



Précis: *Humanities Corridor: Central New York AAU Universities, an initiative generously supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation*

Dr. Gregg Lambert, Principal Investigator of Mellon Award/Founding Director of the Humanities Center

Prepared by Dr. Corri Zoli, 30 Oct 2008

Award: \$1,028,000 over three years from the Mellon Foundation

Timeframe: 1 Jan 2006-31 Dec 2008; one-year no cost extension 31 Dec 2009

Participants: AAU Universities of Central New York (CNY): Syracuse University (SU), Cornell University (CU), University of Rochester (UR)

Purpose: establish a CNY "humanities corridor" to connect humanities scholars and invigorate humanistic scholarship. Includes collaborative research, interdisciplinary workshops-conferences, and faculty exchange; build lasting and sustainable infrastructures ongoing after the grant, including the Humanities Center is a natural infrastructure

Background:

- Initial Mellon planning Aug-Nov 2005: developed scholarly links, designed framework for regional Humanities Corridor
- Strong collaboration among 3 University Deans
- Intellectual momentum of 43 distinguished humanities faculty
- 600 full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty in humanities at 3 research institutions
- Humanities as 'scholarly core'
- Deep history of connections among institutions and departments
- Nationally significant intellectual opportunity for collaboration in humanities
- Interdisciplinary humanities

Objectives:

1. Develop a Humanities Corridor in selected fields of shared scholarly strengths across CNY region
2. Establish a nationally recognized Humanities Center as mechanism for lasting humanistic interchange and research
3. Enhance the profile, scholarly prominence, and impact of the Humanities in CNY region
4. Create connectivity among humanists in CNY region
5. Develop long-term inter-institutional partnerships in established and emerging scholarly areas via working groups

Mechanics:

Five thematic cluster initiatives, facilitated by working groups (WG) at 3 research institutes, define initial focus areas:

- (1.) Philosophy and Linguistics
- (2.) Cultures and Religions
- (3.) The Interface between Humanities and Science/Technology
- (4.) Visual Arts and Cultures
- (5.) Music History/Musicology

Working Groups (WG) conduct cluster-based interactive events and programs (see Appendix 1)

Measurable Outcomes:

1. Technology planning and installation initiatives
2. Distinguished Research Collaborations; Interdisciplinary Workshops and Conferences; Consortial Faculty projects
3. Connectivity, increased visibility of CNY humanities

Issues: Mellon extension; Mellon reapplication; accounting and completion of activities; assessment; status of technology installations; missing events

Mellon Foundation (MF) Policies:

19-23 (received) Jan 2006 Andrew Mellon Foundation Letter summarizing reporting requirements to Dean Cathryn Newton, A&S; follow-up to the official Foundation award letter from William G. Bowen (21 Dec 2005)

Annual narrative and financial reports:

- Project activities completed by 31 Dec 2009
- Interim narrative and financial reports on use of grant funds on or before 31 Dec yearly
- Final report accounting and summary assessment of accomplishments by 31 Dec 2009
- 2 reports should **come together**
- If they are late, the MF must be notified ASAP; it does not send reminders
- Final report: a statement of starting balance, interest accrued, list of actual expenditures by major category with a column of original budget figures, ending balance for the period
- Reports to be addressed to Program Officer (Harriet Zuckerman, Joseph S, Meisel) Research Universities and Humanistic Scholarship Program—not to MF President

Working Group 1: Cluster—Philosophy and Linguistics [split into two Working Groups]

WG:

John Bowers	CU Linguistics	Mark Heller	SU Philosophy
Richard Feldman	UR Philosophy	Jaklin Kornfilt	SU Linguistics
Tamar Gendler	CU Philosophy	Robert Van Gulick	SU Philosophy
Gerald Greenberg	SU Associate Dean, Humanities; Associate Professor of Russian	Edward Wierenga	UR Philosophy
2007 Additions			
Alyssa Ney	UR, Philosophy	Arsalan Kehnemuyipour,	Linguistics, SU
Jeff Runner	Linguistics, UR	Greg Carlson	Linguistics, UR
John Whitman	Linguistics CU		

