

Christopher David Ragsdale, D.M.A.

Curriculum Vitae

Contact

Roberts Hall 102 A
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Education

University of Miami (Florida), 2006
Doctor of Musical Arts in Instrumental Conducting with Cognate in Music Education
Winthrop University (South Carolina), 2003
Master of Music in Performance – Instrumental Conducting
Appalachian State University (North Carolina), 1996
Bachelor of Music in Music Education

Academic Appointments

Professor of Music, 2018
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Associate Professor of Music, 2012
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Assistant Professor of Music, 2006
The University of Alabama in Huntsville
Interim Associate Director of Bands, 2004
The University of Miami (Florida)
Instructor of Music, 2003
Barry University (Florida)
Director of Bands, 1997
South Mecklenburg High School (North Carolina)

Administrative Appointments

Chair of the Department of Music and Theatre, 2012 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Responsibilities

- Search, hire, supervise, and evaluate all faculty and staff (about 45 persons) of the Department of Music and Theatre
- Design and manage all academic scheduling and course offerings for the Department of Music and Theatre
- Oversee all academic advising
- Manage all financial aspects of the unit including including budgeting and fundraising.
- Manage and schedule a dynamic music facility including teaching, classroom, studio, rehearsal, and performance venues
- Author and compile all major reports, both internal and external, for ongoing accreditation activities with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Alabama Council on Higher Education, Higher Education in the Arts Database System, and the National Association of Schools of Music
- Author and implement new curricula in Music Business, Church Music, and Piano Pedagogy, and Master of Arts in Teaching Music
- Authored and implemented "Take a Seat," a capital campaign for the renovation of Roberts Recital Hall
- Authored and implemented an initiative to advance Music Technology, Audio Engineering, and Sound Design at UAH
- Produced, Managed and Implemented major university arts initiatives in the community: The Planets (2012) and Peace on Earth (2013-present)
- Maintain relationships with donors, patrons, and alums of the unit
- Mentor faculty toward tenure and promotion
- Market the Arts to campus and community

Administrative Appointments

Chair of the Department of Music and Theatre, 2012 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Achievements and Initiatives:

- Guide NASM reaccreditation and authored Self-Study, (2019-20)
- Launched Master of Arts in Teaching Music degree to begin Fall (2020)
- Oversee merger with Theatre and Music, (2019)
- Developed sister schools and MOU's with Harbin Normal University, Qingdao University, and Fujian Normal University, China, (2018-19)
- Initiated and supervised \$1.2M renovation to Roberts Recital Hall (2013)
- Partnered with Yamaha Corporation to provide pianos for the Department, including the acquisition of a DCFX Concert Grand piano
- Refreshed Department of Music image for Music Technology, building state of the art recording labs, and curriculum development
- Established the "Constellation Concert Series" at UAH, a cutting edge professional chamber music series for the Huntsville and university communities.
- Established major cultural events for the university which have become "signature" community and donor touchpoints, including "Peace on Earth," "A Taste of the Arts," and the "Lowe House Salon Series."
- Significantly increased music donor development and giving.

Teaching

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Recent Courses Taught and Student Evaluation Mean Score

MUX 399	Wind Ensemble	Spring 2017	4.81 (of 5)
MU 425	Advanced Conducting	Spring 2017	4.92 (of 5)
MU 325	Conducting	Fall 2016	4.67 (of 5)
MUX 399	Wind Ensemble	Fall 2016	4.82 (of 5)
MU 100	Music Literature Online	Spring 2016	3.75 (of 4)
MUX 399	Wind Ensemble	Spring 2016	3.66 (of 4)

Teaching

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Other Duties Related to Teaching

- Observe and Coordinate student teachers in Instrumental Music Education
- Supervise and coordinate all aspects of University Athletic Bands
- Coach and conduct all stage productions, musicals, and operas of the university

