Research Grant – Spring 2009

Title or Proposal: National Flute Association Performance

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Unit: School of Music

Abstract:

The National Flute Association Annual convention will be held in New York City from August 13-16. I am applying for funding to partially cover the cost of attending and presenting a performance at this event. I have been invited to perform as Principal flutist with the Florida Flute Orchestra.

Proposal:

The Florida Flute Orchestra is an elite group of professional flutists from the state of Florida. This group has been invited to present a concert at the National Flute Convention. The invitation is based upon a rigorous application process, and among professional flutists, this is considered an important event. Other performers at the convention include some of the most significant flutists from around the world. This year, Sir James Galway will be among the other presenters.

The reasons for attending are many. The level of concerts presented represents a high standard in terms of performance. The opportunity to hear new literature is abundant. The exposure to new music, instruments and technology is unparalleled. We will be presenting world premier performances of several new compositions by composers Phyllis Louke, and Alexandra Molnar-Suhajda in addition to some new arrangements of existing works. This year our group will share a concert with another group of professional flutists from Dijon, France. This partnership was begun several years ago, and we continue to grow from our exchange with these French flutists. My participation with the Florida Flute Orchestra has helped me tremendously in recruiting better students for the class at USF. I have also been fortunate to have the opportunity to acquire a better knowledge of the ensemble repertoire, which I have passed to my students. Flute Ensembles fulfill a need in the curriculum. That is the requirement for small chamber ensembles as stipulated by NASM.