Background: Shared scholarly strengths, goals, priorities; strengthen bridges among programs:

1. Philosophy:
 - Have built comprehensive philosophy faculties and doctoral programs in Anglo-American tradition; special strength in core field: Metaphysics & Epistemology
 - Also History of Philosophy with complementary faculty:
 - CU: Ancient Philosophy and Classics
 - SU: Kant and post-Kantian German Philosophy
 - UR: German Philosophy
 - Other shared areas of national scholarly presence: Ethics & Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Education, and Philosophy of Language
2. Linguistics:
 - Special foci in Computational Linguistics; SU and CU especially strong in Syntax
3. Historic and Existing Bridges:
 - Mutual interchange and cooperation
 - Graduate students take courses at each campus via exchange program
 - Faculty teach in each program or sit in on seminars on other campuses
 - Visiting lecturers, conferences, shared among programs on websites
 - Faculty and graduate students travel to attend events on each campus
 - Active role in a long established regional philosophy organization, the Creighton Club
4. Close collaboration in Philosophy of Education between SU and UR: Example of cohesive faculty cluster: 2nd in national rankings

WG Goals for Cluster:

1. “Aspired to intensify connections between other areas in Philosophy and Linguistics. Except for the remarkable case of the Philosophy of Education faculty, a truly cohesive scholarly community has not emerged regionally in either Philosophy or Linguistics. We seek to bring these promising partnerships into far greater cohesion.”
2. These partnerships should result in deepening existing and developing new partnerships, such as:
 - Rapid strides in scholarly community for fields such as Metaphysics & Epistemology, Ethics, and interdisciplinary areas between Philosophy and Linguistics
 - UR and SU will in Y1 link in the above fields and possibly others in Philosophy and Linguistics
 - Strong collaboration between SU and CU during the life of Mellon given existing commitments to joint conferences in Linguistics (Nominalization: Spring, 2006) and Philosophy (Values: Summer, 2006)
 - Visits by Distinguished Research Collaborators from outside CNY HumCor: not teach courses but promote scholarly dialogue via lectures and classroom visits at all 3 RI
 - Program for Humanities Corridor faculty to visit a consortial institution;
 - Technology investments critical to simultaneous teaching and research projects across the universities no matter what the weather; and Selective use of both Mellon funds and the endowed Alice L. Hooker conference fund (Syracuse) to create occasional workshops and conferences with highly targeted goals of swiftly building cohesion in sub-areas such as ethics or semantics.

Accomplishments:

Philosophy and Linguistics	
Y1 2006	Technology planning and installation
Y2 2007	Distinguished Research Collaborators: 2 appointments
Y3 2008	Interdisciplinary Workshops and Conferences
	Consortia Faculty

Philosophy	Accomplishments
Y1 2006	
Y2 2007	30 Nov-2 Dec 2007, <i>Mental Causation Workshop</i> , SU (Van Gulick)
Y3 2008	Graduate student cosponsored Conferences Graduate students participating in lectures

Linguistics	Accomplishments
Y1 2006	
Y2 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 21 Apr 2007, SU, CU, UR Graduate Student Workshop: <i>Syntax, Semantics, Phonology</i> (Kornfilt) ▪ 9-10 Nov 2007, Lecture: Eric J. Reuland, Utrecht University, Netherlands, UR
Y3 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 7-9 Nov 2008, NELS 39, North Eastern Linguistics Society Meeting, <i>Linguistics at the Interfaces</i>, CU

Questions:

1. Technology installation?
2. Split among WG—why?
3. New Cluster topics and additional WG members?
4. Additional events?
5. Demonstrate cohesion, connectivity?

