

AIRS Newsletter

December, 2010

Advancing Interdisciplinary Research in Singing – SSHRC MCRI

The AIRS SSHRC Major Collaborative Research Initiative is now well into the 2nd year of operations. This newsletter provides an update on some of the recent activities beginning with the AIRS 2nd Annual meeting and moving on to plans for future meetings.

I. AIRS 2nd Annual Meeting, Seattle, August 22nd, 2010.

Over 50 researchers of singing attended the AIRS 2nd Annual Meeting, held in Seattle, at the Watertown Hotel. Approximately half of the attendees were students or young professionals. The 12-hour meeting began at 9 am with teleconferenced greetings from the AIRS Advisory Board members Dr. Hilary Apfelstadt and Dr. Philip Smith, AIRS Advisory Board members. Patricia Campbell, a member of the ICMPC Committee and a Faculty member of the University of Washington offered words of welcome. AIRS Director Annabel Cohen then overviewed the AIRS Project, followed by each of three AIRS Theme Leaders (Frank Russo, Patricia Campbell, and Jennifer Nicol) and several of their respective Sub-Theme Leaders (Christine Tsang, Sandra Trehub, and Rachel Heydon). After a coffee break and poster previewing, members of each of the three themes met separately prior to lunch. During this time, a Digital Library team meeting took place with Jonathan Lane (IT Tech Co-ordinator, UPEI), Ichiro Fujinaga (McGill), and Theresa Leonard (the Banff Centre), augmented later in the day with George Tzanatakis (University of Victoria).

The Technical Program in the afternoon showcased 18 oral presentations and 8 posters representing research in each of the 9 sub-themes conducted over the last year, much of which was inspired by and in part funded by AIRS. The day ended with a Thai dinner buffet and a unique concert performed by AIRS attendees (including participation by the entire group). The program represented the cultures of North India, Iceland, Greece, Atlantic Canada, Tanzania, and France, and American musical theatre and Italian opera. Throughout the day, performance and participatory singing enlivened the more serious program. Thanks go out to each and every one for taking the extra day prior to ICMPC11 to participate and contribute. Many people travelled great distances to attend the AIRS meeting and the efforts of everyone made the AIRS meeting as worthwhile as had been planned.

The printed program included the abstracts and biographies of all presentations and posters, concert program, biographies of performers, music for several songs for the AIRS song book, and annual reports from each of the sub-themes. Photos (soon to be available on the website and a few of which are included in the newsletter), are a reminder of the extensiveness of the program and the positive spirit of co-operation and goodwill resounding during the meeting.

Considerable financial resources are directed to our AIRS annual meetings as these meetings are the one time each year that a good cross-section of the AIRS collaborators, from students to senior researchers, can come together, share ideas and get a sense of the entire scope and progress of the project. The meeting was deliberately held in conjunction with the International Conference on Music Perception and Cognition (ICMPC11) that independently

drew many of the AIRS collaborators to it, and for which many AIRS collaborators had independent funding.

Special interest group meetings. As well as providing an up-to-date overview of the field of music perception and cognition, the 5-day ICMPC conference enabled AIRS collaborators to continue conversations begun at the AIRS Annual meeting. Many took advantage of this opportunity. Themes 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 3.3 also held separate meetings. The meeting of Team 3.3 (Singing and Health) led to the suggestion of sharing of its posters on the AIRS web-site. Members of theme 1.3 (AIRS Test Battery) followed through on its plan of reviewing the various components of the AIRS test battery on the beautiful “free” afternoon of Wednesday, August 25th, continuing throughout the evening, and materializing in plans for next steps. Andrea Emberly, the leader of the Student and Young Professional Group, organized an AIRS pizza lunch the day after the Annual Meeting, with an attendance of over 20 students, recent Ph. D.’s and post-docs. This group now has plans to keep in communication and to produce an annual newsletter.

Specific gratitude in connection with the AIRS 2nd Annual Meeting is expressed to:
(underlined names were present at the meeting)

Theme leaders – Frank Russo, Patricia Campbell, Jennifer Nicol who inspired the effectiveness of their respective Theme and 3 sub-theme teams at the meeting

Sub-theme leaders and co-leaders (underlined were present): Christine Tsang, Laurel Trainor, Sandra Trehub, Darryl Edwards, Andrea Rose, Jennifer Sullivan, Godfrey Baldacchino, Lily Chen-Hafteck, Rachel Heydon for their progress on meeting the goals of their sub-themes

Committee leaders: Ichiro Fujinaga (Digital library), Mary Gick (Intellectual Property, Ethics, Statistics), Andrea Emberly (Student), Caroline van Niekerk

AIRS IT Technical Co-ordinator – Jonathan Lane

AIRS Student Assistant and photographer – Alicia Altass

Help obtaining piano and MCing the AIRS concert – Patricia Campbell

Presenters (only speakers): Chris Roberts, Yohana Leveque, Judy Plantinga, Marju Raju, Stefanie Stadler Elmer, Beatriz Ilari, Johanna Devaney, Sylvain Lamesch, Hans Utter and Utpola Borah, Sandra Cornaz, Jennifer Sullivan, Andrea Emberly & Jane Davidson, Jean Emmerson, Dawn Merrett, Jennifer Nicol, Graham Welch, George Tzanetakis, Kate Stevens, Jonathan Lane, Rena Sharon

Poster (first author or presenter): Yohana Leveque, Rayna Friendly, Amy Fancourt, Lisa Chan, Jennifer Sullivan, Zheng Zhang, Patricia Campbell for Meghan Perdue, Chris Roberts

Performers: Chris Roberts, Hans Utter, Utpola Borah, Helga Gudmundsdottir, George Tzanetakis, Alicia Altass, Kedmon Mapana, Sylvain Lamesch, Dawn Merrett, Jennifer Farrell

Behind the scenes in PEI: Deborah Annear and Kristin MacDonald

Program compilation: Dale Sorensen

Time Keeper: Special thanks to Mary Gick

AIRS at ICMPC. AIRS was also well represented in the formal ICMPC program in two multi-authored talks presented in the large room that was filled to capacity. Clearly there is interest in what AIRS is doing. I would like to thank the presenters Frank Russo, Sandra Trehub, Christine Tsang, Jennifer Nicol, Rachel Heydon and Patricia Campbell for their preparation and

co-ordination of this event. Many of the AIRS collaborators also presented during the ICMPC meeting, and the spirit of AIRS resonated throughout the entire ICMPC conference.

