

Project funds for North America 2010

Application

Project information

Project title

graduate program collaboration for distributed performance

Project number

PNA-2010/10126

Application for project related to: (choose one)

Strengthening existing collaboration

A - Applicant

A.1 Applicant

A.1.1 Applicant

Name of institution: NO-University of Tromsø

A.1.2 Department/section

Name of department: Department of Music, Dance and Drama

A.1.3 Project coordinator

Name: Windfeld Lund, Niels
Gender: Male
E-mail: niels.windfeld.lund@uit.no
Address: Fakultet for humaniora, samfunnsvitenskap og lærerutdanning
Institutt for kultur og litteratur
Universitetet i Tromsø
9037 TROMSØ
Phone number: 77646284
Fax number:

A.1.4 Institutional responsible / Head of unit

Name: Davidsen, Geir
Gender: Male
E-mail: geir.davidsen@uit.no
Phone number: 77660536
Fax number: 77660710

A.2 Information about institution(s) in North America

Name of institution: US-Stanford University
Name of department: CCRMA, Department of Music
Contact person: Chafe, Chris
Gender: Male
Position:
E-mail: cc@ccrma.STANFORD.EDU
Phone number: +1-(650) 723-4971 x305
Fax number: +1-(650) 723-8468

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Name of institution: | US-New York University |
| Name of department: | Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development |
| Contact person: | Rowe, Robert |
| Gender: | Male |
| Position: | |
| E-mail: | robert.rowe@nyu.edu |
| Phone number: | +1 - (212)998-5435 |
| Fax number: | +1 - (212)998-4043 |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Name of institution: | CA-McGill University |
| Name of department: | Centre for Intelligent Machines, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering |
| Contact person: | Cooperstock, Jeremy |
| Gender: | Male |
| Position: | |
| E-mail: | jer@cim.mcgill.ca |
| Phone number: | +1-(514) 398-5992 |
| Fax number: | +1-(514) 398-7348 |

A.3 Participants involved in project

| Name | Gender | Institution | Position |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------------|----------|
| Beyer, Tom | Male | US-New York University | |
| Chafe, Chris | Male | US-Stanford University | |
| Cooperstock, Jeremy | Male | CA-McGill University | |
| Davidsen, Geir | Male | NO-University of Tromsø | |
| Geistweidt, Jason | Male | NO-University of Tromsø | |
| Rowe, Robert | Male | US-New York University | |
| Windfeld Lund, Niels | Male | NO-University of Tromsø | |

B

B.1 Area of collaboration

B.1.1 Discipline(s) - topics:

- 1: Musicology/musical studies (107)
- 2: Information, computer and communication technology (405)

B.1.2 Level: (Phd, Master, Bachelor)

Master
PhD

B.2 Plans for cooperation

B.2.1 History and background

When the project coordinator, professor Niels Windfeld Lund, Documentation Studies, was Visiting professor at UC-Berkeley, School of Information, in 2005-06, teaching graduate students in experimental document analysis, he was doing experimental research on opera as a multi-media document. In the final opera workshop in Berkeley, May 2006 with artistic participants from US, Italy, Sweden and Norway, it was discussed how technology could be used in supporting further collaboration between artists in different parts of the world, and the idea of a distributed opera performance came up. That led to contact with professor Chris Chafe at Center for computer research in music and acoustics, CCRMA, at Stanford

University, the world leading group in distributed music performance. Professor Chafe saw from the very first moment the huge difficulties as well as the exciting challenges in both connecting artists on 2 continents as well as making a whole coherent opera in that format and therefore been very interested in collaboration. Through the contact with professor Chafe and CCRMA, contacts were established with similar departments/centers in New York, NYU, and Montreal, McGill University, collaborating with each other as well as with European institutions in UK and Italy. Since 2006 a similar group has been developed in Tromsø at the Academy of Music in conjunction with Documentation Studies, in the first run as a research project, World opera / VERDIONE, funded by the Norwegian Research council. This has enabled a number of experiments since 2007 between Tromsø and the 3 institutions at Stanford, NYU and McGill. Several graduate students on master and ph.d. level in all institutions have participated as test persons and project assistants without getting any study credit for their involvement. Therefore all 4 institutions have agreed upon to look for possibilities for developing an educational collaboration based on the shared research field, enabling graduate students to get credit for participation as well as making dedicated courses in this field within the regular graduate study programs. Since a proper course in distributed performance requires participants in different locations this may be an unique opportunity to benefit from 2 different, but complementary traditions from Norway and North America in using new technology in higher education and research. While much netbased education in Norway has been developed as a kind of substitution for on-campus education enabling students living in small places around in Norway to get an education, this proposal opens for education in Norway in how to use the network and the computer as artistic media and instruments themselves, in the way they have done it in North America for several years.