The UAH Wind Ensemble

- Earned a distinguished reputation in the state and region
- Selected for performance at the Alabama All-State Band Exhibition, (2019)
- Selected for performance at the Alabama Music Educators Association Conference, Montgomery, AL, (2017)
- Gave the featured performance of the Alabama Band Masters Association All-State Band Festival (2014)
- Enjoyed residencies with renowned composers, conductors, and guest artists
- Developed curriculum through commissioning of new works:
 - *Symphony No. 2*, James Slyer (FALL 19)
 - *Entrada*, Steve Danyew, (FALL 19)
 - *Untitled*, Peter Van Zandt (FALL 18)
 - *Concerto for Trumpet and Wind Ensemble*, Brian Balmages (FALL 17)
 - *Hosannas*, David Maslanka (SPR 15)
 - *Alcott Songs*, Steve Danyew (FALL 13)
 - *Point Blank*, Paul Dooley (SPR 13)
 - *Remember Me*, David Maslanka (SPR 14)
 - *This World Alive*, Steve Danyew (FALL 13)
 - *Symphony No. 9*, David Maslanka (SPR 12)
 - *O Earth O Stars*, David Maslanka (SPR 11)
 - *Symphony for Band*, Kevin Krumenauer (SPR 10)
 - *Golden Gray*, Roy Magnuson (SPR 10)
 - *Four Winds*, Don Bowyer (SPR 08)
 - *The Moving Finger*, Don Bowyer (SPR 08)
 - *The Heart of God*, Kevin Krumenauer (FALL 07)

Teaching

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

- **Guest artists in performance with UAH Wind Ensemble:**

- Indigo Girls, entertainer, *Peace on Earth* (FALL 19)
- Mr. Ken Ortlepp, horn, *Pele Concerto for Horn* (SPR 19)
- Wynonna Judd, entertainer, *Peace on Earth* (FALL 18)
- Mr. Rodney Marsalis, trumpet, *La Virgen de la Macarena* (SPR 18)
- Dr. Andrew Hudson, clarinet, *Blackdog*, McAllister (SPR 18)
- Commander James Bettencourt, conductor, *Army Band* (SPR 18)
- Mr. Ruben Studdard, entertainer, *Peace on Earth* (FALL 17)
- Ms. Rosa Richardson, flute, *Songbook*, Maslanka (FALL 17)
- Dr. Catherine Rand, conductor, *Winter Dreams*, Daugherty (SPR 17)
- Dr. David Gregory, conductor, *Alleluia Laudemus Te*, Reed (FALL 16)
- Mr. Robert Sheldon, composer, *Bright Lights* (FALL 16)
- Ms. Karen Young, soprano, *Ain't it a Pretty Night*, Floyd (FALL 16)
- Committed, entertainers, *Peace on Earth* (FALL 16)
- Act of Congress, entertainers, *Peace on Earth* (FALL 15)
- Mr. Gary Green, conductor, *Porazzi Variations*, Reed (FALL 15)
- Dr. Brenton Alston, conductor, *Shepherd's Hey*, Grainger (FALL 15)
- Mr. Michael Sweeney, conductor, *Mambo from WSS*, Bernstein (FALL 15)
- Mr. Billy Bargetzi, trombone, *Concerto for Trombone*, Lambert (FALL 16)
- Dr. Peter Povey, violinist, *Southern Comforts*, Puckett (SPR 15)
- Mr. Lee Greenwood, singer/entertainer (FALL 14)
- Mr. Ivan Rutherford, singer/broadway star (FALL 13)
- Dr. Catherine Rand, conductor, *Barnum and Bailey's Favorite*, King (FALL 13)
- Dr. William Gora, conductor, *Colonial Song*, Grainger (FALL 12)
- Col. Timothy Holtan, conductor, *Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare*, Strauss (FALL 12)
- Dr. Daniel Belongia, conductor, *Irish Tune from County Derry*, Grainger (FALL 11)
- Dr. Sarkis Baltaian, piano, *Rhapsody in Blue*, Gershwin/Hunsberger (SPR 10)
- Col. Thomas Palmatier, conductor, (FALL 09)
- Dr. Gregg Gausline, conductor, *Legend*, Tchaikovsky/Hultgren (FALL 09)
- Dr. Catherine Rand, conductor, *Variations on America*, Ives (FALL 08)
- Dr. William Gora, conductor, *Symphony No. 3*, Reed (SPR 08)
- Dr. Margery Whatley, piano, *Rhapsody in Blue*, Gershwin/Hunsberger (SPR 08)
- Mr. Ken Watters, Dr. Carolyn Sanders, *Concerto for Two Trumpets*, Vivaldi (SPR 08)
- Ms. Dorrie Nutt, horn, *Pele for Horn and Wind Ensemble*, Balmages (FALL 07)
- Dr. David Lambert, trombone, *Concerto for Trombone*, Lambert (SPR07)

