

F. Facilities, Equipment, Technology, Health, and Safety

Facilities

The Department of Music occupies the southwest portion of the Daryl Chase Fine Arts Center, which was completed and first occupied in 1967. It is a good facility, well built for the time, has few windows but is adequately lighted and well maintained. The heating and cooling systems are old and problematic but generally it is comfortable in the building and is safe for storing instruments. Temperature fluctuations in the building cause problems with the pipe organ, pianos and other sensitive instruments. By constantly working with Facilities Management we are able to keep things functioning.

The walls are double thick cinder blocks with asbestos insulation – a problem when any work is done on the building. Heating/cooling systems are very noisy in the Kent Concert Hall. The lighting and sound systems in the Kent and the Morgan theaters are really outdated. For major productions we hire lighting/sound companies to bring needed equipment to the halls.

The Music Office (FAC 107/109) has two offices – one for the Department Head and the other for the Department Secretary/Sr. Staff Assistant. The Staff Assistant III and Student Assistants are in FAC 102. There is no common work area. The copier in the copy room, FAC 105A, is used by staff and faculty.

The “Toaster” – the university and the LDS Church entered into an agreement where the university would trade a large parcel of land that has a large church building on it or a large parcel of land where the LDS Church will build two very large buildings. The building referred to as “the Golden Toaster” (because of its shape) has been designated as space for the Caine College of the Arts. The Music Department will have several of the rooms in the building for our needs. This will include:

- 8 faculty studio/offices
- 1 strings/chamber music rehearsal room
- 1 strings music library space
- Large room for an organ studio (6 electronic organs)
- 2 large recital hall/class rooms (formerly chapels)

We anticipate moving into the “Toaster” in July 2013

Classrooms

All classrooms have sound and video systems either installed or available on an AV cart. We have the following classrooms:

- Music controlled rooms – FAC 116, 118, 123, 216 (piano lab), 218
- University controlled rooms (Music has first choice) – FAC 220, 222

Large Rehearsal rooms

- Orchestra/band rehearsal room FAC 104
- Choirs rehearsal room FAC 214

Piano Lab

- Located in room 216 of the FAC
- Equipped with 22 Yamaha Clavinova electronic keyboards (older but still functional)
- Used for Keyboard Harmony and group piano classes

Concert venues

- Kent Concert Hall – seats 2,168; average to poor acoustics; outdated lighting and sound systems
- Morgan Theater - 670-seat thrust theatre used for plays and small concerts and performances. The Morgan Theatre is the main performance venue for the Theatre Department. Also used as a venue for music, dance, or conferences; Outdated lighting and sound systems
- Caine/Russell Performance hall – outstanding small concert hall; excellent acoustics; opened in 2006; seats 421; excellent recording equipment is built in to the hall. An outstanding concert/recital hall by any standard.

1. Music students

In addition to access to rehearsal spaces and concert venues, students have access to the following:

- Practice rooms
 - 19 with pianos; 6 without pianos
 - 1 organ room
 - 4 percussion rooms
- Common areas in the building

2. General students

Students pay \$8.59 in student fees each semester that go to the Caine College of the Arts specifically to support Music and Theater programs. Because of this fee, all students get into most concerts, plays, musicals, or special productions free of charge.

If student organizations on campus want to use any of our facilities, and the calendar of events (rehearsals, performances, etc.) allow it, they have access to all of our facilities including rehearsal spaces and concert venues.

3. Music faculty

There are 23 faculty studio/offices. Most have pianos (if the faculty wants one) and are well equipped with phone, computer/printer and office furniture. The acoustics in the offices are not great but they are isolated and serve the faculty reasonably well. Three

piano studio/offices have two grand pianos. Most faculty now use smaller sound systems but some still have the receiver/amp/speakers set up.

The Department has 13 studio/offices – three in the FAC and 10 in University Reserve (UR) building. The spaces are usable but not ideal as their acoustics are not good and access to the lower floor and office on an upper level have no handicap access.

4. Curricular offerings and curricular levels

Our facilities, equipment and technology are adequate to superior in support of the academic and artistic mission/goals, and therefore, curriculum within the Music Department. We can offer beginning recording/engineering classes only because we have a part time faculty who allows us to use his studio (down town... five minute drive from campus. The classroom situation has not changed for ten years...we could use 2 more classrooms – this situation may be helped through the spaces available in "The Toaster" building. We have good practice rooms...just not enough of them.

Our equipment is adequate in most areas. Pianos, percussion, large/low brass are all good. We need to purchase/replace bassoons & English horns. We will constantly be replacing amplifiers and other gear just because of wear/use.

Our computer lab is excellent with new MAC computers, electronic piano keyboards and updated software. The university has a Student Fee that is used to periodically update all computer labs including the Music Lab. We are not using the lab to the extent that we could for theory, composition and arranging classes. We are working to change schedules to allow more courses to be taught in the lab.

Health and Safety issues present some challenges with our facilities because most of the building was constructed either before ADA requirements/standards were in place or there are other problems that have led to the building not being totally in compliance the ADA standards. The university continues to work on these things by putting in hand rails, improving access and installing small elevators. This is an ongoing process university-wide. The University Reserve building is perhaps the worst facility we have to deal with in this regard.

Technology

Classrooms are equipped with DVD/CD and digital projection systems as are the large rehearsal spaces. We have AV carts that can be used in a variety of places to support teachers and students.

The Music Computer Lab is located in the University Reserve building close to the Chase Fine Arts Center. The lab has 19 stations equipped with:

- 19 iMAC 12.1 computers (21 inch screens)
- 19 M-Audio Key Station 61 keyboards
- Two 70 inch Shape monitors for the instructor station
- 22 computer desks – three are not in use at this time
- Separate room for security of the special equipment

- Programs include Finale and Microsoft Word OFFICE

Environmental Health and Safety

USU's Environmental Health and Safety office is a service organization that provides expertise and advice for compliance with federal, state and local safety and health regulations, as well as current professional practices and guidelines. The goal is to prevent injury, illnesses, and environmental damage through the recognition, evaluation, and control of potential hazards arising from university activities.

Student Health Services, <http://www.usu.edu/health/> , provides excellent health services to our students.

Keeping student, faculty, staff and visitors safe and well cared for is a major priority for the administration and everyone who works at USU.

Facility drawings and equipment lists are at the MDP I Facilities, Equipment tab.