

REQUIRED Cover Page

**All applicants please complete this cover page.

APPLICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

Choose one:

[x] Creative activity
[] Research activity
[] Professional
Enhancement activit

Date of ATU Faculty Appointment (Semester and Year): _Fall 2004

1. Project Title: _Using Sibelius Scorch and Podcasting to Improve Musical Skills, rehearsals, Improvisation and Ensemble Performance: A Presentation for the International Jazz Educators Association National Conference.

2. Name of Principal Investigator/Project Director: _Dr. Timothy Howe

3. School (abbrev): _LFA _____4. Department: ______Music

5. Campus Mail Address: WPN 381 6. PI/PD Campus Phone: 968-0618

7. Amount Requested: \$\\$\\$\\$\\$1097 8. Total Cost of Project: \$\\$\\$\\$\\$1697

9. Does this project involve: 10. Duration of Project: September 1, 2006- January 13,2007

Yes No
[] [x] human subjects?
[] [x] animals/animal care facility?

[] [x] human subjects?
[] [x] animals/animal care facility?
[] [x] radioactive materials?
[] [x] hazardous materials?
[] [x] biological agents or toxins restricted by the USA Patriot Act?
[] [x] copyright or patent potential?
[] [x] utilization of space not currently available to the PI/PD?
[] [x] the purchase of equipment/instrumentation/software currently available to the PI/PD?

NOTE: If the answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, the investigator must attach appropriate documentation of approval or justification for use/purchase.

Department Head Date

| 10-13-06

REQUIRED COVER PAGE



This Section to be completed by the Office of Academic Affairs
PDC Committee Award Recommendation: Yes No

B. Abstract

This project will be a cooperative project between Arkansas Tech Music faculty and Arkansas Tech students in the Arkansas Tech Jazz Ensemble. The final product of this project will be two presentations at the International Jazz Educators National Conference (IAJE) in January 2007 entitled: "Jazz on the Run: Podcast Your Rehearsals" and "Scales and Changes: Woodshedding With Sibelius Scorch." Both of these presentations have already been accepted for the IAJE conference. Podcasting and Sibelius Scorch are examples of recent technologies or software products that have given music students and educators new methods for improving performance skills and ensemble rehearsal methods. Podcasting and Sibelius Scorch are both technologies that allow students to download performances or files and then play them back for rehearsal purposes in their personal practice session outside of class. This "rehearsal outside the rehearsal" provides an enhanced context for practice by allowing the student to hear the other musical voices and rhythmic context, which can be extremely useful in the preparation of improvised jazz solos. The goal of this project is to explore the pedagogical value of using these technologies, to gain insight into how they can be successfully utilized by jazz music educators, and to present the results to educators at the IAJE conference.

C. Purpose/Objectives

Dr. Howe is interested in working with these technologies to see if they can improve jazz performance for his students. The project will begin in the fall semester of 2006 with the assistance of ATU faculty members Dr. Deborah Barber, and Holly Ruth Gale, Dr. John Gale from UCA and the ATU Jazz Ensemble. The final product of this experimentation will be the two presentations summarizing the results and providing jazz educators with successful uses for these technologies at the IAJE conference in January 11-13, 2007.

D. Significance/Need

The use of technology to supplement and enhance performance preparation has been part of the music learning environment since the introduction of magnetic tape in fifty years ago. Since then the technology became more and more portable and user friendly, though the basic use was the same: record your product, listen and make adjustments or improvements. In the last fifteen years, the introduction of downloadable digital sound file and mp3 download devices has completely changed the environment. In addition there have been significant upgrades in music writing software. This has led educators in the last few years to try to find ways to use these tools in ways that can extend learning beyond the classroom period in a guided and productive way. Podcasting and scorch are two recent developments that hold great promise. The opportunity to use these technologies tin the classroom and create and share practical empirical data on the use of these technologies will benefit other educators interested in finding ways to improve the quality of their student's musical comprehension and skills.

E. Process for Attainment of Objective and Goals

Podcasting allows individual students to download a rehearsal performance of an individual musical work and then play it back in any number of formats while playing their instrument. The instructor can also create an instructional voiceover to stress important musical concepts. In addition the student can also use the podcast to work an improvisational solo while hearing the ensemble in the rhythmic and harmonic context.

The podcasts will be recorded as an audio and /or video recording and posted on the ATU Jazz podcast page at Podomatic.com (atujazz@podomatic.com). Students will then able to access the podcasts and download them to their computer, to a mp3 device, or burn an audio CD and use them for individual practice. Dr. Deborah Barber will provide technical support for recording

and posting the podcasts. The podcasts will be recorded in two units. The first unit will involve recording the improvisation sections of 4-5 jazz ensemble arrangements. These will include the rhythm section accompaniment and any background accompaniment figures from the winds. The focus of this unit is to improve student improvisation by giving a way to literally practice their solos with the band repetitively. (In the context of a normal classroom rehearsal, they may only get one opportunity every week.) The second unit will focus on vocal jazz singing with big band and will be coordinated with Ms. Holly Ruth Gale. We will podcast several jazz ensemble arrangements that feature a vocal jazz solo. Ms. Gale can then use this podcast in her studio with a few selected students to improve their abilities in jazz vocal techniques. In addition the student can sing with the podcast outside the studio. In a normal classroom situation the student might have 2-3 opportunities to sing the music with the ensemble. This provides an opportunity for much more detailed, guided, and useful work.