Teaching

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Introduction to Music Literature Online

- Created and implemented the first online course in Music Literature at UAH
- Music Literature was the first online GER course at UAH.
- Online Music Literature expanded to 3 sections per term, serving 320 students per year

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Performer/Clinician Profile

- Conductor, Tennessee Valley Music Festival Faculty Orchestra (2011-present)
- Conductor, Huntsville Chamber Winds and Chamber Orchestra (2006-present)
- Conductor, Huntsville Symphony Orchestra "The Planets" (2020)
- Clinician/Conductor, Florida All-State Band (2020)
- Clinician/Conductor, Alabama District 5 Honor Band (2020)
- Clinician/Conductor, Alabama District 6 Honor Band (2020)
- Adjudicator, Florida All-State Music Performance Assessment (2020)
- Clinician, Arkansas State University (2020)
- Presenter, College Band Directors National Association "Showcase" (2019)
- Presenter, Alabama Music Educators Association (2019)
- Clinician/Conductor, NC NW District Band (2019)
- Clinician/Conductor, Buncombe County All-County Band (2018)
- Presenter, College Band Directors National Association, "Stravinsky" (2018)
- Clinician and Conductor, Florida International University Wind Ensemble (2018)
- Adjudicator, Cayman Islands Musician of the Year International Panel (2018)
- Adjudicator, Florida All-State Music Performance Assessment (2018)
- Performer, Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Pictures at Exhibition soloist (2017)
- Performer, Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Beach Boys, Lead Saxophone (2017)
- Conductor, Huntsville Youth Orchestra (2011-2017) Conductor, North Carolina All-State Band, Greensboro, NC (2017)
- Guest Conductor, United States Army Field Band (2017)
- Clinician, Florida Atlantic University MPA Workshop (2017)
- Guest Conductor, Florida Atlantic University Wind Ensemble (2017)
- Conductor, Alabama District 2 Honor Band (2017)

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Performer/Clinician Profile Continued:

- Adjudicator, Florida All-State Music Performance Assessment (2017)
- Adjudicator, Cayman Islands Musician of the Year International Panel (2017)
- Clinician, Grissom HS Symphonic Band Camp (2017)
- Presenter, College Band Directors National Association, "Stravinsky" (2016)
- Conductor, Alabama Bandmasters Assoc. District 4 Honor Band (2016)
- Adjudicator, Florida Bandmasters Association MPA (2016)
- Conductor, Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, Stravinsky Program (2015)
- Guest Conductor, United State Army Field Band (2014)
- Conductor, Winthrop University Wind Ensemble (2014)
- Conductor, Winthrop University Invitational Wind Ensemble (2014)
- Guest Conductor, Sewanee Symphony Orchestra (2013)
- Adjudicator, Florida All-State Music Performance Assessment (2013)
- Conductor, University of Southern Mississippi Honor Band (2013)
- Conductor, NCNW Bandmasters Honor Band, Wake Forest University (2013)
- Conductor, NCNW BandMasters Honor Band, Western Carolina Univ. (2013)
- Conductor, Musaic Music Festival, Huntsville, AL (2013)
- Conductor, Alabama All-State Band, Mobile, AL (2012)
- Conductor, University of Georgia Honor Band JanFest, Athens, GA (2012)
- Conductor, North Carolina Bandmasters NW Honor Band (2012)
- Conductor, Alabama District 5 Honor Band (2012)
- Conductor, Alabama District 6 Honor Band (2012)
- Adjudicator, Appalachian State Marching Band Festival, Boone, NC (2012)
- Clinician, Florida International Univ. Conducting Symposium, Miami, FL (2010)
- Clinician, In-Service Conference of the Alabama Music Educators Association, "Born to Be Mild? Becoming a WILD Band Director Again," (2010)
- Clinician, Tennessee Valley Music Festival, Huntsville, AL (2010)
- Clinician, "Advanced Conducting Technique", The University of Georgia (2009)
- Conductor, UGA Wind Symphony, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA (2009)
- Clinician, FIU Wind Ensemble, Florida International University, Miami, FL (2009)
- Adjudicator, Illinois State Marching Band Championships (2008) Clinician, Florida International University, Miami, FL (2008)
- Adjudicator, Florida Bandmasters Association State Assessment (2008)
- Clinician, Alabama Bandmasters Association District 1 In-Service (2008)
- Clinician, Florida Bandmasters Association State Assessment (2007)
- Clinician, numerous high school bands throughout the region (2006-present)

