The mission of the IU East music program is to provide quality musical training, instruction, and music performance opportunities for the IU East community. It strives to teach students the fundamental tenets of music creation, theory, and history, enabling them to understand the role of music in our personal, communal, and global human experience through time.

The goals and objectives of the music program strategic plan are the following:

Goal 1: Provide a well-rounded, comprehensive music curriculum.

Objective 1: increase music course offerings for both face-to-face and online delivery

Objective 2: build a course rotation that efficiently meets subject area needs of music students

Objective 3: develop a comprehensive assessment plan for curricular improvement

Goal 2: Promote student experiential learning

Objective 1: provide real-world learning experiences for students within capstone courses

Objective 2: increase internship opportunities with area arts and culture organizations

Objective 3: create and provide co-curricular opportunities for regional, national and international travel to artistic and cultural events

Goal 3: Cultivate community partnerships that enhance collaboration between the music program and area arts and culture institutions

Objective 1: develop a continuing studies program to provide music learning opportunities for the community at large

Objective 2: promote collaborative music performance at public events
2.1 Faculty and Staff

The music program at IU East has one tenure-track full-time faculty member and many adjuncts. All faculty are highly qualified to deliver the courses in the music program. The committee feels that the one faculty member (Jessica) is covering the role of at least two full-time faculty and IU East should consider expanding to at least two full-time faculty members.

2.2 & 2.3 Faculty and Staff evaluation/ Delivery of Courses

The committee felt that evaluating teaching based on “training, service, and awards related to teaching” is not an adequate way to assess teaching quality. In fact, service is a completely different category of evaluation in higher education. The committee recommends supervisory overview of annual peer and student evaluations as an added indicator of evaluation in teaching to be an added measure to evaluate teaching success.

Another concern is the schedule. The committee recommends that IU East music continue to look at the schedule to combat the low student/teacher ratio and to encourage successful ensemble participation.

2.4 Support staff

The committee felt that the support staff was adequate. The advising staff is commendable—professional advisors can make a huge impact on student success.

2.5 Faculty and teaching loads are appropriate

The standard teaching load in the Department is 6 courses per year for tenured and tenure-track faculty and 8 for lecturers. The teaching loads seem appropriate given the mission of the campus. The report is accurate in that simply counting the number of courses is not sufficient to measure teaching loads; in fact, not only does mode of delivery matter, but also the number of different preps and new preps, too.

The one concern from the committee would be the number of preps given to certain faculty due to low enrollment.

2.6 / 2.7 Faculty are appropriately involved in scholarly and creative work as well as Service

The Committee commends the faculty (both tenure-track an adjunct) for their high-quality and ambitious scholarship and creative endeavors. For example, Jessica Raposo gave a full recital this past year and is highly active in the National Flute Association as well as the College Music Society. Considering her responsibilities at IU East, this type of work goes above and beyond
what would be expected. In addition, Jessica Raposo has served her institution and her profession well in her short time at IU East. She should also be commended for her hard work in the area of service.

Section-III Physical Facilities

3.1 Facilities

The Music Program at IU East offers both on campus and online coursework. The four dedicated classrooms in Springwood Hall as well as the spaces in Vivian Auditorium and Whitewater Hall Appear to be sufficient for all on campus courses. They are equipped with the appropriate technology and sound reinforcement for live sound, video, and practice. All faculty have appropriate spaces for teaching.

The one concern for the committee is the need for a dedicated large-group rehearsal and performance space. This could be used to attract and maintain students in larger ensembles as well as provide a place for community engagement.

3.2.-3.3 Technology Infrastructure /Equipment

It appears that the technology infrastructure is adequate for teaching and learning in the music department. Faculty are given the appropriate computers are provided for faculty and there has been progress on music

Section-IV Budget

Budgetary items are handled through the Dean’s office with first line review from the Chair of Fine and Performing Arts. Primary revenue sources are tuition. It appears that some additional fund raising has started.

Section-V Learning Resources

The learning resources set aside to support faculty and students are adequate for the size and scope of the music program. This includes a well-equipped library and computer lab facility.
Section-VI Instructional Programs

The music curriculum provides adequate learning opportunities for the students at IU East (both majors and non-majors). The primary degree program is the Bachelor of Arts in Humanities with a concentration in music. In order for the program to grow, it is the opinion of the committee to investigate offering a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree. This would fit IU East well in the future. This may require investigating staff needs, ensemble requirements and adequate rehearsal and performance space.

Course scheduling continues to be a challenge for IU East. The committee commends the music program for looking at rotations as well as other ways to accommodate IU East students. In addition, the committee commends IU East for investing in a professional academic advisor. This is critical to the success of all students.

Section-VII Assessment

Since 2013, the music program has designed a systematic and thorough assessment of programmatic and core curriculum outcomes. Data is used to inform curricular decision-making and tools for measurement are revised based on validity and reliability concerns. With such a small program, it is difficult to gain a sample size to inform decisions. Goals and targets have been established and are monitored. The music department should be commended for its hard work in this area. It is, of course, essential to document systematically the results of student learning outcomes assessment and the processes for using those results for program improvement as well as for school and campus strategic planning and budgeting.

Section-VIII Outreach and Community Engagement

The committee commends the Music Department for its wide range of outreach and community engagement activities. These range from concerts and student recitals to recruiting and other events aimed at prospective students. The Music Department also seeks advice from the HSS Advisory Board. This is important for the longevity of the department. Faculty are deeply involved in the community and nationally in professional organizations.

Section-IX Summary of Findings

Program Strengths:

The committee agrees that the Department of Music at IU East has the following strengths:

1. Strong program mission, which contributes to the IU East mission
2. Well-defined goals that reflect the mission of the program
3. Well-qualified faculty who actively participate in scholarship and service
4. Rich resources to support student learning and deliver programs
5. Well-designed curriculum for undergraduate degrees in Humanities-Music

The committee would like to add that the Music Department has a collaborative and student-centered faculty that are flexible and interested on the success of their students.

Areas of Improvement:

The committee agrees with the self-study on the following areas for improvement and key issues facing the department:

1. Potential hiring of two full-time faculty members at Assistant Professor or Lecturer rank
2. Stabilization of assessment and scheduling processes
3. Creation of a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree

Key issues:

1. Need for increased full-time faculty staffing
2. Stabilization of assessment and scheduling processes
3. Creation of a Bachelor of Arts in Music degree

The committee would also add the following:

1. Establish a more valid way of assessing excellence in teaching
2. Establish ensembles that attract students. This would include a large performance and rehearsal space. Ensembles not only provide opportunities for students majoring in music. They can be valuable high-impact practices for students in a variety of majors, improving student retention.
3. The committee is concerned about the amount of responsibility placed on their 1 full-time faculty member.