Working Group 2: Cluster—Religion and Cultures

WG:

Philip P. Arnold	SU Associate Professor, Religion	Gerald Greenberg	SU Associate Dean for Humanities, College of Arts & Sciences, Associate Professor of Russian
Anne Blackburn	CU Associate Professor South Asian Religions/ Department of Asian Studies	Th. Emil Homerin	UR Professor of Religion, Department of Religion and Classics

Ann Grodzins Gold	SU William P. Tolley Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities; Director South Asia Center, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs; Professor of Religion and of Anthropology, SU	Viranjini Munasinghe	CU Associate Professor of Anthropology and of Asian American Studies
William Scott Green	UR Professor of Religion, Philip S. Bernstein Professor of Judaic Studies, Dean of the College		
2007 Additions			
Tazim Kassam, SU	Thomas Gibson, UR	Iftikhar Dadi, CU	Andrew Willford, CU

Background and Issues:

1. Theory/Rationale:
 - Study of the interplay of culture and religion is essential to an informed understanding of the contemporary world
 - Religion is a major factor in national and international politics
 - A range of critical issues, from stem cell research to international terrorism, are incomprehensible without reference and attention to religion
 - Religions typically transcend national boundaries, but no religion is the same everywhere: cultural contexts shape discrete ways in which any religion is understood, practiced, valued, and even studied
 - Interplay of cultures and religions is what former UR President Sproull called “applied humanities,” valuable not only for its own sake, but for its concrete relevance to cross-cultural understanding and effective public policy
2. Respective Strengths:
 - SU, UR have strong, established departments of religion vs. CU religion is studied across a variety of departments
 - SU well-known doctoral program in religion
 - UR religion is the 2nd most popular undergraduate major in Humanities
 - CU study of religion in South and East Asia adds distinctive overlap
3. Formal and informal interchange between departments
 - CU study of religion in South and East Asia adds distinctive overlap with other 2 departments that can be developed further with longstanding partnership in South Asia with SU
 - UR study of the world’s literate religions is integrated with the study of the languages of their canons
 - CU connects language study with teaching of religion and SU and CU have collaborated on language instruction
4. Library resources are exceptional:
 - Strong collections at SU, CU, UR recent acquisition of library of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School gives it one of the largest theological libraries in North America
 - \$250,000 federal grant, CU acquired Native American collection of 40,000 books and extensive archival records, one of the most distinguished U.S. collections of its kind

WG Goals for Cluster: Areas of potential collaboration

1. Cultures, Religions, and American Studies: RI have considerable resources in American Studies, and each program is being revised or developed in response to perception of diversity of American culture and inadequacy of conventional notions of “melting pot” and “pluralism” to interpret it. Focus on interaction of religion and culture in American would address:
 - Place and understanding of religion in American culture that derives from the First Amendment to the Constitution and the way that understanding allows religion to be used as a form of both political and cultural identity
 - Religion in the increasing bi-cultural identity many Americans assert
 - These are ways in which the ongoing efforts at all three universities to re-envision American Studies programs could be enhanced by viewing it through a cultures and religions lens
 - Together with various Christian traditions, a focus on indigenous American, Islamic, Judaic, Hindu, Buddhist and other communities would allow for comparative perspectives on diverse traditions that occupy the same ground but imagine and inhabit it differently
 - Fruitful intersection with SU Ford Foundation "Difficult Dialogues Initiative" on "Religious Pluralism in America" –a component of SU broader "public humanities" initiative
2. Cultures and Religions in Global Perspective: interaction of cultures and religions in a global framework