Policy and Planning Committee. The Policy and Planning meeting (comprised of the Theme and Committee Leaders) met on August 21st, the evening prior to the AIRS Annual Meeting. The members provided brief reviews of all sub-themes with respect to the milestone timeline. The primary focus was on future planning and policy development in the context of the achievement of the milestones. It was noted that the development of the first two policies (Policy 1: Student Funding Distribution, and Policy 2: Travel) in the first year was key to mobilizing the activities within each of the sub-themes.

Students from far and wide. Not all AIRS collaborators could attend the AIRS meeting and ICMPC. However, several of them, such as Lauren Stewart, Isabelle Peretz, and Nathalie Henrich, were represented by their students. The large number of student attendees at the Annual Meeting is an AIRS success, as one of the goals of AIRS is to provide students with opportunities to participate in scholarly meetings and interact with peers, and junior and senior scholars. Among these opportunities is also the chance to share cultural perspectives. The AIRS annual meeting achieved this by bringing together researchers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Estonia, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Japan, Poland, Switzerland, Tanzania, United Kingdom, United States, and included persons of Chinese and Greek origin as well. This also led to an eclectic concert program held in the relaxed atmosphere of the Thai restaurant which AIRS had to itself on the evening of the 22nd.

II. Publication news

***1. Island Songs: A Global Repertoire of Roots and Routes* Editor Godfrey Baldacchino**

Godfrey Baldacchino, AIRS co-investigator, Theme 3.1 Co-leader, and Canada Research Chair in Island Studies has signed a book contract with Scarecrow Press (well known for academic publishing with a particular interest in music, song, and singing) for the edited book *Island Songs: A Global Repertoire of Roots and Routes*. The 16 chapters will contribute to this first systematic socio-anthropological and global study of the unfolding bases and practices of contemporary island song using an "Island Studies" lens. Well-done Godfrey!

2. UNESCO OBSERVATORY Special Issue – Larry O'Farrell (guest editor)

Larry O'Farrell has guest edited Vol. 2 Issue 1 of the UNESCO Observatory a peer-reviewed on-line journal. The issue is entitled Perspectives on Singing, and organizes the submissions around the AIRS Theme structure. The URL is

<http://www.abp.unimelb.edu.au/unesco/ejournal/vol-two-issue-one.html>

Congratulations Larry!

In addition to Larry's introductory editorial, the issue contains 14 original research articles representing the three main research themes of AIRS: Development, Education, and Well-being. One third of the papers are written by AIRS co-investigators as listed below:

Larry O'Farrell
Editorial

Theme 1 Development

Sandra E. Trehub, and Rebekah L. Prince
Turkish Lullabies - Lullabies and other Women's Songs in the Turkish Village of Akçaenis

Theme 2 Education

Carol Beynon and André-Louis Heywood
Making their voices heard: A social constructivist study of youth and men who choose to sing

Theme 3 Well-being

Prof. Godfrey Baldacchino
Islands, Songs, Singers and Singing

Prof. Stephen Clift, Jennifer Nicol PhD, Matthew Raisbeck, Christine Whitmore, and Ian Morrison PhD
Group singing, wellbeing and health: A systematic mapping of research evidence

3. The *Psychomusicology: Music, Mind & Brain* –Special double issue on singing

The special double issue of *Psychomusicology: Music, Mind & Brain*, Volume 21 (Co-edited by Annabel J. Cohen and Sandra E. Trehub) will soon go to press with articles on research in singing by Mayumi Adachi and Sandra Trehub, Johanna Devaney and Ichiro Fujinaga, Simone Falk, Mary Gick, Félix Neto, Jaan Ross, Frank Russo, Stefanie Stadler Elmer, Takayuki Nakata and Sandra Trehub, Graham Welch and more, including relevant recent thesis abstracts, book reviews, and translations from China. Thanks to all of the AIRS collaborators who have contributed and Dale Sorensen (dale@psychomusicology.org) who has been working hard on the layout and the web-site For more information on *Psychomusicology* see www.psychomusicology.org. AIRS collaborator Lauren Stewart is one of three Associate Editors of the Journal.

4. New publication committee to form.

Books or monograph are the natural outcome for a project of the scope of the AIRS Major Research Initiative. Already as above, Godfrey Baldacchino will be publishing a book on Island Songs, with submission of the entire manuscript in early 2011, and Larry O'Farrell's special issue in the UNESCO Observatory is already published. Co-ordination of publication initiatives

will be an AIRS priority, aided by the formation of a committee of collaborators interested in this endeavor. If you are interested in participating in this committee please send an e-mail to Deborah Annear (dannear@upei.ca) AIRS Project Manager. The AIRS Steering Committee has endorsed this activity, and specifically, as one publication project, the idea for example of a 3-volume set *on Interdisciplinary Research in Singing*, with one volume representing each of the three AIRS themes: *Volume 1: Development of Singing*, *Volume 2: Singing and Education*, and *Volume 3: Singing and Well-being*. This does not of course preclude other initiatives on either special topics or across themes, and already we are seeing these taking place in the form of special issues of journals and the Baldacchino edited volume.

