

With the fall semester drawing near, I would like to take this opportunity to share news of the ongoing activities and success that the University of Ottawa's Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory has enjoyed over the spring and summer months.

We are very proud to announce that two bright and talented students – Nisreen Jardaneh and Julia Brook – are the Laboratory's first to earn the Graduate Certificate in Piano Pedagogy Research.

Nisreen, a native of Jordan, chose to study at the University of Ottawa after learning about the Laboratory's unique program through the Internet. She has applied her extensive knowledge of marketing research analysis in her work on motivation, piano practice, and music reading processes.

Julia, a piano teacher from Manitoba, decided to undertake graduate studies in Piano Pedagogy following her participation in the Studea Musica Institute, a weeklong teacher training program organized by Director Gilles Comeau at the Orford Arts Centre. Her research interests include distance education, movement at the piano, music literacy and the professional development of piano teachers.

This Fall, both Nisreen and Julia will continue towards their Master with a thesis in piano pedagogy.

The Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory also had the honour of welcoming a number of important visitors, among them Jon Kimura Parker, internationally acclaimed concert pianist and Professor of Piano at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music in Houston; Deputy Minister of Research and Innovation, Alastair Glass; and, Deputy Minister of Training, Colleges, and Universities, Philip Steenkamp; and Dr. William Budai, Director of the IUPUI (Indiana University/Perdue University Indianapolis) Music Academy. We were also pleased to provide a tour of the Laboratory to President Toru Saruya, Robert J. Barg, and Jun Fujimoto of Yamaha Canada Music Inc.

A recent highlight for the Laboratory was its "Music and the Brain" symposium. Over 75 participants attended this event, which featured guest speakers Laurel Trainor from the Psychology Department at McMaster University, Caroline Palmer from the Department of Psychology at McGill University, and from the Université de Montréal, Isabelle Peretz, Co-Director of BRAMS Laboratory and Sylvie Hébert from the School of Audiology and Speech Pathology.

In coming months, the Laboratory will maintain its momentum. In October, Director Gilles Comeau will travel to Québec City where he will be the opening keynote speaker

at the 7^e *Journées francophones de recherche en éducation musicale*. This international conference will be held at the Université Laval.

The Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory will also take part in the University of Ottawa's second annual Homecoming celebration this fall with two special activities planned for September 16. Beginning at 10 a.m. in Perez Hall, a live video conferencing session with Finland will be held. At 4 p.m., the Laboratory will open its doors to the public – an excellent opportunity to visit this unique state-of-the-art research facility, including its studio and multi-media control centre. If you would like to participate in the University of Ottawa's Homecoming celebrations, please register by email at piano@uOttawa.ca or at 613-562-5800 ext. 2704.

If you have any questions about the Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory, you can contact Gilles Comeau at 613 562-5800, ext. 3483 for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Lang', written in a cursive style.

George Lang
Dean, Faculty of Arts

c.c. Gilles Comeau, Director, Piano Pedagogy Research Laboratory