B.2.2 Goals for cooperation

The primary goal is to plan, conduct and evaluate a pilot project for Spring 2011 for educational collaboration for graduate students (master and ph.d.) in the 4 institutions, who are interested in the field of distributed performance. This includes a joint faculty discussion on the following issues: identifying relevant subthemes for student assignments, papers and theses, possible formats for teaching materials (text books, scores, guides to tools and programs etc.) as well as documentation for assessment (audio, video and other kinds of net based multimedia documentation) and the structure of sessions with hands-on experiments, teacher/ student presentations and discussion. After the pilot project the goal is to discuss the development of a more permanent flexible meta-structure embracing independent courses in all 4 institutions working on the same theme with different kind and degree of shared resources. This may be the beginning of making an international graduate school of distributed art performance with student and faculty exchange not only within the 4 institutions, but also with other similar institutions in Scandinavia/Europe, North America and elsewhere.

B.2.3 Activities to be funded by project funds

1. Seminar in Tromsø, 3 days in October 2010 " Teaching in distributed performance - Experiences from North America - example for Norwegian higher Education in the Arts - possibility for transcontinental Education program in the Arts"

The seminar will have speakers from all 3 North American institutions, professor Chris Chafe, Stanford; professor Robert Rowe, NYU and associate professor Jeremy Cooperstock, McGill University. It will have 2 parts, one open for Tromsø teachers as well as colleagues from other Norwegian higher Art educations and another part only for Tromsø and the North American partners devoted to planning the pilot project in Spring 2011. Thus the seminar is expected to be an introduction of the North American field of distributed performance to the Norwegian Art Education community in general as well as resulting in a plan for a pilot project in Spring 2011.

2. Pilot project in Spring 2011, 3 x 2 days, Norway-North America

Based on the planning in October 2010, a pilot project will take place with students and faculty in all 4 institutions, with 3 networked sessions of 2 days each during the Spring semester. Each session will consist of teacher presentations, hands-on experiments and discussion / evaluation. In-between sessions, assignments with evaluations will be made. As part of this pilot project, we plan to have a master-student from Documentation studies in Tromsø to stay at Stanford in order to work on the development of special on-line scores for distributed performance which will be an important tool / resource for students in distributed performance. Professor Niels Windfeld Lund will also be Visiting scholar at Stanford during Spring 2010.

3. Visiting round-trip and evaluation seminar in North America May 2011

The last activity will be a round trip in May 2011 for the chair of Academy of Music in Tromsø, Geir Davidsen and post doc Jason Geistweidt at the Academy of Music, to the institutions in New York,

Montreal and ending at Stanford, where there will be a seminar with evaluation of the pilot project and discussions on how the further collaboration should be developed and organized.

B.2.4 Cooperation plans and institutional strategy

This proposal can be seen as an educational follow-up upon an already existing research collaboration with North American institutions within the Verdione-project, but it is also a part of a long term strategy for the Department of Music, Dance and Drama/Faculty of fine arts to develop and maintain a leading role in development of research based education in the Performing Arts in using new technology in an artistic interesting way. Through this proposal the department will be the first Nordic / Norwegian Arts department providing higher education in distributed performance and in this way the department has an opportunity to be innovative and promoter of further collaboration with other Norwegian/Nordic and European Performing arts departments. Finally, it will also support the attempts to provide distance learning courses in performing arts for remote locations in the Northern Norwegian region.

B.3 Relevant experience

B.3.1 Relevant experience

The project coordinator, professor Lund, has taught several graduate classes at UC-Berkeley during his Visiting professorships; conducted an online ph.d. course between Tromsø, NO, Copenhagen, DK and Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, U.S.A. He has also organized conferences with master and ph.d. students in North America as well as international summer school in Tromsø.