- Global religion survey conducted by Department of Religion and Classics, UR and Zogby 2003 studied 11 religious groups in 7 nations: reveals considerable differences within discrete religions across cultures
 - Focus on concrete details of particular religions in different cultural contexts can offer a nuanced and focused picture of the actual place of religion in the value structures of different societies
 - Collaboration among humanists can help refine our understanding of the categories of “culture” and “religion” and supply a more fine-grained picture of religion than is available in the broad generalizations about religion that shape contemporary public perception of, and policy towards other cultures and nations
3. South Asian religions and cultures
- SU-CU South Asia Consortium incorporates Social Sciences and Humanities, since 1984, funded by Dept of Ed as National Resource Center; 2005 reaffirmed partnership with application for NRC renewal to 2010
 - UR Departments of Religion and Anthropology have significant expertise in South Asian languages and cultures, with two world-class scholars in Sanskrit, and one who is expert in Tamil
 - CU, SU partner in language curricula (offering simultaneous distance-learning courses in Turkish now and planning to offer Polish soon); South Asia plans to offer Intro and Adv Tamil and Bengali through distance learning, beginning in AY 2007-2008
 - Mellon support would facilitate further collaborative expansion of South Asian languages and humanities on all three campuses
4. Native American cultures and religions:
- Home of Haudenosaunee (people of the longhouse, “Iroquois Confederacy”)
 - SU, CU actively building scholarly faculties, create undergraduate curricula and residential learning communities, and special library collections
 - UR has related expertise and offerings in several Humanities departments
 - Potential for a collaborative Mellon venture in this area as a subset of the larger collaboration on cultures and religions
5. Proposed Collaborative Activities:
- Annual interdisciplinary workshops—held at three campuses—on a cross-cutting interdisciplinary theme relevant to the study of the interplay of cultures and religions
 - Technology investments in teleconferencing and distance-learning that provide mechanisms for bringing the faculty together even in inclement conditions
 - Distinguished Research Collaborators whose role is, through scholarly lectures and collaborative work, to draw diverse scholars into dialogue and collaborative projects
 - Seed funding for collaborative research works that span the campuses.

Goals vs. Accomplishments:

Cultures and Religions		
Goals		Accomplishments
Y1 2006	Technology planning and installation	
Y2 2007	Distinguished Research Collaborators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 Apr, Inaugural Humanities Corridor Event & Conference: <i>Religious Transgressions of Modernity</i>, UR ▪ 14-15 Sept, Workshop on Religious Pluralism, <i>Imagining Muslims/Imagining Others: South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Europe</i>, CU (Ann Gold, Davydd Greenwood, Andrew Willford) ▪ 24-25 Oct, Lecture: Veena Das, Krieger-Eisenhower Professor/Chair, Department of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins, explored Hindu-Muslim relations in India: “Everyday Life and the Claims of the Other”; follow-up panel (Gold) ▪ 28 Nov, Brown Bag Seminar: Anthea Butler, African American religions, UR, religious and social lives of African American Pentecostal women, SU
Y3 2008	Workshops and Conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oct. 3-5, Conference: <i>Religion and Culture in the Indian Ocean, 18th century to the Present</i>, CU ▪ 18-20 Apr 2008, Conference: <i>Music Moves Religion: Performance Networks in</i>

		<i>Indian Ocean Cultures</i> , SU (Kassam, Gold) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 18 Apr, Concert: “Padhmashree Prabha Atre Conference Kick-Off Performance,” the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, N.Y ▪ 7 Oct, Concert, Rupayan: <i>Music from the Rajasthan Desert</i>, featuring musicians from the Langa and Manganiar communities of Rajasthan, India, SU
	Seed Funding Collaborative Research: planning, submittals, seed grants program	

Questions:

1. Technology installation?
2. New Cluster topics and additional WG members?
3. Additional events?
4. Demonstrate cohesion, connectivity?

Working Group 3: Cluster—Interface of Humanities and Sciences/Technology

WG:

Samuel Gorovitz, Philosophy and Honors Program SU	Peter Saulson, Physics SU
Tom Lamarre, Asian Studies CU	Phoebe Sengers, Science and Technology Studies and Information Science CU
John Russell, Biology SU	Theodore Brown, History and Public Health UR
2007 Additions	
Cathryn Newton SU	Kathy Faber-Langendoen (SUNY-Upstate Medical)
Stephen Hilgartner CU	Trevor Pinch CU

Background and Emphases:

1. Interdisciplinary collaboration arises from CU’s established program in Science and Technology Studies, UR’s deep commitments to medical sciences and engineering, and SU’s investments in ethics
2. For many a scientific outlook is the only defensible approach to understanding the world and our place within it; for others, the lens of science provides only a partial or even a distorted view of what they take to be the most important realities i.e., Fadiman’s *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* shows complexity and tragedy of ignorance about differing views of the place of science in human affairs
3. As American society rapidly becomes more diverse, less visible disparities in attitudes about science may underlie intolerance, discrimination, and conflict about how individual and societal decisions are made about the full range of issues that matter most – i.e., educational policy, research strategy, and governmental posture regarding matters of personal choice.
4. Cluster affords significant scholarly opportunities that span many units across 3 RI with great potential for connecting a series of high-quality but small faculty groups
5. Interdisciplinary sites between Humanities and Science are a high strategic priority for the institutions: CU is investing \$600 million in New Life Sciences Initiative; UR new president announced expansion in the life and medical sciences and in engineering; SU’s groundbreaking for a new \$107 million Life Sciences Complex will take place in April 2006 and implementing cell signaling priority
6. Humanities have much to say about these initiatives, and this cluster provides one key approach to those university-wide needs.
7. WG emphasizes interface between diverse cultures and their perceptions of the sciences

Research: Three thematic emphases based on WG recommendations:

- (a.) Cultures and Science:

- explores how culture and religion affect the place of science in the way people view the world
 - examines outlooks of derived from traditional western perspectives and indigenous cultures i.e., neighboring Haudenosaunee nations and southern hemisphere
- (b.) Use of Scientific Imagery and Rhetoric to Manipulate Public Perceptions
- join forces with Visual Arts and Cultures, new SU faculty in The College of Arts and Sciences, Visual Studies CU, and UR Visual and Cultural Studies
 - how scientific imagery and rhetoric pervade our culture for educative, commercial, and political purposes
 - their collective effect are not well understood
 - visual influences have powerful effect on attitudes and behavior
 - rapidly changing technologies transform visual images we see, the ways in which we encounter them, and how we interpret and understand those images
 - our resulting attitudes and behaviors regarding science, technology, and the disciplines of the humanities may be shaped in large measure by the values and assumptions that are imbedded in the visual world
- (c.) Humanistic Perspectives on Infectious Disease and the Interactions of Science, Pharmaceutical Technology, Public Health, and Personal Liberty
- threat of infectious disease surround us and have long tradition of connection with humanities and policy studies
 - perennial issues of humanistic study involving personal liberty, the collective good, confidentiality and disclosure, and responsibility toward oneself and toward others
 - they also involve interactions of scientific research, the pharmaceutical industry, governmental policy, technological facilitators of disease vectors, and technological capacities for disease control, and the complexities of risk assessment
 - leadership will come from: UR strength in history of medicine, SU faculty in bioethics, health policy, and art history as related to medicine, Center for Bioethics and Humanities at SUNY Upstate Medical University, NY State's largest university-based bioethics organization

Approach and Recommendations:

- Series of short term workshops on specific topics
- Conferences arising out of such workshops and drawing regional or national participation
- The commissioning of collaborative essays
- Distinguished Research Collaborators on a chosen theme
- Arrangements for faculty from one of our participating universities to visit for a semester or year at another – either via a faculty exchange or just as a visitor

Goals vs. Accomplishments:

Interface of Humanities and Sciences/Technology		
	Goals	Accomplishments
Y1 2006		
Y2 2007	Workshops, conferences Distinguished research collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 26-27 Oct, Science & Technology Workshop (STWS), SU ▪ abstracts of commissioned essays, presented at STWS ▪ Question: stated in 2007 report papers would be commissioned and published: outcome?
Y3 2008	Commissioned essays Consortia faculty	

Questions:

1. New Cluster topics and additional WG members?
2. Additional events?
3. Demonstrate cohesion, connectivity?
4. Research collaborations?
5. Consortia faculty