III. Meeting the AIRS Milestones

Our attention is continually directed to and by the milestone document, from the perspective of the sub-themes, and their cross-fertilization:

Development:

- 1.1 Perception/Production (Christine Tsang, Laurel Trainor – co-leads)
- 1.2 Multimodal (Frank Russo, Sandra Trehub – co-leads)
- 1.3 AIRS Test Battery (Annabel Cohen – lead)

Education:

- 2. 1 Learning to sing naturally (Patricia Campbell – lead)
- 2.2 Formal training (Darryl Edward – lead)
- 2.3 Teaching through singing (Andrea Rose, Jennifer Sullivan – co-leads)

Well-being:

- 3. 1 Cross-cultural understanding (Godfrey Baldacchino, Lily Chen-Hafteck co-leads)
- 3.2 Intergenerational understanding (Rachel Heydon, -lead)
- 3.3 Health benefits of singing (Jennifer Nicol – lead)

Whereas in Year 1, the Sub-theme leaders focused on providing a foundation for their sub-theme, as a result, this year they are in better position of engaging all members of the sub-theme in achieving the milestones for the sub-theme. At the same time, collaborations across sub-themes within and across the three major themes are taking place and are highly consistent with the Milestone goals. The SSHRC agency has funded a set of integrated projects which could not take place without the grant. AIRS research thrives through the sharing of information, and through the good-will among collaborators.

Communications. The home base at UPEI is committed to creating an effective communication center. We have gone for a year without a fully functioning web-site and without a digital library. In part this arose as a result of the restructuring of basic digital technologies by the Library Digital Team at UPEI. This activity seems to have been completed and no longer provides a bottleneck to our progress. Effort is being made to acquire more assistance in the management of communications so that members of the entire network are

easily informed, so that meetings can be set within and among sub-themes, and so that information is posted appropriately in public and private areas. Your feedback on communications or concerns about communications is welcomed. Suggestions of what you would like to see on the web-site are welcome. Please send these to jmlane@upei.ca (Technical co-ordinator, and/or Annabel Cohen acohen@upei.ca). If you would like to meet remotely to discuss the web-site please let us know. We are looking for volunteers to give opinions and feedback.

Importance of the Milestone document. A complex network of collaborators needs both a solid foundation and specific goals like the ones we have stated in the document for each sub-theme. The Milestone document and the AIRS overall research organizational structure are solid. If we focus on these specific sub-themes, as described in the Milestone document and as evident in our organizational structure, it will be easier to address the issue of overlap among sub-themes. If the sub-themes are too vague, interesting overlaps and synergies will not emerge because of the general heterogeneity. It is the job of the sub-theme leaders or co-leaders to address the goals and time-lines of the Milestone document for their sub-theme with the help of the members in their sub-theme. This could well entail a sub-theme group problem-solving session about how best to address the milestone goals.

Plea to team leaders and members. Annabel Cohen, the AIRS Director, asks that team leaders, sub-theme leaders, and sub-theme members focus on the milestone document because the accomplishment of the goals for the sub-theme is needed for the project as a whole. All participants in the sub-theme do not need to be simultaneously active, but openness is needed to those who are not currently involved and would like to be. Eventually everyone who belongs to a sub-theme will play a key role in the sub-theme. Funding is always less than is needed, but with bright persons collaborating on important problems, the possibility of obtaining additional resources presents itself as does the possibility of achieving the research goals with the clever use of funds and human and other resources available. SSHRC MCRI grants might be regarded as providing seed money that can enable additional grants. Bright students interested in singing will hopefully be competitive in non-AIRS competitions so that they can work with you. Already we have examples of this. AIRS funding resources next year (Year 3) are slightly more than in Year 2. A new competition for student support will soon be upon us (deadline in late January), and each sub-theme once again will be asked to submit proposals based on projects submitted by members of the subtheme (as per our Policy #1 on Student Funding). Year 3 funding also supports a new AIRS post-doctoral fellow position and decisions will be made by the Policy and Planning Committee regarding how this position will be advertised. If you or your students are not as involved in AIRS as you would like to be, please contact the theme leader of your group and simply state this fact, or send a memo to Debora Annear (dannear@upei.ca) with a copy to Annabel Cohen (acohen@upei.ca). If you need an e-mail address for your theme leader contact Deborah Annear.

Students. AIRS is grateful to the many students, from undergraduate to postdoctoral, who have a focus on research on singing. They will be most helpful in meeting the goals of AIRS. Due to the meeting during ICMPC in Seattle, organized by Andrea Emberly, they are developing their own community, and they will also produce a private bi-annual blog and one

public annual AIRS newsletter. With inspirational interchanges with their faculty collaborators of AIRS, AIRS will advance interdisciplinary research in singing as intended. If you have students who are not connected with the AIRS student and young professional group, please send a note to Andrea Emberly who will contact the student, or send Andrea's e-mail address to the student (amember@uw.edu).

IV. News of AIRS Collaborators and Students

Jennifer Nicol – New Editor of CJMT.

Congratulations to Jennifer Nicol who has been appointed the new Editor of the Canadian Journal of Music Therapy. She will stay on as team leader of Theme 3.3 Singing and Health and Well-being, but is stepping down from her position as Leader of Theme 3. Mary Gick has agreed to replace Jennifer in May. Mary has already served in this capacity for one year, when Jennifer delayed taking on the position until the 2nd year of AIRS.

Kedmon Mapana off to Tanzania – toward 2.1 goals what children sing naturally

Under the supervision of Dr. Patricia Campbell, graduate student Kedmon Mapana is off to examine the songs of the Wagogo children of Central Tanzania. The Wagogo are a Bantu ethnic group of rural Tanzania living in pastoral and agricultural communities situated about 300 miles inland from the Indian Ocean. Wagogo vocal music is characteristically polyphonic, with melodies set in a modal system. While collection, analysis, and interpretation of Wagogo children's songs are the main points of the project, there are several questions worthy of examination: What is the musical content of these songs, particularly with regard to melodic, rhythmic, and textural components? What are the texts and topics of the songs? Can children sing these traditional harmonies, or do they sing in unison? At what point do Wagogo children begin to harmonize, vocally? Are there developmental stages at which children sing particular songs? With his audiovideo recorder in hand, Kedmon will be bringing back to Seattle answers to these important questions with some of his materials to be imported to the digital library.

