

NOISE MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

You will be aware that the School has been concerned for some time about the effect of noise on staff hearing. Late last year and early this year testing of noise levels in some teaching studios was undertaken in both the jazz and classical areas of the School. These tests revealed that several staff were being exposed to noise well above acceptable levels. After considering this the School Executive has approved the following program for prevention, assessment and protection.

1.

Motivation, education and awareness of risk associated with noise

- Information sheets on noise management will be made available to staff and students and will be included in all staff/student inductions.
- Positive reinforcement - staff should remind students of the significance of the risk to their hearing and set an example in minimising this.

Reduction of noise dose

- The School will encourage and enable staff and students to spread exposure to noise across the week, eg staff should, where possible, not teach all classes on one or two days.

Assessment of noise levels

- Staff who are concerned that they are at risk of damaging their hearing may ask to have the noise levels in their studio tested. (Contact the School Manager.)

2.

Hearing tests

- If a staff member has responded to Step 1 and is considered to be at high risk then they may request a hearing test. This is coordinated by the OH&S office as part of the University's Health Surveillance for staff program. (Contact the School Manager.)

3.

Personal hearing protection

- Personal hearing protection may be provided to staff according to risk and the results of a hearing test. (Students are required to purchase their own protection though the School can assist with information.)