The North American participants at Stanford, NYU and McGill have all a very extensive experience in the field, being pioneers and thus some of the world leading experts and a very large experience in teaching, supervising and working with graduate students in their labs and they have collaborated with each other for many years.

The post-doc Jason Geistweidt in Tromsø, has his ph.d. from Sonic Arts Research Center in Belfast and has taught in Arts and media at Columbia College in Chicago.

The chair of department Geir Vestheim, has participated in the Norwegian fellow-program for Artistic research and been innovative in the use of new technology in higher education in the field of music. He has also participated in the first experiments in Tromsø with Stanford on distributed performance.

C - Budget

| | Fall 2010 | Spring 2011 | Sum |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Institutional development | | | |
| 1 - Travel (From Norway to North America) | 0 | 35 000 | 35 000 |
| 2 - Travel (From North America to Norway) | 33 000 | 0 | 33 000 |
| 3 - Workshop/seminar costs | 3 000 | 2 000 | 5 000 |
| 4 - Other | 0 | 2 000 | 2 000 |
| SUM - Institutional development | 36 000 | 39 000 | 75 000 |
| Scholarships/fellowships | | | |
| 5 - Fellowships (PhD level) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 - Scholarships (Master level) | 0 | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| 7 - Scholarships (Bachelor level) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SUM - Scholarships/fellowships | 0 | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| Project management | | | |
| 8 - Other operating costs/administration (max 10% of sum 1-5) | 1 000 | 1 000 | 2 000 |
| SUM - Project management | 1 000 | 1 000 | 2 000 |
| SUM - Total | 37 000 | 60 000 | 97 000 |

Specification of budget

1. travel from Norway to North America, 2 persons, 1 week round-trip Tromsø-New York-Montreal-San Francisco: 2 x 17.500 NOK, flight appr. 10000 NOK and hotels and diets 7.500 NOK
2. travel from North America to Norway, 3 persons, one from each of the 3 institutions, appr. 7.000 NOK for flight and 4.000 NOK for hotel and diets.
3. Workshop costs: meals and local transportation for participants in workshops/seminars
4. other costs: estimated expenses for technical assistance in pilot project, technicians, cables etc.
6. Scholarship (master student from Tromsø) 4 x 5000 NOK per month

Appendix A: CV's

Name: Windfeld Lund, Niels
E-mail: niels.windfeld.lund@uit.no
Gender: Male
Qualifications: Niels Windfeld Lund, born 1949 in Copenhagen, Denmark, became the first employee and full professor in Documentation Studies at the Department of Documentation Studies, University of Tromsø, Norway, in 1996 and was responsible for the initial development of the study program of Documentation studies on under graduate as well as graduate level. From 1975 till 1988 Dr. Lund was Associate Professor at the Royal School of Library and Information Science in Denmark. Professor Lund has twice been Visiting Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, (2001 / 2005-06). In 2001 prof. Lund founded The Document Academy, an international network for Documentation studies organizing annual DOCAM conferences in North America and summer schools in Norway at the University of Tromsø. Lund has mainly done research on libraries and general document theory and has recently focused on documents in Health care (Electronic Patient Record) and The Arts (opera). He is part-time affiliated with Tromsø Telemedicine Laboratory (20 %) and the Department of Music, Dance and Drama, Faculty of fine arts (30 %). In 2006 Dr. Lund initiated the World Opera project, aiming to create a worldwide distributed opera stage with performers in multiple locations making one coherent opera performance all together for audiences in the multiple sites. It has resulted in a large research grant from the Norwegian Research council for the VERDIONE (Virtually Enhanced Real-life synchronized Interaction - ON the Edge)-project in collaboration with Norwegian partners in Oslo and Tromsø as well as in North America. The Verdione project in Tromsø is managed by the Department of Music, Dance and Drama and led by professor Lund.

| Year | Institution | | Degree |
|------|--|--|--------|
| 1975 | University of Aarhus, Denmark | | Master |
| 1981 | L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, France | | D.E.A. |

| Start year | End year | Organisation | Position |
|------------|----------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1996 | | Universitetet i Tromsø | professor |
| 2001 | 2001 | University of California, Berkeley | Visiting professor |
| 2005 | 2006 | University of California, Berkeley | Visiting professor |