Henrietta Lempert from 2.3 Using singing to teach

Henrietta Lempert's AIRS project has potential implications for post-critical period second language learning. It examines whether singing voice enhances acquisition of novel morphosyntax compared to speaking voice prosody. She reports that the project is on schedule, thanks to her team of amazing, musically talented undergraduate students – Wen (Wendy) Xin, who has training in classical singing, and makes artificial language sequences sound aesthetically pleasing, Michal Chawel, whose music editing expertise is at the heart of their good progress, and Shabam Olga Nasimi, who ensures they are adhering to Wen's musical script. Experiment 1 is ready for piloting in January 2011, with the ethics review well behind them.

Graduate student Sally Busch wins CIHR graduate award

Sally Busch a graduate student of Mary Gick's has recently learned that she has won a Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) - Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master's Award. This prestigious award will enable her to move efficiently in her research on the role of singing in health (Theme 3) under Dr. Gick's supervision.

Theme 3.2 Intergenerational Singing Program soon to be rolled out.

Suzie O'Neill an AIRS co-investigator with **Rachel Heydon** and **Carol Beynon** at the University of Western Ontario focusing on the Theme 3.2 Singing and Intergenerational Understanding has recently taken a position at Simon Fraser University in the Faculty of Education. Carol Beynon recently took on the position of Dean of Education at the University of Western Ontario. With theme leader Rachel Heydon, the dedicated trio has been humming along with their various activities in Theme 3.2, and they will roll out their first Intergenerational (IG) singing program in January at the London Ontario site. They have been meeting frequently, “and are really excited. The curriculum promises to be novel but well grounded and is based on their previous research and experience.” reports Carol Beynon.

Cross-cultural understanding through singing: classrooms in Portugal – Theme 3.1

An important study on the role of singing in reducing prejudiced attitudes had been conducted by **Félix Neto** and his colleagues M. Sousa and E. Mullet “Can music change ethnic attitudes among children?”. *Psychology of Music*, 33, 304-316. It was important to replicate and extend this study, and Félix Neto reports that with the help of AIRS the study has now been extended and is underway.

Developing a songbook for China, Kenya, Brazil and Canada – Theme 3.1

A further approach to the study of cross-cultural understanding through singing is the project led by **Lily Chen-Hafteck** that entails teaching the songs of China, Kenya, Brazil and Canada to Grade 5 children in these 4 countries. Members from each of the countries met at Kean University in March at a conference on Creativity and Education (organized by Lily Chen-Hafteck) and later at the International Society for Music Education meeting in Beijing. The development of a song-book of the four cultures is underway. Elizabeth Adango has made much progress on the Kenyan collection already. The compilation includes not only audio materials but also pictorial and possibly video.

V. AIRS 3rd Annual Meeting – St. John’s Nfld. July 10, 2011

Preliminary Announcement

The AIRS 3rd Annual Meeting will take place in St. John’s Newfoundland on July 10th in conjunction with the Festival 500 and the Phenomenon of Singing International Symposium VIII. The Policy and Planning Committee Meeting (for Theme leaders, Committee Leaders) will take place on July 9th (Saturday) beginning early evening. The morning of July 10th will be devoted to the review of the work of AIRS of the last 12 months year bringing all members in attendance onto the same page and providing opportunities for the AIRS collaborators to meet together in person. The afternoon will feature research presentations by AIRS collaborators and co-investigators including some students. This will be a plenary session not only for AIRS researchers but also for the Phenomenon of Singing Symposium as a whole. An AIRS poster session will also take place that day. Dr. Andrea Rose, cocoordinator of the Festival 500 and Symposium will also provide opportunities for AIRS research to be presented throughout the Phenomenon of Singing Symposium proper, and some of the AIRS members have already made

submissions earlier to that effect. Additional abstracts will still be considered. These will be sent first to AIRS with an indication as whether the contributor would be happy to present at either the AIRS annual meeting or at the Festival 500 Symposium.

Similar to last year, travel support for at least one student from each of the 9 sub-themes will be awarded through a competition entailing submission of forms associated with the AIRS Travel Policy, which will shortly be available on the web-site. Each Theme Leader and sub-theme leader should see to it that at least one candidate from each sub-theme is encouraged to submit an application. More submissions are of course welcome. Support will also be provided to key members of the policy and planning committee. All AIRS collaborators are urged to consider attending this meeting. Efforts will be made to obtain additional sources of funding, and we encourage all collaborators to attempt to seek out their own funding if at all possible. Funds will be used in the first instance to assure a program representing excellent scholarship as well as an appropriate balance and representation of the AIRS themes, disciplines, and geographic and culture, with a focus also on those collaborators who have been actively pursuing the AIRS goals.

Necessary forms for abstract submission and request for travel support will soon be made available on the AIRS web-site.

VI. AIRS 4th Annual Meeting and Mid-Term Review – UPEI, Aug. 2012

Though it seems far off now, the AIRS 4th Annual meeting (August, 2012) is a most important one, and will take place at the University of Prince Edward Island in late August coinciding with the mid-term review. An external review Committee selected by SSHRC will be on site during part of this time, reviewing the progress of AIRS with respect to the milestone document. The summer of 2012 is that of the ICMPC12, which will take place in Athens in July 23-28, 2012 co-ordinating with the preceding ISME biennial meeting which is also to take place in Athens. Due to the mid-term review, the AIRS Annual meeting must take place in PEI, however, from a timing standpoint, it will still be possible for participants to attend all meetings, and for AIRS to be represented in some way at ICMPC and ISME.

VII. Future Meetings of interest to AIRS Collaborators

Other opportunities for AIRS members to come together are provided by many other meetings at which symposia, paper sessions, or poster groupings might be welcome. At such meetings, it might be possible to schedule a special pre- or post- meeting workshop, focusing on a special topic connected to singing, or such a session might be incorporated into the program. Please think about these possibilities. Last year there were AIRS sessions or gatherings at a number of meetings: Canadian Acoustical Association (Niagara on the Lake), Canadian Arts and Learning Symposium (Toronto), Educating the Creative Mind (Union, New Jersey), MENC (Anaheim), ISME (Beijing), and of course ICMPC (Seattle). Currently organization of a symposium for the International Symposium on Performance Science is being initiated by Frank Russo.

