

Research Grant – Fall 2014

Faculty member: David Williams

Unit: School of Music

Project/Proposal Title: *Travel to present research at the College Music Society and Association for Technology in Music Instruction joint National Conferences*

Abstract:

Funding will be used to support travel to make presentations of my research activity at the College Music Society and Association for Technology in Music Instruction joint National Conferences being held in St. Louis in October 30-November 1, 2014. I will be involved in two different sessions presenting findings from my research concerning curriculum development and the use of digital technologies in music education.

Proposal:

Funding is requested in support of travel for attendance and presentation of research activity at the joint National Conferences of the College Music Society and Association for Technology in Music Instruction. I am presenting the results of research into the areas of curriculum development and the use of digital technologies in music education. Both these areas have been research interests of mine for several years and have resulted in three published articles in the Music Educators Journal ("What are we doing, and how well are we doing it" (2007), "The elephant in the room" (2011), and "The iPad is a real musical instrument" (2014). One additional article is presently in process and will be submitted to the Journal of Research in Music Education when completed. I've related book chapters have just been published, "Considering Both Curriculum and Pedagogy," In *Music Education in the 21st Century*, Janice Smith and Michele Kaschub, eds., Oxford University Press, 2014, and "Music Education: Relevant and Meaningful," In *Rethinking Education and the Musical Experience*, Janet Barrett and Peter Webster, eds., Oxford University Press, 2014.

I will be making two separate presentations at CMS and ATMI. 1) "The iPad in Live Performance" concerns my work with the iPad as a live performance musical instrument in small groups. This work investigates both live performance of our iPad Quintet Touch as well as the related pedagogies that are included in several of our music education courses at USF. This represents an ideal situation where research informs practice and in turn practice informs new research. My research reports both on the experience of live performance using digital instruments in small, creative groups and the implications and results of working with pre-service music teachers in similar settings in classes. And, 2) "Confluence to Confusion: Music Education, Culture and Community" is a historical and philosophical look at the music education profession in the United States beginning with our start in the late 1800's up to our presence in the schools today with an eye toward our relationship with public and popular culture over this time. As with work related to the iPad this research is focused on potential changes that might be made to k-12 music education in the U.S. that have promise to strengthen the profession and help produce more creative, life long, active music makers.

Attendance and participation in conferences like CMS and ATMI is directly related to two aspects of the College of The Arts Goals. Such conference presentations help CoTA become recognized regionally and nationally for innovative, contemporary research, and meeting with colleagues from across the country provides me opportunities to help recruit diverse faculty members who excel in research activities and teaching. This later goal is presently critical as the School of Music is currently searching for two tenure track faculty positions.