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

In the University Setting:

- Conductor, La Cage aux Folles (FALL 19)
- Conductor, Threepenny Opera (FALL 17)
- Conductor, The Medium (FALL 16)
- Conductor, 50th Anniversary Faculty Showcase (FALL 16)
- Conductor, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying (FALL 14)
- Conductor, Anything Goes (SPR 14)
- Performer, Urinetown (SPR 13)
- Conductor, The Consul (FALL 11)
- Conductor, Sunday in the Park with George (SPR 11)
- Honors Lecture: "The Making of Great Performance" (SPR 11)
- Conductor, The Mystery of Edwin Drood (SPR 10)
- Conductor, Pagliacci (SUM 09)
- Conductor, Amahl and the Night Visitors (FALL 08)
- Conductor, Little Shop of Horrors (SPR 09)
- Conductor, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, (SPR 08)
- Conductor, Man of La Mancha, (SPR 07)
- Guest Lecture, UAH Music Forum "Inspired Musicianship" (FALL 07)
- Guest Lecture, UAH Music Forum "The Evolution of Chamber Winds" (FALL 07)
- Conductor, All UAH Commencements and Convocations

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Publications

- Ragsdale, Christopher D. "You Are What You Eat: Repertoire Choices for the New Year." Ala Breve: February, 2015.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. "March Madness." Ala Breve: April, 2015.
- Miles, Richard (ed.), Ragsdale, C. David, Contributing Author. Teaching Music Through Performance in Band. Vol. 10. (2014).
- Miles, Richard (ed.), Ragsdale, C. David, Contributing Author. Teaching Music Through Performance in Band. Vol. 9. (2012).
- Miles, Richard (ed.), Ragsdale, C. David, Contributing Author. Teaching Music Through Performance in Band. Vol. 8. (2011).

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Publications Continued:

- Charlton, Carol (ed.), Ragsdale, C. David, Contributing Author. Experience Music. 3rd edition. (2010).
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. HSO does all Gershwin program. The Huntsville Times: March 20, 2010
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. HSO does Debussy, Mussorgsky, and Ravel. The Huntsville Times: March 20, 2010
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. HSO strikes right chord. The Huntsville Times: February 7, 2010.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Firebird lights up symphony. The Huntsville Times: October 17, 2009.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Hadelich shines in Beethoven's Violin Concerto. The Huntsville Times: September 14, 2009.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Symphony season ends on high note. The Huntsville Times: April 18, 2009.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Guest conductor shines in eclectic pops concert program. The Huntsville Times: March 16, 2009.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Orchestra carries weight of concert. The Huntsville Times: February 14, 2009.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. HSO and Tomsic rise to Beethoven. The Huntsville Times: January 26, 2009.
- Ragsdale, C. David. Young Faculty Research Proceedings. "The Huntsville Chamber Winds." (2009)
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Add irony and voice to symphony's moody Russia. The Huntsville Times: November 10, 2008.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. Big Bang for the HSO. The Huntsville Times: September 15, 2008.
- Ragsdale, Christopher D. 2006. "A Formal, Historical, and Interpretive Analysis of *Equus* and *October* for Wind Ensemble by Composer Eric Whitacre." DMA Essay. Miami, Florida: University of Miami. (UMI Publications).