The following is a list of conferences of possible interest to AIRS members. Deadlines are shown only if they have not passed.

All dates in 2011

- Crossing the corpus collosum II: Neuroscience, healing and music - A symposium hosted by the Longwood Symphony Orchestra and The Lab at Harvard
<http://longwoodsymphony.org/neurosciencesymposium.html> Confirmed speakers include AIRS collaborators Laurel Trainor and Gottfried Schlaug. See also Psyche Loui (AIRS collaborator) for more details ploui@bidmc.harvard.edu **January 29**, Harvard University
- Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, **Mar 31 – April 2**
- Canadian Association of Music Therapy **May 5 – 7**, deadline Feb. 28.
- RJCP 2011: Les Rencontres des Jeunes Chercheurs en Parole -Young Researchers in Speech Conference. www.gipsa-lab.inpg.fr/colloques/RJCP/ **May 25-27**, Grenoble, France
- Canadian Psychological Association, Toronto, **June 2 – 4**
- Neuromusic IV – Edinburgh **June 9 – 12**, poster deadline Mar. 15.
- Canadian Society for Brain, Behavior & Cognitive Science, Winnipeg, **June 24-26**
- International Society for Education through Art (InSEA) World Congress, Budapest, **June 26-30**. <http://insea2011.org/>- deadline Dec. 15
- Phenomenon of Singing 8 **July 10 – 13** / and 41st World Conference of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM), **July 13-19**, St. John's Newfoundland –deadline passed, but special consideration will be given to AIRS submissions for inclusion in the main program, via first submitting abstract to AIRS in conjunction with the AIRS 3rd Annual meeting to be held July 10th in conjunction with the other meetings.
- Asia-Pacific Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music (APSCOM)
<http://en.musicpsy.com/d270950914.htm> meeting will take place in China 11th-14th July, 2011
- Society for Music Perception and Cognition, Rochester New York, **Aug 11 – 14**,
<http://www.esm.rochester.edu/smpc2011/> **deadline Feb. 1.**
- International Symposium on Performance Science, University of Toronto, **August 24 – 27** Please drop Frank Russo a note (russo@upei.ca) in co with contributing to an AIRS symposium at this meeting should you be interested.

All dates below are during 2012

- AIRS 4th Annual Meeting and Mid-term Review, late in August, 2012 (date to be finalized), to be held at University of Prince Edward Island and the city of Charlottetown.
- 2nd International Conference on Music and Emotion
<http://www.music.uwa.edu.au/research/power-of-music/icme>, organizer Jane Davidson,
 30 Nov – 2 Dec, 2011.

VIII. Other news

Past 1-Day Summer Workshop at UPEI – Focus on Singing and Development, Education & Well-Being .

Each year that the Annual Meeting does not take place in PEI, a regional meeting is held as part of the AIRS mandate. On August 12, 2010, a full-day program plus evening concert took place co-organized with AIRS Post-doctoral Fellow Anick Lamarche. Key-note speaker was Psyche Loui from Harvard Medical School. Introductory remarks were offered by the UPEI Dean of Arts Richard Kurial, and Chair of the Psychology Department and AIRS Advisory Board Member Philip Smith. Annabel Cohen provided an overview of AIRS, and the AIRS Test Battery. Presentations were made by AIRS members in the vicinity: Jennifer Sullivan (St. Francis Xavier University), Martha Gabriel (UPEI), and Godfrey Baldachino (UPEI), as well as the visiting summer research students Lauren Mitchell, Kamille La Rosa, and Kuori Akagi (all from Kalamazoo College, Michigan), and Ruth Reveal (from Agnes Scott College in Georgia), UPEI Music student Kelly Leighton, doctoral student Andreas Hirt (University of Otago – New Zealand) and Jonathan Lane (AIRS Tech Coordinator). AIRS member Sung-Ha Shin-Bouey gave a workshop on basic steps to singing, and an Open-House behind the scenes AIRS Laboratory visit was provided. AIRS partner Young at Heart Musical Theatre for Seniors Inc was represented by its Director, Catherine O'Brien. Eva Götell from Sweden made a presentation via videoconference on caregiver singing for dementia patients. Local music therapist Elizabeth Gallant also made a presentation. An evening concert featured vocal performers: Collette Cheverie, Jennifer Farrell, Riley Sorensen, Sylvia AbiKhattar-Mutch, Anick Lamarche, Andreas Hirt, Ruth Reveal, Tara Llewelyn, Tony Reddin, Teresa Doyle, Meaghan and Bridgette Blanchard, Pierce Clarke, Michelle Bouey, and Sung Ha Shin-Bouey. They well represented the Vocal Mosaic of AIRS with a variety of styles including American ballad, opera (Monteverdi, Verdi, Gounod, Mozart, Strauss), musical theatre, Gaelic, Scottish (with harp accompaniment), and English folksongs, Spanish (de Falla, accompanied by guitar), the Beatles, and Spirituals. The assistance of students Kristin MacDonald and Denise Beaton, and of Deborah Annear, Dale Sorenson and Robert Drew is also acknowledged.

Such an AIRS summer one-day workshop, open to and involving the community, could be mounted wherever there are several AIRS researchers or students working nearby. It does take

some time and planning. AIRS headquarters can provide some help should you wish to initiate this activity on your own campus or community.

AIRS Regional Workshop July 2011 and HITS for Education Conference

A summer 1-day regional meeting for AIRS will take place in Prince Edward Island at the end of July. Please consider participating, if you are planning to be in the PEI area at this time. The 2nd and final HITS for Education Conference (Harnessing Images Text and Sound for Education in the context of Culture, Media, Technology and Cognition) will take place also at the end of July at UPEI. This meeting also preceded the 1st (Start-up) AIRS meeting, in June, 2009, and included several AIRS members interested in media and education.

