the colloquium, from those new to the field, to those who had been in the field for many years, ready to retire their positions to newer Music Educators.

The breakout sessions provided many philosophical and practical ideas for training future Music Educators, and reaching students in a variety of classroom situations. Those sessions have always been very inspiring to me, and give me lots of support and ideas for using in the classes I teach. I deeply appreciate the funding provided for me by the Teaching Resource Center at CSUSB.