

CASSEL GRUBB UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF MUSIC 2004-2009

Carla G. Edwards has been appointed as the Cassel Grubb University Professor of Music for 2004-2009.

Dr. Edwards, Professor of Music, joined the faculty as Instructor of Organ and Music Theory and University Organist in 1988; she was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1989, to Associate Professor in 1994, and to Professor in 2003. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance from the University of Kansas in 1978, a Master of Music in Organ Performance from the University of Alabama in 1982, and a Doctor of Music in Organ Performance from Indiana University in 1996 with minors in music theory and music history.

She has developed and taught applied courses in organ, harpsichord, piano, and keyboard skills and other courses in organ pedagogy, organ literature and design, and music theory. Her teaching philosophy calls attention to the importance of providing students with the tools and resources to develop their own intellectual curiosity and the enthusiasm to acquire musical insights independently.

Her students describe her as a superb teacher, supportive, accessible, and demanding. One student comments, "Her personal examples of striving for excellence, achievement, and ongoing vision are a source of inspiration to many persons and myself as students, musicians, and people." Another commented seven years after graduation, "[She] is a demanding professor with the highest standards for her students. She is sensitive to what her students are capable of accomplishing and is superb at listening to students and identifying opportunities for them to discover their own gifts and capabilities."

A colleague explains, "[She] possesses the wonderful ability to explain theoretical concepts in a way that any level of student understands. She does so with humor, respect, and creativity. She draws in the students through practical application and performance areas, making them see the interaction and connecting thread of theory and their other disciplines."

Another colleague puts it this way, "[She] is a wonderful collaborator, motivating her fellow faculty members to 'step outside the box.'"

She has been a frequent participant in FITS workshops and is especially known for her innovative work using technology to meet the challenges and desires of music students and for her work teaching teachers.

As University Organist, she performs regularly for convocations and alumni reunion weekends. She also served for two years as the organist of the University chapel. She guided the selection of the builder of the new organ for Kresge Auditorium and oversaw the production and installation of this marvelous addition to University facilities. She then organized a full year of dedicatory concerts for the J. Stanford Smith Concert Organ, including a remarkably diverse opening concert which she performed herself.

For the School of Music, she has served for two years as Associate Dean of the School assisting in regularizing policies and procedures and managing the recruitment, appointment and review of the large complement of part-time faculty members. She advises many music majors. She has chaired four search committees in the last year. In 1999, she chaired a Vision Committee for the School of Music; in 1988 she served on the School's Long Range Planning Committee. In fall 2000, she chaired the Contemporary Music Festival at DePauw which hosted Libby Larsen as a guest artist. She accompanied and performed with the DePauw Concert Choir on its tour of Italy in January 2000 and its tour in the U.S. in January 1993.

She served last year on the Task Force on the Status of Women at DePauw. She has served frequently as a faculty mentor; recently she served on the Committee on Faculty and the Committee on Academic Policy and Planning; and earlier she served two full terms on the Management of Academic Operations Committee which she also chaired. For the NCA re-accreditation process in 1996-1997, she chaired the Task Force on Faculty Morale.

One of her colleagues wrote of her committee service, "She's also a deeply thoughtful and gifted problem-solver; nearly every week she came up with a different and important angle on some issue we'd been chewing over, some crucial idea none of us had thought of, that was entirely right. We all benefited from her serious and abiding grasp of the ethical principles involved in University governance and in the ongoing project to make DePauw as good a place as anywhere to study and to work."

A frequent performer of organ repertoire, she has given over 100 recitals in Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Texas, Missouri, Washington, DC, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Kentucky, Ohio, Colorado, and Florida. In a three-week tour of Finland, she gave a series of twelve concerts on twelve different organs in seven cities. In 1998, she was the featured artist on the National Public Radio program, "Pipedreams." Her performance recordings have been published by Calcante Recordings: "Carla Edwards and Friends"

January 1997 (recorded August 1994 at Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis), and publication of "Twentieth Century Organ Music from the Auditorium" (recorded June 1996 at the Auditorium, Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Independence, MO) is forthcoming. She has frequently served as an adjudicator for organ competitions.

The Grubb chair was established by the Board of Trustees in accordance with a generous gift from Gary ('61) and Sandy ('62) Drew in honor of Professor Emeritus of Music Cassel Grubb, who served as both faculty member, cellist, and Director of the School. The inaugural recipient of this professorship was Orcenith Smith (1999-2004).