Future AIRS Committee Meetings

The Steering Committee meets monthly, the Policy and Planning Committee will meet again in early 2011, and we hope to encourage group meetings via Skype for each sub-theme. Stay tuned for meetings of a new Publication Committee, the Intellectual Property, Ethics, and Stats Committee (Co-chair Jennifer Sullivan and Mary Gick), and the Global Committee. This latter committee would welcome persons with expertise particularly in the area of intellectual property.

Data in search of an AIRS Researcher/analyst

Of particular interest to 2.2 Formal Training in Singing, but possibly others, Professor Roger Chaffin of the Department of Psychology, University of Connecticut roger.chaffin@uconn.edu began singing lessons recently (in mid-life). He recorded his voice lessons for a year. He also recorded some of his practice sessions. He is an experienced researcher in the study of performance practice, having co-authored a book on the subject as it applies to piano performance, cf., Chaffin, R., Imreh, G., & Crawford, M. (2002). *Practicing perfection: Memory and piano performance*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum Associates. (Available at orders@erlbaum.com) * He is offering to make available his voice-lesson recordings should an AIRS researcher (s) or student be interested in tracking progress or change in conjunction with training in the voice studio. He would likely be a willing collaborator on the project, given his background.

Questionnaire Data in search of student assistant(s)

Over 40 on-line questionnaires about singing lessons in later life have been completed and are available for qualitative and quantitative analysis by a student having experience and interest in this. The amount of work envisioned would be 35 hours at graduate-student salary (funded through AIRS). Two students may be hired for 35 hours. Please contact acohen@upe.ca for more information if you know of someone interested. The work is in conjunction with Theme 3.3 Singing and well-being, but overlaps with the other two themes (Development and Education).

Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellowship Opportunity in Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience

Applications are sought for graduate and postdoctoral fellowships offered by the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience (ACN) Training Network, which provides 1-2 years of stipends to graduate students and postdocs to undertake ACN research at McGill University, McMaster University, and University of Montreal, the Rotman Research Institute, and the Montreal

Neurological Institute. Citizens of all countries are eligible. Positions begin Sept, 2011. The deadline for Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellowship applications is **January 14, 2011**. Full application details are available at www.acn-create.org/admissions/.

Eligible mentors who are AIRS co-investigators or collaborators are:

Caroline Palmer caroline.palmer@mcgill.ca

Isabelle Peretz isabelle.peretz@umontreal.ca

Sandra Trehub Sandra.trehub@utoronto.ca

Laurel Trainor ljt@mcmaster.ca

Steven Brown stebro@mcmaster.ca

AIRS Postdoctoral Fellowship 2011-2012 Preliminary Announcement

A competition for one AIRS Postdoctoral Fellowship will shortly be announced on various web-sites and to the AIRS community. The award will be made to the applicant who is strongly qualified in and committed to research in singing and whose program of research for the year of the award aims to address one or more of the AIRS milestones. The fellowship will be held in conjunction with one AIRS co-investigator. The application is open to a person of any citizenship, however non-Canadians can only apply to work in Canada while Canadians may apply to work in Canada or abroad. Supervisors must be AIRS collaborators or co-investigators. Potential supervisors should send an e-mail to Deborah Annear (dannear@upei.ca) so that their names may be made available to applicants. The application would consist of a resume of the application, a research plan, names of three referees, and a letter of support from the proposed supervisor. More details will be forthcoming. Application data is February 15th, 2010 and Announcement is expected by March 31st 2011. A second postdoctoral fellowship will be awarded the following year.

Digital Library Development – Request for sample data from Jonathan Lane, AIRS Technical Co-ordinator. Please see the letter on page 14.

Final Remarks

The news reported in these pages is but the tip of the iceberg. There is so much going on, and we will read about this in our next annual report. The co-operation to date has been astounding and the current AIRS activities show it. Multidisciplinary work especially across distances and cultures is hard but the rewards are many as we listen to each other with open ears, minds and hearts. Please keep the Milestone document in central attention too. If you do not have one please contact Deborah Annear (dannear@upei.ca).

I look forward to much exciting progress as we move through milestones and as the data pour in and the publications and presentations go out. Realizing it is not that simple, I wish you all well in the exciting and potentially groundbreaking work ahead. Do mark the next two AIRS Annual Meetings on your calendar – the 3rd Annual meeting- July 10, 2011 Newfoundland and the 4th Annual meeting and mid-term review at the end of August, 2012, Charlottetown, PEI.

Annabel Cohen, Ph. D., ARCT

Director AIRS

acohen@upei.ca

IX. Update on the AIRS Digital Library and the AIRS Web-site

From IT Co-ordinator Jonathan Lane

December 10, 2011

Dear AIRS members,

The AIRS Digital Library Team has been busy working on the design of a robust and accessible data architecture scheme for our Digital Library application. We have also discussed the possibility of integrating the research data to be collected by AIRS and stored in our Digital Library, with the audio analysis tools under development by Dr. George Tzanetakis and his research staff, at University of Victoria. This is an exciting prospect for the future of the AIRS Digital Library and a collaboration we really hope to foster in the near future, with the help of AIRS researchers who have been or are currently are engaged in data collection.

This is where we ask for your help: In order to properly design the underlying data structure for the Digital Library, we will need example research data from researchers who are collecting data with the intent of contributing that data to the Digital Library. At this point, we need to establish a technical map of the data being collected by the research groups in each AIRS sub-theme. This will allow us to start answering the outstanding questions of how do we best store, preserve, and access our data. What we ask is that you provide a sample of data that is being created/collected by your current AIRS-related projects. Representation from each sub-theme would be highly beneficial, so please check with your intra-theme colleagues and sub-theme leader about your ideal data submission. Formatting and quality is not an issue currently, since we will be establishing data standards based on what is being used currently in AIRS and what is considered "best practice" for these data types. Please send us copies of original data, as recorded, so we have a clear picture of what kind of data individual groups will be generating, before compression for storage.