Working Group 4: Cluster—Visual Arts and Cultures

Beverly Allen, William J. Tolley Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities/Professor, French, Italian and Comparative Literature SU	Paul Duro, Professor/Chair Art History, Program in Visual and Cultural Studies RU
Steven Cohan, Professor, English & Textual Studies, Film Studies SU	Kendall Phillips, Associate Professor, Communication and Rhetoric, organizer, “Contesting Public Memories” conference SU
Iftikhar Dadi, Assistant Professor, History of Art, CU	Susan Wadley, Associate Dean/Ford Maxwell Professor of Anthropology, The College of Arts and Sciences SU
2007 Additions/Eliminations	
Beverly Allen dropped out	Susan Wadley dropped out
Roger Hallas, Professor of English and Film, SU	Linda Shires, Professor of English, SU
Joanna Spitzner, VPA, SU	Brad Vivian, VPA, SU
Joan Saab, UR	Allen Topolski, UR
Sharon Willis, UR	

Background and Issues:

1. Formidable developments in technologies of visual and digital reproduction and communication in the late 20th century prompt emergence of new, interdisciplinary field of Visual Studies at major universities.
2. Visual arts and their cultural context and impact are an area of intense and active interest at CU, UR, SU—in institutionalized and informal collaborations which spark dynamic new trends in humanities and of broad interest to humanities faculty

Shared Strengths:

1. UR has international prominence for faculty in the Visual and Cultural Studies (VCS) program: combines faculty from Modern Languages, Film Studies, Art, Art History, and Anthropology: socio-historical perspective brings coherence and electronic journal *Invisible Culture* brings attention for their imaginative interdisciplinary approach to visual rhetoric; Cognate programs at CU (visual arts and culture) and SU (art, architecture, and art history, as well as languages, anthropology, and other departments)
2. Overlapping interests span several humanistic areas and constitute a regional opportunity to combine strengths at faculty and doctoral level
3. UR-VCS has potential to link to SU Visual and Performing Arts, Architecture, and The College of Arts and Sciences (Art History, Languages, Religion and Society, English and Textual Studies); CU has recently established a Visual Studies Concentration which links faculty in Faculty of Arts and Sciences with School of Art, Architecture, and Planning across theory and practice, a virtual Visual Studies Center; a Wen Pu-lin Archive of Chinese Avant-garde Art, major resource for the study of global digital arts

Proposed Approach and Activities:

1. Ideas:
 - Need to intensify intellectual cross-fertilization between 3 RI in what is already a dynamic conversation
 - Creation of shared virtual centers and archives
 - Appointment of rotating visiting faculty
 - Participation in rotating intellectual events
 - Collaborative events and/or exhibits organized as “moveable feasts” available on-line in real time, held in NYC or elsewhere in NY State, and open to the public
 - Convening, on a rotating basis, an annual conference with published proceedings
3. Examples:
 - “Who’s Your Mommy?” Symposium: why are we still holding theories that are half a century old or more (Barthes, Derrida, Foucault, Marx, for example) and claiming it’s new
 - “Identity and Globalization”: Muslims in post-9/11 New York City; local war and disposable cultures; Said’s cosmopolitanism today; the nature of the nation-state now; interface between the global and the local
 - “Performed Art”: aesthetics and signifying properties of performance art in diverse cultures; museums as performed art; film; video; music

- “Public Memory”: visual, performative and political aspects of memory; museums as performed art; how memory and the visual implicate each other; the web of public memory; we choose our icons (flags, for example), and they choose us; we perform memory, memory performs us

3. Priorities:

- Speaker corridor in Visual Arts and Cultures for both major visiting speakers and faculty members of 3 RI
- Virtual Visual Resource Center, with appropriate technology for connecting the institutions
- Conference on visual culture
- A physical presence in New York City – possibly at Lubin House or its equivalent
- Coordinated visual archives at CNY Corridor institutions
- Explore possible linkages with architecture -- particularly as architecture relates to urban cultures

Goals vs. Accomplishments:

Visual Arts and Cultures		
	Goals	Accomplishments
Y1 2006	Technology investments and installation (VD conferencing, virtual resource center, archiving)	
Y2 2007	Speaker Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 6-7 Apr, “The Future of the Archive/The Archive of the Future,” UR ▪ 4 Oct and 4 Nov Colloquium Series “Translation,” Lawrence Venuti, Temple University, “Translation, Intertextuality, Interpretation” and Karen Beckman, Elliot and Roslyn Jaffe Associate Professor, Film Studies, U Penn, “Nothing To Say: Mortal Words and Images,” SU ▪ 8 Feb, Cristina Lucia Stasia, doctoral candidate English SU lecture, “Mrs. Croft: Angelina Jolie and the Straightening of the Female Action Genre,” ▪ 21 Mar, AP Dept of Screen Arts and Cultures/Dept of Asian Languages and Cultures, UMichigan, lecture: “Subtitling Can Be Disterbing: Film Translation of the Third Era”
Y3 2008	Conference on Visual Culture, NYC presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2-4 Oct, Conference: <i>Visible Memories</i>, SU (Demo)

Questions:

1. Technology investments?
2. New Cluster topics and additional WG members?
3. Additional events?
4. Demonstrate cohesion, connectivity?
5. Research collaborations?

Working Group 5: Cluster— Musicology/Music History

WG:

Ralph Locke, Eastman School of Music UR	Gretchen Wheelock, Eastman School of Music, UR
Stephen Meyer, Department of Fine Arts, SU	James Webster, Department of Music, CU
Andy Waggoner, School of Music, SU	Neal Zaslaw, Department of Music, CU
2007 Additions	
Eileen Stempel, VPA SU	Amanda Winkler, SU
John Covach, UR	Patrick Macey, R-Eastman
Kevin Ernste, CU	Rebecca Harris-Warrick, CU

Background, Strengths, and Priorities:

1. CNY has rich, ethnically diverse musical tradition, and 3 RI have outstanding faculty in music, musicology, and music history
2. We propose to build a research cluster around the musicology/music history faculty in these institutions
3. UR's Eastman School of Music, UR, stands among the very top-ranked programs in musicology in the country; SU's School of Music in Visual and Performing Arts (emphasizing composition and performance) and Dept of Fine Arts in Arts and Sciences (containing eminent music historians) have been identified as institutional priorities by both the deans and by Chancellor Cantor; SU has in the past year developed the endowed Goldring Arts Journalism Program hosted jointly by S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, the College of Visual and Performing Arts, the School of Architecture, and The College of Arts and Sciences to elevate the quality of reporting on the arts in America
4. As in the Cultures and Religions cluster, Musicology/Music History is a focal area in which our regional university library archives present a strong catalyst for the faculty initiative
5. UR Sibley music library at Eastman is largest academic music library in North America with strengths in individual composers; SU Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive is one of the four largest archives of recorded sound in the country with rich holdings from early period of sound recording; CU Music Library has rich holdings. These audio, manuscript, and print archives form an exceptional scholarly resource in support of this cluster.

Collaborative Activities:

1. Interdisciplinary centers; involve further workshops to explore the themes of these centers
2. Examples proposed:
 - (a.) Music of American Communities: Archiving and Disseminating Indigenous and Immigrant Musics
 - CNY as a cultural crossroads for millennia—home to First Nations and immigrant communities with historical and contemporary importance
 - Belfer Archive has partnered with First Nations and other groups in order to preserve and disseminate musical traditions: houses early cylinder recordings of traditional Oneida music, First Nations material with the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, and Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto; the Belfer partnered with other NY State colleges and universities in “Hearing New York State's History” during the period 1986-1992
 - An interdisciplinary center on diverse American music would enable us to build upon this foundation in order to expand the Belfer's role as an archive for these kinds of materials: we would partner with the Haudenosaunee communities throughout the region, the large Turkish community in Rochester, the Sudanese refugee community in Syracuse, and others still to be determined.
 - Scholars from Eastman have shown international leadership in this kind of work: Ellen Koskoff, senior ethnomusicologist, served as the editor for the "North America" volume of the Garland Encyclopedia of World Music; music editor for the Encyclopedia of New York State, Ralph Locke forged contact with scholars and practitioners of traditional music from around our region; composers at all three schools have been influenced by indigenous American musics; they will be invited to discuss the numerous creative challenges and cultural questions raised by this kind of compositional borrowing/appropriation
 - (b.) Example Two: Center for the History of Recorded Sound
 - In past 2 years, important scholarly works on the history of recorded sound have appeared and there is much interest inside and outside of academia in this topic: in the ways in which sound technology influences and is influenced by musical practice, the history of performance; and ways in which sound technology intersects with identity politics
 - Partnership with CU, Eastman, and SU is positioned to become a leader in this emerging field of study: UR Sibley Library and SU Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive are together among the largest collections of recorded sound material in North America; the Sibley contains many special collections related to early sound recording; Belfer Archive also includes particularly rich holdings from the early periods of sound recording
 - (c.) Example Three: Music and Spectacle
 - CNY is home to extraordinary collections of materials related to the history of film music: SU Bird Library houses papers of composers Franz Waxman and Miklos Rozsa; the International Museum of Photography (George Eastman House) in Rochester holds massive collection of silent and early films and information regarding the use of music to accompany the action in them
 - Faculty from 3 RI have published widely in the fields of opera history and film music: i.e., SU Amanda Winkler and Stephen Meyer, Eastman Roger Freitas, Kim Kowalke, Ralph Locke, Holly Watkins, and Gretchen Wheelock; special mention should be made of Melina Esse whose scholarship includes a study of the music that accompanied silent films

- The combined strength that the universities have in this area may enable exploration of a Center for the Study of Music and Spectacle. Central to the idea of this Center would be the interchange of faculty among the universities. This could take the form of visiting positions, short-term residencies, or working groups.

Proposed Activities and Rationale:

- Investment in technology that facilitates teleconferencing and distance learning (Year 1)
- Workshops to explore interdisciplinary themes and approaches (Year 1-2)
- Research Collaborations Fund (Year 2-3)
- Consortial Faculty (Year 1-3)
- Distinguished Research Collaborator in Musicology/Music History (Year 3 or possibly Year 2)
- The principal question is how to proceed, given the wealth of possibilities and a need to be selective and strategic.
- Essential to all of these proposals will be making recorded materials accessible to scholars at the three universities
- We also propose a series of Y1 workshops designed to explore various interdisciplinary approaches, including the options mentioned above and others. One key goal for the year would be the emergence of one or two broad interdisciplinary themes or projects that can be unifying themes for the three-year Mellon project. Deans Undercofler, Olmsted, Green, Brzozowski, Newton, and Greenberg would review thematic options and make a determination on how to proceed. Cornell will be exploring what its role may be in this project as it emerges
- Years 2 and 3 will then be structured around using Distinguished Research Collaborators and faculty exchange or research funding across the institutions in order to facilitate the interdisciplinary collaborations selected.

Goals vs. Accomplishments:

Musicology/Music History		
Goals		Accomplishments
Y1 2006	Technology investments; exploratory workshops	
Y2 2007	Workshops, conferences, Research collaborations fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14-16 Sept “Music, Justice, and Gender” Conference, including Judith Lang Zaimont commissioned string quartet played by Harlem Quartet, SU: Harlem Quartet also performed at UR, CU on consecutive days ▪ 29 Oct-18 Nov, New York Baroque Dance Company Residency and Concert, CU: recreation of 18thc pantomime ballet <i>Pygmalion</i> ▪ 10 Nov, Eastman Symposium on 1642 Venetian Opera by Francesco Cavalli <i>La Virtu de’ strali d’Amore</i> (Patricia Macey)
Y3 2008	Consortia faculty Distinguished visiting collaborator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feb, <i>Composer Apprentice Project</i> (CU Kevin Ernste) to partner composition students from 3 RI with chamber ensemble Brave New Works (BNW) ▪ “Ethnomusicology in Action” ▪ “Music, Gender, and Globalization” Conference, featuring newly commissioned work by Chen Yi ▪ “Music and Spectacle” Series

Questions:

1. Technology investments?
2. New Cluster topics and additional WG members?
3. Additional events?
4. Demonstrate cohesion, connectivity?
5. Research collaborations?