

## Minutes -- Chapel Organ Committee

Meeting 5 - December 17, 1986, 1:30 p.m.

1. Present: J. Tiefel, chrmn; P. Manthey; D. Valleskey, sec, A. Panning, advisory; E. Meyer, consultant
2. A report was given on the meeting of Tiefel, Panning and Valleskey with acoustical consultant, Scott Riedel, on December 10.
  - a. Purpose of the meeting was to determine the advisability and feasibility of removing the chapel ceiling for better acoustics
  - b. Summary of the meeting
    - 1) Riedel explained that the acoustics are affected by the surface area and the volume of air. Surface area will not be much different with removal of the ceiling. Volume will increase somewhat, but perhaps not enough to make an appreciable difference
    - 2) Riedel also explained that there may be some advantage in having a ceiling with an open space above it, the ceiling thus serving as somewhat of a "sounding board"
    - 3) The decision was made to provide for Riedel complete measurements of the chapel. On the basis of the measurements he will tell us whether or not in his opinion it is worthwhile to make a full study, which could cost as much as \$1000
  - c. On the basis of this report the Organ Committee resolved to proceed with plans on the assumption that the ceiling will not be removed
3. Dr. Meyer gave his report to the Organ Committee, which consisted of proposals presented to him by four organbuilders (report attached to minutes): Casavant, St. Hyacinthe, Quebec; Dobson, Lake City, Iowa; Schlicker, Buffalo, New York; Taylor and Boody, Staunton, Virginia
  - a. Primarily because of the high bid (\$175,000) and late delivery date (1992), Taylor and Boody was eliminated from further consideration
  - b. Each of the three remaining builders bid on the same 16 voice organ
  - c. Two builders, Schlicker and Dobson, paid a personal visit to Meyer at DMLC prior to submitting their bids
  - d. Cost per pipe on the part of Casavant, Dobson and Schlicker was essentially the same
  - e. Meyer strongly suggests that we go with no fewer than 15 voices, preferably 16 to 21
  - f. Is it advisable to seek bids from another lower-cost builder? Meyer suggested 1) that their costs may not be that much lower and 2) that the three builders under consideration will give the Seminary the quality organ that the Seminary chapel should have
4. The committee at this point is "leaning toward" Dobson as the builder. Bid of \$146,000 for a 16 voice tracker organ in a solid oak case.
  - a. Organ committee members Tiefel and Valleskey will take a trip to Brillion to listen to a recently installed Dobson
  - b. Meyer was asked to get two additional bids from Dobson, for a 17 voice and an 18 voice organ, with the intention of presenting three options to the Seminary Board of Control
5. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 30, 1:30 p.m., to begin to work out methods of financing the organ