

Report

Long-distance Program ANIM/RAMA

Additional year 2015

On behalf of Royal Academy of Music Aarhus/Aalborg(RAMA) I would like to thank DCCD for the additional funding for our cooperation with Afghanistan National Institute of Music (ANIM).

It has been a beneficial year and both institutions have gained new knowledge on distance teaching and learning. Please find the schedule and the participants list in the end of the report as well as the financial report.

Warm thanks to the staff at ANIM for the wonderful cooperation we had during this year. They handle all tasks professionally and with strong commitment.

Long-distance program SPRING 2015

In the spring program we completed 8 weeks of entrepreneurship, ear training, Music Mind Games and instrumental lessons on guitar, bass, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and vocal. The program aimed at the junior faculty and the professional faculty in ANIM. After two weeks we decided only to work with the junior faculty as it was too difficult to differentiate the classes, so that everybody gained from it.

Most lessons went smoothly with good outcome. We managed to have a fine progression through the 8 weeks in all subjects. The Music Mind Games and ear training classes were very beneficial, both working with music theory in small groups. The instrumental lessons had its best outcome, when it was solo lessons. [Video from vocal lesson](#)

As the teachers became more and more familiar with teaching through the Polycome System the lessons became more rewarding. The sound has a small delay, which means that it is not possible to play along with each other and of cause when you are not in the same room it can be difficult to make sure if there is a good understanding between the two parts. But once you accept the new conditions it is definitely possible to deliver good and fruitful education through this system.

We were now and then challenged by the unreliability of the electricity in Afghanistan and also in Denmark the connection sometimes was too week, when the teaching was not taking place at the academy. As we proceeded we became more and more aware of all the details that defines the best conditions for long-distance teaching.

The entrepreneurship classes were also challenging as the platform was on a too advanced level and it required technical capabilities that ANIM could not provide. It also became obvious that this topic requires that the teacher has a very good acquaintance about the environment and starting point of the students.

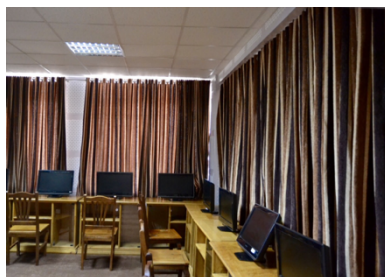
During the spring program we noticed that the teaching room in ANIM was not very suitable for the long-distance teaching as it was in open connection to the corridor and often there was noise from outside. It needed to be more soundproof in order to get better concentration and to improve the sound for the Polycom System. That is why we decided to ask permission to use some of the funding to improve the classroom.

In the spring we also had an Afghan flute master teaching one of our GLOMAS students. They had five good lessons, where she learned several Afghan folksongs and got familiar with the ornamentations used in Afghan music. [Video from flute lesson](#)

Long-distance program FALL 2015

In the fall we also completed 8 weeks of teaching. Due to the request from ANIM we found a flute teacher and we cancelled the entrepreneurship and replaced it with orchestration.

ANIM rebuild their class room and it is now soundproof and well equipped. It will have great impact on all future long-distance learning at ANIM. Please find the pictures below of the Rebuild classroom.



As for the teaching we had some of the same challenges as in spring, but we managed to have many of the same teachers in both programs, which caused a good progression for everyone.

Quote from ANIM

I bring a quote from Dr Sarmast, the head of ANIM; I would like to express my gratitude to the continuous support of the Aarhus Academy of music. The distance learning program initiated by the Aarhus academy of music to assist ANIM, played a significant role in professional development of our students and junior faculty. It also allowed us to significantly improve the infrastructure of our distance learning centre. I hope in 2016 ANIM would be able to work together with the Aarhus Academy of Music for the betterment of Afghan children and music scene in Afghanistan.

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