

## **Assessment of Students Taking the Piano Proficiency Exam**

Of forty-three students taking the piano proficiency examination forty-one students passed, thus demonstrating well their competence in playing the piano. They completed the piano requirement. The other students were asked to study another semester to gain more proficiency in their weak areas before taking the exam again.

All students completed four levels of piano curriculum and progressed from little background in



## VOICE AREA ASSESSMENT – SPRING 2007

Out of 103 juries 5 students took an incomplete due to illness. The freshman class rated better than average in talent, average in stage presence and interpretation. Sophomores and Juniors rated above average in stage performance. Performance majors in the Sophomore and Junior classes rated excellent/above average in tonal production and linguistic ability.

Senior Music Education students rated above average in tone production while Senior Performance majors rated outstanding or above average in all areas.

Graduate vocal students were rated excellent or above average in all areas.

All students who sang a jury passed.

## **Assessment of the Organ Jury Performances**

Seven students met in Wiedemann Recital Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, 2007, to play their organ juries for their teach, Ms. Lynne Davis, and four piano faculty: Coats, Fear, Reed, and Trechak. The evening time was all that was left after the hall had been used for voice,

## **Assessment of the Piano Jury Performances**

The Keyboard Area maintains the policy of requiring performance juries (examinations) for all students enrolling in studio applied piano. The secondary students of the Graduate Assistants, Adjunct Teacher and regular Faculty play for full-time faculty, perform on a jury-recital, or take the piano proficiency test administered by the Class Piano teachers. The few students excused from juries were for reasons of having performed a public required degree recital during the semester, already having a Master's degree, personal dire circumstances, being out of town with an ath

The quality of practice instruments are better than they used to be in that now we have some old grand pianos with which the piano majors can work. However, there never seems to be the budget or time for the technician to keep them in top playing condition. There are so many performances for which the technician must prepare the pianos in the concert halls that he can never catch up with maintenance of the work-a-day instruments. And the condition of the up-

students, they were stated as being lacking for the other students. Repeatedly I found students not using their understanding of harmonic analysis as an aid for memory security. Sometimes the concentration on a technical passage destroys the musical phrasing. Again, the students do not practice enough and in the right way. If a student plans what he will achieve in a practice session before he begins, the goal will be reached. In a Wichita State University catalog some years ago, I read that if a student is enrolled for four hours credit, then he must practice a minimum of four hours every day.

In order for a piano major to graduate the student must attain the Proficiency Level of 400. This has nothing to do with the Class Piano Proficiency Test. These are levels of ability and attainment. Of the fifteen undergraduate students playing juries: two advanced to the 400 level, one moved to 300, four moved to the 200 level (by passing the Class Piano Proficiency Exams), one student will stay at 400 (thie -6(,)-9( )by)40( .)4(ne)-15(s)9( )JT9(a)4(t)-21( )-(a)4(t)OmJETBT1 0