

## On the MaHRC

The Newsletter of the Music and Health Research Collaboratory  
April 6, 2012

### **MaHRC Receives Final Approval from Faculty Council**

The instituting process for an “Extra Departmental Unit – Type C,” which is how MaHRC is designated, involves approval from the Provost’s Advisory Group (achieved on January 16, 2012) plus an internal process. The internal process distributed a copy of the proposal to the Faculty Council on January 31, saw a discussion and approval by the Research Committee of Faculty Council on March 6, and a final vote of approval by Faculty Council. This took place successfully on March 27, 2012. MaHRC now begins the process of appointing members and facilitating new research collaborations.

### **MaHRC participating with Bloorview on CFI Application**

A proposal to establish “Infrastructure to study and exploit physiological and behavioral synchrony” is in progress under the leadership of Dr. Tom Chau, the new Director of Research at the Bloorview research Institute. If awarded, MaHRC will be a partner in this new research facility with the intention of developing a series of studies focused on physiological and neurological synchrony mediated by music. This would have specific application to the subtle relationships, for example between members of an ensemble, performer and audience, and teacher and student. Implications could extend to learning and communication effectiveness, as well as potential mental and emotional health.

### **Videos from Colloquy on Music in Health and Medicine now on YouTube**

Selected presentations from the Colloquy on Music in Health and Medicine held on November 29 as part of the formation of MaHRC as now available online for viewing. Follow the links below:

Don McLean

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1IBqjIpFoGc&context=C4813b1aADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJFK-NP9Q0aOALAqBTiIc2dQ=>

Tom Chau

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aNy0eVoa7k&context=C4fc7df5ADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJBOMEV16HT7oJtIXkFPvQhI=>

Heidi Ahonen

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Go3PZi1oc8&context=C4381721ADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJKlJspZBpkpECnHjYj\\_K-iE=](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Go3PZi1oc8&context=C4381721ADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJKlJspZBpkpECnHjYj_K-iE=)

Dr. Joseph Chen

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai4y\\_xyJlaA&context=C4ee2895ADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJE8Yv05o\\_fldkd-Advvfzyw=](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ai4y_xyJlaA&context=C4ee2895ADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJE8Yv05o_fldkd-Advvfzyw=)

Dr. John Chong

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qghV0te1A48&context=C418796bADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJMDKZsgMJ36gfMhgmHJB0kg=>

Dr. John Axler

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11wTdqiVNGo&context=C444274fADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJI0ieD8dTIe5wS9mEhpFc0=>

Dr. David Alter

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K5RR-q3yA94&context=C466bb2dADvjVQa1PpcFO0GvJOymgAJNCLz8sTM0twpruEELiufY=> This video is slightly damaged but still viewable.

### **Globe Article: Tapping Music's Power to Heal the Brain**

On February 19, 2012 the Globe & Mail ran an article featuring Amy Clements-Cortes, Takako Fujioka, and Jessica Grahn. It also mentioned the development of MaHRC.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/health/new-health/conditions/brain-health/tapping-musics-power-to-heal-the-brain/article2342397/page1/>

### **Connaught Global Challenge Grant Application by MaHRC Team**

A proposal for a project titled, “Synergistic Research Program In Music Medicine In Aging” was submitted on April 2 to the Connaught Global Challenge competition. The team lead by Acting Director of MaHRC, Lee Bartel, consists of Co-applicants **Don McLean**, Dean of the Faculty of Music and Professor of Music Theory; **Dr. David Alter**, Senior Scientist, Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, Cardiologist in the Department of Medicine, St. Michael's Hospital; **Dr. Joseph Chen**, Otolaryngologist-in-Chief at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre; **Dr. Allan Gordon**, Clinical Neurologist and Director of the Wasser Pain Management Centre, Mount Sinai Hospital; **Bernard Ross**, Senior Scientist, Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Centre; **Michael J Evans**, Professor of theoretical statistics and biostatistics with cross-appointment to the Dalla Lana School of Public Health; **Rebecca Renwick**, Professor in the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and Director of the Quality of Life Research Unit; **Dr. Morris Freedman**, Head of Neurology, Executive Medical Director of the Centre for Memory and Neurotherapeutics, and Medical Director

of the Ross Memory Clinic at Baycrest; **Heidi Ahonen**, Director of the Conrad Institute for Music Therapy Research at Wilfrid Laurier University; and **Laurel Trainor**, Director of McMaster Institute for Music and the Mind.

The project proposes to bring 5 Distinguished Visiting Scholars to University of Toronto and has procured commitments from: **Jane Evans**, President of the International Association of Music Medicine (IAMM) and Director of the Music and Health Research Group at the University of Limerick, Ireland; **Dr. Gottfried Schlaug**, Director of the Neuroimaging Laboratory and Director of the Stroke Recovery Laboratory, Dept. of Neurology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC); Co-Director of the Comprehensive Stroke Center (BIDMC), and Chief, Cerebrovascular Division, Dept. of Neurology, BIDMC (Harvard Medical School); **Joanne Loewy**, Director of the Louis Armstrong Center for Music and Medicine at Beth Israel Medical Center, New York, and Editor in Chief of the international, peer reviewed journal *Music and Medicine*; **Concetta Tomaino**, Senior Vice-President for Music Therapy at Beth Abraham Health Services, and Executive Director and Co-founder of the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function in New York; and **Vera Brandes**, Director of the Research Program in Music-Medicine, Paracelsus Medical University, Salzburg, Austria, and Vice-President of the International Association of Music Medicine (IAMM).

In addition, the Music Medicine in Aging project has a research cluster of another 30 committed participants from University of Toronto, McMaster University, Western University, Queen's University, University of Windsor, and University of Rochester. representing diverse disciplines including human geography, social gerontology, social psychology, medical ethnomusicology, mechanobiology, social work, kinesiology, occupational therapy, clinical integrative biology, neuroscience of music, geriatric psychiatry, biomedical engineering, sociology of aging, bioethics, neuroscience, community health and epidemiology, music therapy, and medicine.