

Assistant Professor of Music Stephan Pennington is the 2015 faculty recipient of the Tufts University Multicultural Service Award, presented annually to faculty and staff members whose activities define “Tufts as a multicultural environment in which race, ethnicity, religion, class, gender, and sexual orientation are not barriers to the full enjoyment of community membership.”

Time and devotion to students, their ideas, and concerns is typical and constant with Pennington—he is known for this campus-wide. In a brief excerpt from Prof. Pennington’s recent resume, he states:

*...as a visible minority faculty member, I do a large amount of unofficial advising to students of color and queer students as they work to navigate the pressures of racial microaggressions on campus or coming out to their families.*

Pennington's recent scholarly publications such as *A Meditation on the Relationship between Gender Variance and Sexual Variance*, which appeared as part of a Colloquy on Music and Sexuality in the Journal of the American Musicological Society, or *Transgender Passing Guides and the Vocal Performance of Gender and Sexuality*, an invited contribution in *The Oxford Handbook of Queerness and Music*, illustrate his expertise with topics that he frequently addresses directly with our students. The subtle and difficult human issues he confronts in these pieces are important topics he also addresses at Tufts in the most probing, sensitive, and wondrous manner. Pennington is equally engaged as a colleague, challenging and questioning peers and students with similar gusto.

Bravo and thank you, Professor Pennington!

--John McDonald, Music Department Chair, Professor of Music