This sample data will also enable us to have some early data objects to test the integration with Dr. Tzanetakis' analysis tools, which is sounds very promising for AIRS and audio analysis in general.

For those who have concerns regarding privacy and security of data samples provided to the Digital Library Team, rest assured that any sample data we receive will only be visible to developers and testers of the Digital Library project, all whom will be members of AIRS. Neither the test system nor the data will be visible to the public at any time. All data samples can be sent to the AIRS Information Technology Coordinator, Jonathan M. Lane. His email is jmlaner@upei.ca, and you can reach him by phone at the AIRS office, +1 (902) 566-6023. Most data samples will be too large in file size to send via email, so we will arrange for a "dropbox" service to be listed on our Web site (<http://www.airsplace.ca/>) to upload large data files and/or archives.

If you have any questions or concerns about the requested data samples or an aspect of the Digital Library project, feel free to contact Jonathan. We also welcome any AIRS members who wish to be involved in the Digital Library Team to contact us for inclusion in future meetings and discussion.

Best regards,

Jonathan M. Lane
Information Technology Coordinator
AIRS: Advancing Interdisciplinary Research in Singing, SSHRC MCRI

Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Cognition, Multimedia, Technology, & Culture (CMTC)
Laboratory

Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, C1A 4P3

+1 (902) 566-6023—Lab +1 (902) 940-2320—Mobile

<http://airsplace.ca>

X. Attendees and Student Awards: AIRS 2nd Annual Meeting

Faculty members attending

Mayumi Adachi, Psychology, University of Hokkaido, Japan
 Margaret Barrett, Music Education, University of Queensland, Australia
 Patricia Campbell, AIRS Theme 2 Leader, Music Education, University of Seattle
 Annabel Cohen, AIRS Director, Psychology, University of Prince Edward Island, CA
 Simone Dalla Bella, Psychology, University of Finance and Management, Poland
 Jane Davidson, Music, University of Western Australia, Perth
 Ichiro Fujinaga, Music Technology, McGill University, CA
 Rachel Heydon, Education, University of Western Ontario, CA
 Beatriz Ilari, Music, Federal University of Paraná, Brazil
 Mary Gick, Psychology, Carleton University, CA
 Helga Guttmonsdottir, Education, Iceland University of Education, Iceland
 Theresa Leonard, Audio Recording, Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta, CA
 Jennifer Nicol, AIRS Theme 3 Leader Educational Psychology & Spec. Education, Univ. Saskatchewan, CA
 Susan O'Neill, Education, Simon Fraser University, BC, CA
 Jaan Ross, Musicology, University of Tartu, Estonia
 Frank Russo, AIRS Theme 1 Leader, Psychology, Ryerson University, Toronto, CA
 Rena Sharon, Director VISI, Music, University of British Columbia, CA
 Stefanie Stadler Elmer, Developmental Psychology, University of Zurich, Switzerland
 Catherine Stevens, Associate Director MARCS, University of Western Sydney, Australia
 Jennifer Sullivan, Psychology, St. Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, CA
 Laurel Trainor, Director McMaster Institute for Music and Mind, Hamilton, Ont., CA
 Sandra Trehub, Psychology, University of Toronto and BRAMS, Montreal, CA
 Christine Tsang, Psychology, Huron University College, London, Ont., CA
 George Tzanetakis, Computer Science, University of Victoria, British Columbia, CA
 Graham Welch, Institute of Education, University of London, UK
 Robert Faulkner, Music, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
 Kay Kleinerman, Institute of Transpersonal Psychology, California, USA
 Jim Sparks, Langley Fine Arts School, Fort Langley, British Columbia, BC
 Steve Demorest (Chair ICMPC, brief welcome), Music Education, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Students – Young Professionals – AIRS Annual Meeting Attendance 2010

*indicates travel grants applied for and awarded from AIRS for travel to the AIRS Annual Meeting.

- Alicia Altass, master's student, Mount Saint Vincent, Nova Scotia, Canada – assisting AIRS
- *Utpola Borah, Ph. D., musicologist, independent researcher, music of North India, Columbus, Ohio
- *Lisa Chan, Ph. D. doctoral student, Psychology, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada
- *Sandra Cornaz, doctoral student, Department of Language Sciences, University of Grenoble, France
- Johanna Devaney, doctoral student, Music Technology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada
- *Andrea Emberly, Ph.D. (2009), Postdoctoral Fellow, Music, University of Western Australia, AU
- *Jeanne Emmerson, doctoral student, Educat. Psychology & Spec. Education, U. Saskatchewan, Canada
- Simone Falk, Ph. D. (2008), lecturer, Germanic Linguistics, Ludwig-Maximilians-Univ., Munich, Germany
- *Amy Fancourt, doctoral student, Psychology (Music, Mind & Brain), Univ. London, Goldsmiths, UK
- Jennifer Farrell, D. Mus (2010), University of British Columbia, Canada
- *Rena Friendly, doctoral student, Psychology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada
- *Sylvain Lamesch, Ph. D. (2010), LAM-IJLRA, Paris, France
- Jonathan Lane, AIRS Technical Coordinator, UPEI, Canada
- *Yohana Leveque, doctoral student Language Sciences, University of Aix-en-Provence, France
- Dawn Merritt, doctoral student, Clinical Neuropsychology, University of Melbourne, Australia
- *Judy Platinga, postdoctoral fellow, Psychology, University of Toronto, Canada
- Marju Raju, doctoral student, Musicology, Estonia Academy of Music and Theatre, Estonia
- Christopher Roberts, doctoral student, Music Education, University of Seattle, Washington, USA
- *Hans Utter, doctoral student, ethnomusicology, Ohio State University, USA
- Kedmon Mapana, doctoral student, Music Education, Seattle Pacific University, Washington, USA
- *Zheng Zhang, doctoral student, Education, University of Western Ontario, London, Canada

Awards:

