



Ken Schaphorst

CEB Faculty Think Tank Project

NEC Role: Chair, Jazz Studies

Title of Project: Jazz Forum

Define: Increase opportunities for informal student and faculty interaction through music performance and discussion.

Discover: The need expressed by students and faculty for more opportunities for discussion, sharing of personal concerns and independent musical projects.

Dream: An ongoing Jazz Forum that will create regular opportunities for informal discussion, performance.

Design: Reach out to a small group of students and faculty interested in pursuing this idea. Organize a meeting over the summer. Plan a schedule for the upcoming academic year (five weekday mornings, one on each day of the week, MTWThF, spread over the course of the two semesters, scheduled early in the semester so as to not interfere with the ensemble performances). Students enrolled in ensemble during that time will be required to participate in the Forum instead of meeting with their ensemble. All students will be invited to participate.

Derive: I will try to frame the Forum in a way that will encourage an open and inclusive discussion of ideas and an open and inclusive space for performance of student and faculty projects. I will establish some guidelines regarding the discussion. Students and faculty will be given the opportunity to propose ideas for discussion and performance. Guest artists could also be involved at times. At some point during each Forum, everyone should get a chance to play.

Delivery: I'll draft an announcement that will be shared with all students and faculty in September, clarifying the schedule and the process through which students and faculty can propose pieces for performance or topics for discussion.