

Karen Fosheim is the Interim Chair of the Department of Music. She teaches Piano, Music Theory courses, Music in American Culture, and is co-director of the Community Drumming Ensemble at Delta State University. An active performer, Dr. Fosheim has appeared as a soloist and collaborative pianist around the U.S. and in Mexico. In the summer of 2001, she was selected as a performer in the Van Cliburn Institute. Her piano teachers include Nohema Fernandez, Ozan Marsh, Paula Fan, Dale Childs, and Billie Erlings in pedagogy. She holds degrees from The University of Arizona and Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Dr. Fosheim has traveled to Guinea, West Africa on two occasions to study djembe, balafon, and African dance with native master musicians. Fosheim has studied djembe with master drummers in the US and participated in numerous African ensembles and institutes.

Dr. Fosheim is active in several organizations and is currently the President-Elect of the Southern Chapter of the College Music Society. In addition, she has been a presenter and adjudicator for the College Music Society, Mississippi Music Teacher's Association, Mississippi Music Educators Association, MENC: National Association for Music Education, and the Pianist Foundation of America.