Research and Creative Activities

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Huntsville Chamber Winds (HCW):

- Founder and Conductor of the Huntsville Chamber Winds, a professional chamber wind ensemble (FALL 06)
- Recipient of \$10,500 University Research Grant for HCW (SPR 08)
- Conductor of numerous public performances of the major wind repertoire
- Recording and production of a Compact Disc for promotional purposes
- Partnered with the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra and the Huntsville community chorus for substantial projects, including performance of the Stravinsky Piano Concerto for piano and winds. (2016-17)
- Recent performances alongside guest artists include Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue and Arutunian Concerto for Trumpet. (2017-18)

Honors and Awards

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Recognition and Funding

- Citation of Excellence, National Band Association, (2017)
- PI, Cross College Faculty Research Grant with Center for Propulsion \$5000, (2016)
- College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences Outstanding Professor, (2015)
- Alabama State Council on the Arts, Constellation Series \$2000 (2015)
- Alabama Music Educators Association President's Cabinet, (2014-16)
- 2013 US Army Commendation of Excellence (2013)
- Humanities Award for Public Programming \$2000, (2012)
- Humanities Award for Public Programming \$5000, (2011)
- Humanities Award for Public Programming \$2000, (2010)
- Rotary International of Greater Huntsville, (2009)
- UAH Distinguished Speaker Series Funding \$1500, (2009)
- UAH Instructional Improvement Grant \$3050, (2009)
- UAH Research Grant \$10,500, (2008)

Honors and Awards

Frost School of Music, 2003-2006

The University of Miami

- University of Miami Featured Doctoral Student, (2006)
- Frost School of Music Most Outstanding Graduate, (2006)
- Full Academic Scholarship and Doctoral Stipend, 3.912 GPA
- Iron Arrow Honor Society (the highest honor attainable at UM), (2004)

Honors and Awards

Director of Bands, 1997-2002

South Mecklenburg High School, Charlotte, North Carolina

- First Year Teacher of the Year, South Mecklenburg High School (1999)
- Finalist, Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Award for Excellence in Teaching, (1997)
- Bands received 40+ consecutive superior ratings in concert and marching band festivals across the Southeast

Service

Department of Music, 2006 - present

The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Service to the University

- UAH Commencement Committee (2019)
- UAH CAHS Dean Search Committee (2018)
- UAH CAHS Advising Review Committee (2018)
- UAH Faculty 180 Implementation Committee (2017-18)
- UAH Digital Portfolio Committee (2016)
- UAH Charger Foundations Committee (2014-15)
- UAH SACS Reaccreditation (2014-16)
- UAH GER Review Committee (2013-14)
- Dean Dasher Reappointment Committee (2013)
- First Year Experience (2013)
- Creation and Artistic Director: Peace on Earth (2013-present)
- Creation and Artistic Director: The Planets (2012)
- Creation and implementation of the Young Band Repertoire Workshop and Conducting Symposium (2010)
- Creation and administration of the UAH Honor Band (2008-2018)
- Creation and production of the first UAH Opera (2008)

Service

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Service Continued:

- UAH Faculty Senator (06-08)
- UAH Faculty Senate Personnel Committee (06-08)
- Search Committee, Asst. Prof. of Piano (07-08)
- Search Committee, Asst. Prof. of Choral Activities (07-08)
- UAH Commencement Committee (06-07)
- Oversee all administrative components of band program including budgeting and recruiting (06-present)
- Supervise all Athletic Band activities including supervision of Pep Band Director, basketball and hockey bands, rehearsal, administration, tournament travel (06-present)
- Collegiate MENC Chapter Advisor (06-present)
- Direct outreach and recruitment activities (06-present)
- Implementation of electronic attendance tracking for music majors (06-present)

Service to the Community

- American Red Cross Disaster Action Team, 2011-present
- Rotary International, 2008-2014

Affiliations

Department of Music, 2006 - present
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

Professional Memberships:

- National Association of Schools of Music
- College Band Directors National Association
- Alabama Music Education Association
- Alabama Bandmasters Association
- National Association for Music Education
- Pi Kappa Lambda – National Honorary Music Fraternity
- Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia-National Professional Music Fraternity for Men
- Kappa Delta Pi – National Honorary Education Fraternity
- Tau Beta Sigma, National Band Sorority (Honorary)