

VIEW at FIT IN WINDOW (VIEW menu, ACROBAT)

AUDIO 2004

Staffing / hardware / software / other issues

**Dear Sharon, Michelle, Nigel –
(and c.c. Phil, John C, Ian)**

I want to summarise some stuff from our meeting yesterday (Weds 8th), and also talk about other software/hardware/other needs.

Michelle – my teaching meeting with Nigel flowed into a general meeting with Sharon, so there's some questions I would have put to you there here as well.

Here's a plan, some stuff that we seem to be in agreement on plus some additional. Please correct me and comment !

CLICK LINKS :

STAFFING

MAIN HARDWARE

ADDITIONAL HARDWARE

SOFTWARE

OTHER ISSUES and QUESTIONS

STAFFING

- **Extra CSU position.** Michelle to be responsible for audio/video software in TBA/CSU, released from staff computer support, GAL lab / teaching labs support, and to lead a more fulfilling life ☺
- **Nigel academic position.** I'll approach the school about employing Nigel on a .5 academic contract for the length of my leave. Decision-making responsibility in regards to audio upgrades and issues that arise with the OSX , new software and hardware, some maintenance checking, work in consultation with Michelle, some delegated responsibility with student "issues" regarding coursework – all to be discussed and determined. *Note* : Phil is away until Monday.

MAIN HARDWARE

- MIL/BDM go to G5s at end of 2003.
- 10 x G4s from MIL go to CG-05, replacing 5 current G4s.
- 6 x Digi-001s from MIL/BDM go to CG-05.
- M-Box purchases :
 - 21 for BDM
 - 2 for MIL
 - 2 for CG-05 (so all ten machines have Protools)
 - 1 for CG-07
 - 1 for Nigel

Proposed CG-05 setup is that ONE input bay is maintained (current mixing desk setup) and that students work directly from the headphone outputs of the Digi-001s/M-boxes

ADDITIONAL HARDWARE

General note : unsure of who to ask for the \$\$ for these, i.e. how they're classified

- PROJECTOR for a teaching machine in CG-05 (probably the mixing desk one). If we can get this (which budget? Please advise) then subtract the CG-07 M-Box from the list above, and any other software from lists below referring to CG-07.
- 2-3 additional portable small powered speaker pairs for use in MIL/BDM/CG-05 – i.e. when going through student projects, small group exercises.
- About three additional MIDI keyboards, suggesting **Evolution MK-225C (Pro Controller 25 USB)**
http://www.evolution.co.uk/products/keyboards_01.htm

SOFTWARE – some questions and suggestions

REAKTOR

- Nigel to determine if we should go R4 at the start of 2004. R4 needs to be machine linked, no dongles. One dongle seems to have gone missing about a year ago, there are currently 5 in CSU / 3 in TBA / 2 staff copies (Nigel, Simon)
- **UPGRADE** all current licenses to R4 – Nigel, the 'cost' is only for manuals and CD of ensembles, yes? If so, how many do we need to pay for ?
- **WHERE** Reaktor is needed (include. New purchases) :

Staff copies (suggest add Michelle)

CG-09

CG-15

CG-07 (unless projector purchased for CG-05)

CG-05 – suggest two copies

BDM – as many as the budget can handle, suggest at least 10.

Note : *these suggestions require 7 additional purchases*

CONTINUES

SOFTWARE – continued

PROTOOLS

Need to determine what software will be bundled with M-Box purchases (Michelle, could you discuss with Sounddevices?) There was an offer last month that included cut-down additions of Ableton Live, Reason and Sampletank, this seems to have disappeared from the Digi site. In any case, presuming that at a minimum, this would include D-Verb reverb and Maxim compressor/limiter ? Or am i fantasising the latter?

MAX/MSP

Suggest three copies for BDM

OTHER PLUG-IN SOFTWARE

* Compression/limiting/mastering software :

Depending on the M-Box bundle (above), require at least 3 copies of proper mastering tools in BDM and one copy in CG-05. Suggest WAVES L2 if Maxim is not bundled with M-Boxes – (L2 can be separately purchased outside a WAVES bundle, just checked)

* Noise Reduction

BNR (as existing in CG-09/15)

- One copy to CG-05
- One copy to CG-07 (unless projector purchased for CG-05)
- Three copies to BDM

OTHER SOFTWARE

Suggest a budget component be set aside for some OSX low-cost shareware that may be needed. Both Simon and Michelle need more time to determine the exact OSX setup, I envisage doing some investigation over the next few weeks but will realistically have time to investigate it properly between Week 15 and the end of December, when I leave. I'm thinking of software like AUDIO HIJACK

<http://www.rogueamoeba.com/audiohijack/>

ISSUES / QUESTIONS / THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Does **OSX Core MIDI** allow for simple plug-and-play **different MIDI keyboards** (as opposed to needing a separate OMS setup as in OS9) ?
- Have all **surround-related software purchases** from the Cap Grant been made (Dolby Surround Tools, Surround Scope) ?
- Haven't brought this up before, but the **speakers in F115** are **appalling**, there's no proper bass response, was not able to assess work there mid-session – tried one session but the students complained. I realise I should have become involved in the choosing process there. In any case, my suggested fix for the rest of 2003 and for 2004 is that we replace them with the Tannoy Reveals that were in CG-15, have not discussed this with Jacek yet. I realise that the Tannoys are not specifically designed for this purpose, but they're quite acceptable in MIL. Have not done a Cap Grant application this year (hey, everyone needs a year off) but will look at for 2005. Will also focus in that grant app on a proper recording studio (CG-17), voice recording booth and microphones.
- In regards to all of the above, I'm going ahead and organising moving all of the MIL sound classes into BDM for 2004, as the initial timetabling round is on.