

Proposal to Establish the
Center for Applied Research in Musical Understanding (CARMU)
in the College of Arts and Sciences

The mission of the Center for Applied Research in Musical Understanding is:

- To transform practice in music education.
- To build and advance a research-based pedagogy of teaching for musical understanding.
- To support preK-12 music educators in Michigan, the United States, and internationally.
- To demonstrate how research informs professional practice in music education.
- To seek national and international eminence in applied research in musical understanding at Oakland University.
- To support faculty, graduate, and undergraduate research in musical understanding.

Goals: Center for Applied Research in Musical Understanding (CARMU)

Goal: Enhance the Visibility of Applied Research in Musical Understanding at Oakland University. The CARMU will support this goal by (a) efforts to attract visiting scholars, (b) establishing a research conference that attracts international scholars to campus, (c) the developing a regular program of research presentations that features the work of faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, and visiting scholars, and (d) establishing of a refereed e-journal.

Goal: Sustain and Expand Outreach to PreK-12 Music Educators: The CARMU will support this goal by providing transformative professional development opportunities for preK-12 music educators from across Michigan, the United States, and the World. These professional development programs will include short workshops and symposia throughout the school year, with longer programs offered during the summer. Professional development activities will take place both on-campus and in the schools. Up to two outstanding preK-12 practitioners will be invited to serve CARMU in an advisory capacity.

Goal: Improve Communication Regarding Research in Musical Understanding: The CARMU will support this goal by disseminating (a) materials that support the work of preK-12 music educators, (b) notices of relevant activities at Oakland University, (c) abstracts of publications, presentations, and grants, (d) establishing refereed e-journal,

and (e) developing and sustaining a website that serves as a clearinghouse for information about teaching for musical understanding.

Goal: Develop Teacher as Researcher Dispositions and Practices: The CARMU will seek to encourage preK-12 music educators to (a) develop researcher dispositions, (b) reflect critically on their own practice, (c) participate in appropriate research activities, and (d) to advance ideals of teaching as scholarship.

Goal: Enhance Collaborative Research Efforts among Members: The CARMU will support this goal by (a) providing funds for multi-researcher pilot projects, (b) identifying scholars at other institutions for membership in CARMU.

Goal: Expand External Funding for Musical Understanding Research: The CARMU will support this goal by (a) identifying appropriate funding mechanisms, (b) developing grant proposals, and (c) funding pilot projects.

Goal: Enhance Graduate Research and Education: The CARMU will support this goal by (a) involving graduate students in research, (b) identifying exceptional graduate students to join CARMU as Associate Members, (c) including graduate researchers in CARMU research seminars, (d) assisting graduate students in preparing research for presentation and publication, and (e) establishing a program to aid graduate student travel to make research presentations.

Goal: Enhance Undergraduate Research and Education: The CARMU will support this goal by (a) seeking to develop researcher dispositions in all undergraduate music education majors, (b) establishing and funding a program entitled Developing Scholars in Musical Understanding, (c) including undergraduate researchers in CARMU research seminars, and (d) highlighting the importance of applied research throughout the undergraduate curriculum.

Organization: Center for Applied Research in Musical Understanding (CARMU)

The proposed Center will be an organizational entity of the College of Arts & Sciences (CAS). Membership may include:

- Faculty at Oakland University with an interest in applied research in musical understanding.
- Faculty from other universities, nationally and internationally, with an interest in applied research in musical understanding.
- PreK-12 music educators whose teaching reflects the mission and goals of the CARMU.
- Doctoral students in music education at Oakland University.

The Dean of CAS acting on the recommendation of the Advisory Board shall appoint members. Until the Advisory Board is fully established, the CARMU director, in consultation with the Dean of CAS, will identify members.

The Advisory Board of the CARMU will be comprised of the Director (who will come from the OU faculty and be appointed by the Dean of CAS), two members from the OU faculty, two visiting members, and two preK-12 practitioners. Changes in this document may be proposed by the Advisory Board of the CARMU and will take effect upon the approval of the CAS Assembly and the CAS Dean.

Assessment: Center for Applied Research in Musical Understanding (CARMU)

The Advisory Board should assess CARMU performance on an ongoing basis, and formally report its progress annually to the Dean of CAS. The make-up of the advisory board will provide an external component to the assessment process. This assessment will focus on the extent to which the CARMU is achieving its goals and the potential need for revisions.