

**The International Association for the Study of Popular Music
L'Association internationale pour l'étude de la musique populaire**

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

At the end of 1982, IASPM had 136 members (125 individuals, 11 institutions) from 24 nations. As you may read below, 98 of them were from Europe (72.1%), 32 from the Americas (23.5%) 3 from Africa (2.2%), 1 from Asia (0.7%), 2 from Oceania (1.5%). 53 were from the English-speaking world (39.0%), and 83 were from the rest of the world (61.0%).

Since then, the number of IASPM members has almost been tripled. However, it is not easy to find figures to compare to these at this time of the year: many members had not yet renewed their membership for 1985, or if they had, appropriate notice had not yet reached the secretariat. On the other hand, many new members entered IASPM, and the data of December 1984 (305 members in 20 nations) would not give an appropriate picture of the membership as it is now. So the figures you will find below under the cryptic acronym 'AT' are those of 'All-Time' members, which is the total number of different people who were at least once members of IASPM. This also includes people who were members in 1982 or 1983 and who never renewed their membership, but also people who became members very recently (actually we have 1 member from Argentina, 19 from Canada, 1 from Cuba, 1 from Israel, 1 from Japan, and 8 from U.S.A. who entered IASPM during this conference). These figures do not include members who were not yet registered in the data base, as the branches to which they belong did not send notice before the conference. These data are compared to those of 1982 and 1984.

TABLE 1

	1982	1984	AT
Argentina		1	2
Australia	2	14	14
Austria	4	4	7
Belgium	1	-	1
BRD	11	18	23
Canada	7	18	63
Chile	-	-	1
Cuba	-	-	1
Czechoslovakia	1	-	1
GDR	2	2	2
Denmark	3	6	10
Eire	-	-	2
Finland	2	4	6
France	2	1	6
Ghana	1	1	3
Great Britain (U.K.)	26	64	85
Hungary	-	1	2
Israel	-	1	2
Italy	7	20	27
Japan	-	-	1
Netherlands	9	12	24
Norway	2	1	4
Philippines	1	1	5
South Africa	2	2	2
Spain	1	-	2
Sweden	25	24	41
Switzerland	1	-	1
Uruguay	1	4	4
U.S.A.	23	63	109
Venezuela	1	-	1
Yugoslavia	1	-	1

TABLE 2

	1982	AT
Europe	98 (72.1%)	244 (54.0%)
Americas	32 (23.5%)	181 (40.0%)
Africa	3 (2.2%)	5 (1.1%)
Asia	1 (0.7%)	8 (1.8%)
Oceania	2 (1.5%)	14 (3.1%)
TOTAL	136 (100%)	452 (100%)
English-speaking	54 (39.0%)	226 (50.0%)
Others	83 (61.0%)	226 (50.0%)
TOTAL	136 (100%)	452 (100%)

As you can see, IASPM has now 452 AT members (412 individuals, 40 Institutions) from 31 countries. There are branches in 8 countries or regions (Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, Scandinavia, U.S.A.), some of which expanded greatly in the last three years, especially Canada, Great Britain and the U.S.A.

IASPM is now more American than in 1982 (40.0% of members, compared to 23.5%) and less European (54.0% compared to 72.1%), while the Proportion of African and Asian members remained the same - IASPM is also more Anglo-Saxon (50% compared to 39.0%: this takes into consideration different linguistic groups in Canada.)

However, though the increasing predominance of members from English-speaking countries and from Western capitalist societies deserves scrupulous consideration; it has to be mentioned that this reflects only minimally the dominance of these countries in the field of popular music. That is, if we compare the number of members from, say, U.S.A. or Great Britain to the popular music industry figures in the same countries (record sales, etc.), we would find that these countries are under-represented in the Association. So we are warned not to draw mechanical conclusions from membership figures.

A final point which I would like to stress is that information on the membership is critical for the Association; we all like to read who the other members are, which interests they have, how to contact them. So, please, when you fill in your renewal form next time, make sure that the other 452 people can read it, and don't think that anyone else in the world knows the correct acronym for Minnesota, or how streets are numbered in Cuba (or Italy). I'm sure the next membership will benefit from this.