Scorch is software related to Sibelius music writing software. Exercises or scores can be created in Sibelius and saved as a Scorch file. The Scorch file can then be made available on a web page or via email to the students and played back on any computer. The advantage to Scorch files over a normal wav file is that the exercise presented in the scorch file may be manipulated by the user with regard to tempo or transposition. In other words the student can take the example and play it faster or slower or put the exercise in a new key or pitch level. This ability to alter the speed and pitch allows the students to be able to play the exercise more successfully and accurately with the playback of the file and use it extend their abilities by learning it in new keys. It could also be used to "woodshed" (i.e. practice difficult passage of music repeatedly to learn it) the music outside the normal rehearsal period and improve the overall performance of the ensemble. My plan for using Scorch is to create two types of files in Sibelius; save them as Scorch files and post them on my webpage for the students to access from there own computers. Several of the

files will be simple jazz exercises based on standard jazz harmonic progressions that are used to help students improvise more easily. The second set of files will be difficult technical passages from several arrangements the jazz ensemble is performing in the fall semester that the students can access and play along with to check for accuracy and intonation.

Timeline for Completion of Project

Deadline Date	Task	Status
September 15, 2006	Preliminary meeting with Barber, Gale, and Howe to plan project	Complete
October 5, 2006	Set up recording dates for pod casts	Complete
October 1-15, 2006	Create Scorch files for posting	Ongoing
October 16-23	Unit One (improvisation) Podcasts recorded and posted	Pending
November 20-27	Unit Two (Vocal Jazz) Podcasts recorded and posted	Pending
January 7, 2007	Discuss the project, prepare presentation for IAJE conference	Pending
January 11-13	Present "Jazz on the Run: Podcast Your Rehearsals" and "Scales and	Pending
	Changes: Woodshedding With Sibelius Scorch." At IAJE	
	Conference	
April 1, 2007	Final written report complete	Pending

F. Dissemination of Results

At the end of the semester we will discuss the results of the projects and formulate the presentation for the IAJE conference in January. Dr. Howe will address the project as a whole, Dr. Barber will present the technical aspects of the project, Ms. Gale will discuss the vocal unit and Mr. John Gale will comment on copyright issues involved in podcasting and Scorch postings. In addition, a written report will evaluate the success of the event as a learning tool and any pedagogical insights gained from this experience.

G. Repeated Requests-N/A

H. Budget: SEE ATTACHED BUDGET SHEET

I. Bibliography: N/A

J. Application Vita: SEE ATTACHED

PROPOSED BUDGET FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT

(include budget categories as appropriate)

1.	Graduate assistant stipend Fringe benefits @ .4% (4/10 percent) of graduate assistant stipend	\$0.00 \$0.00
2.	Non-work study stipend Fringe benefits @ .4% (4/10 percent) of non-work study stipend	\$0.00 \$0.00
3.	*Supplies (please list items to be purchased and estimated price per item including taxes and shipping, if appropriate):	
	Sibelius 4 Software Estimated Price Free Podomatic.com account Laptop Computer for onsite recording (ATU) Digital Video Recorder (ATU)	\$400.00 \$ 0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00
	Total estimated supplies	\$400.00
4.	Travel (please list travel expenditures by date and estimated costs):	
Januar	y 10-13, 2007; IAJE Conference	
	Airfare to New York, NY	\$350.00
	Lodging	\$796.00
	Meals(4 days)	\$112.00
	Ground transportation	\$40.00
LFA T	ravel Grant (pending)	-\$600.00
	Total estimated travel	\$697.00
5.	*Capital Outlay (please list items to be purchased and estimated price per item including taxes and shipping, if appropriate):	
	Total estimated capital outlay	\$0.00
	TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	\$1097.00

^{*}Items purchased under \$2,500 (including taxes and shipping) are considered supply items. Capital Outlay items are those which cost \$2,500 or more (including taxes and shipping). Please contact the Purchasing Office for questionable items.

TIMOTHY HOWE

81A West 16th Place, Russellville, AR 72801 • Telephone: (479)567-9771 email: timothy.howe@atu.edu

EDUCATION

Degrees Awarded:

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, Bachelor of Music in Trombone, 1983 University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Master of Music in Performance, 1996 University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Doctor of Musical Arts in Trombone, with Minor in Music History, 2002

Private Instructors:

Scott Anderson, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, 1996 - Present Vernon Forbes, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, 1993-96 Max Bonecutter, Minnesota Orchestra, 1991-1996 Frank Crisafulli, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, 1979-1983 Art Linsner, Northwestern University, 1979-1983

Additional Education:

Grand Teton Orchestral Seminar, Summer 1984 Hidden Valley Master Class Series with Glenn Dodson, Philadelphia Orchestra, 1986

EXPERIENCE

Orchestral Performance:

Omaha Symphony Association, Second Trombone, 1983 - Present
Des Moines Metro Opera, Principal Trombone, 1987 - Present
Lincoln Symphony Orchestra, Principal Trombone, 1997 - Present
Peninsula Music Festival, Fish Creek, WI, Second Trombone, Summer 1999
Free-Lance Musician, Omaha-Lincoln Area, 1983 - Present
Civic Orchestra of Chicago, various dates, 1981-1983

Chamber Music:

Omaha Symphony Brass Quintet
Omaha Brass Ensemble
University of Nebraska Faculty Brass Quintet
Nebraska Wesleyan University Faculty Brass Trio
Millar Brass Ensemble

Teaching:

Arkansas Tech University, Assistant Professor of Music, 2004-present
University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Graduate Assistant, 1993-1994, 1996-1997
University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Visiting Instructor (Sabbatical Replacement), 1992
Nebraska Wesleyan University, Adjunct Trombone Instructor, 1987 - Present
Union College, Adjunct Low Brass Instructor, 1999 - Present
Grace University, Adjunct Music Faculty, 1987-1996
Dana College, Low Brass Instructor, 1994-1996

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TR-1 revised 02/01/84 [Computer generated form Pre-Audit approved 7/28/94]