There were 12 AIRS travel grants awarded as noted above. Congratulations to all students who applied and were successful. It is appreciated that some students received awards from other sources that enabled travel. Congratulations on receiving those awards. Student presentations and posters were all of high caliber and were exciting and informative, and every student presenter (and performer) deserves thanks, encouragement, and congratulations. AIRS Annual Meeting Presentation Awards were made to one student presenter from each of the three AIRS Research Themes, and one award was given for the best poster. Congratulations on these awards go to (affiliations shown above):

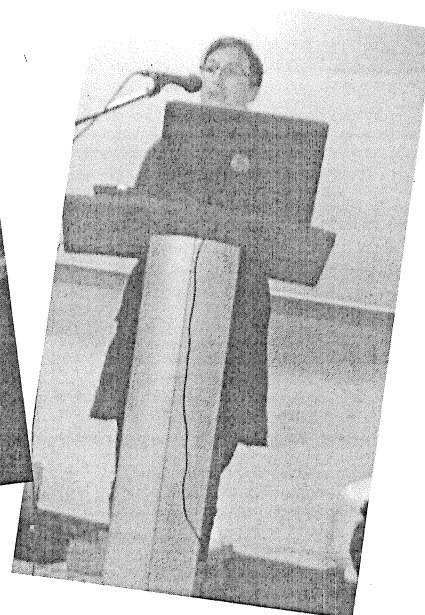
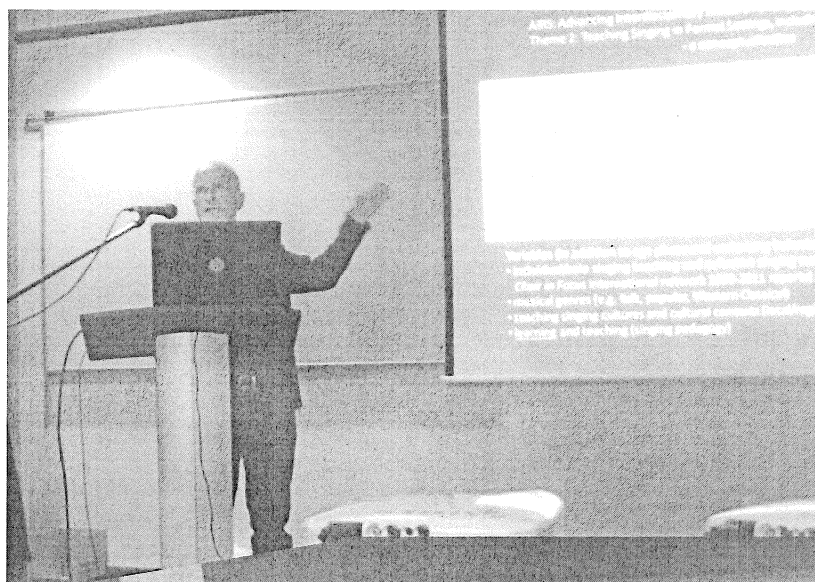
Theme 1:	Marju Raju
Theme 2:	Sylvain Lamèche
Theme 3:	Dawn Merrett
Poster:	Amy Fancourt

XI. Photos
AIRS 2nd Annual
General
Meeting - Seattle

Graham Welch (discussing 2.2)
 – right

Christine Tsang (1.1) –middle

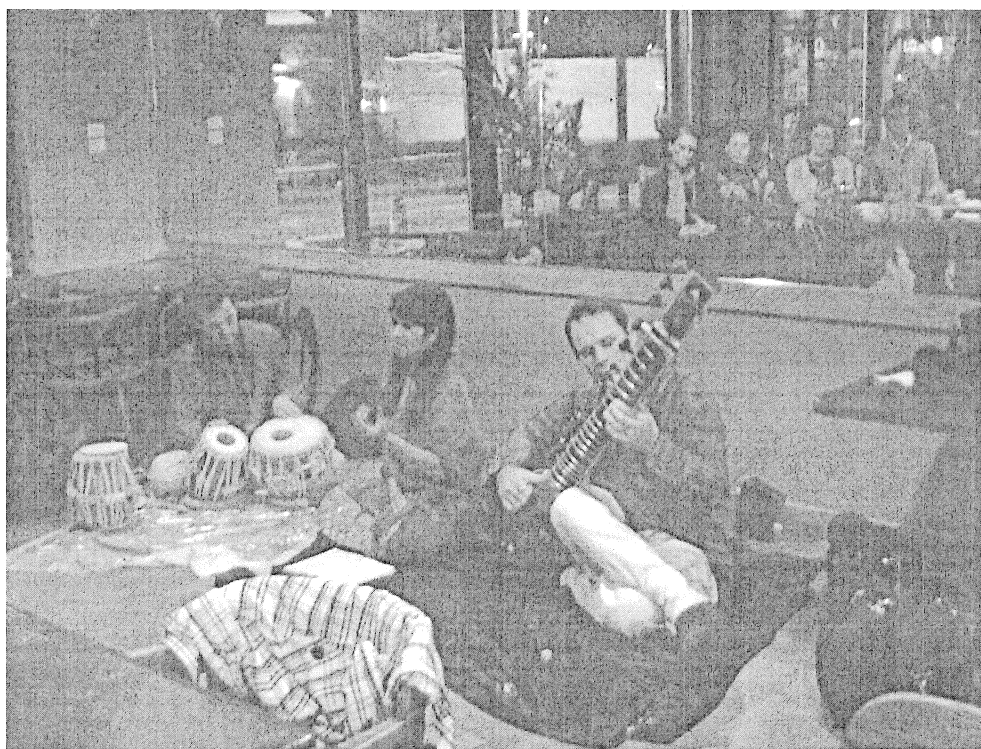
Andrea Emberly (student young
 professional group) -bottom



AIRS 2nd Annual General Meeting - Concert following dinner



Kedmon Mapana
engages everyone in a
song from Wagogo
village in central
Tanzania



Hans Utter (sitar) and
Utpola Borah (vocal)
present music of North
India