

Report on the 1st ConnAction Meeting 11th to 13th of May 2018 in Vienna, Austria

From 11th to 13th of May 2018, the ConnAction meeting for music therapy students and career starters took place at the Institute for Music Therapy of the mdw - University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna. According to the motto "Together we are more versatile", the organizing team, including Ronja Gangler, Janine Gimpl and Friederike Kinne, created a framework in which a colorful mix of lectures, workshops, joint music making and informal exchange among the participants took place. In total, about 40 students and graduates from Germany and Austria used these three days to get in touch with each other, to gain perspectives, to get to know new things or simply to enjoy the WE-feeling. This framework provided an opportunity to present a separate diploma thesis or gain experience in guiding a workshop. Among the participants were student representatives Sophie Jäger (ÖBM) and Lena Gebhardt (DMTG). At the same time, this meeting was the official start signal for the newly established CMTS - Connection of Music Therapy Students, which has set itself the task of establishing a network for students from various training locations in German-speaking countries in order to organize further meetings. The CMTS team is full of energy and looks forward to any further assistance (contact and information: cmts.connaction@gmail.com).

Personal impressions to illustrate the atmosphere of the meeting:

"Thank you for this great and rewarding weekend. I noticed how much commitment and passion has been invested in this project."

"What I liked was the combination of swapping ideas, free time, jamming, getting to know each other and the technical input through lectures and workshops."

"It was a very nice weekend with a lot of input and warmth. I especially thank you for being so open and for giving us an insight into your subject, your university and your great community! Keep it up!"

"As I was able to enjoy networking among students at the DMTG student meeting in Heidelberg in February 2016, I did not want to miss this meeting. It offers the chance to get an idea of who's out there, expecting to become a music therapist. You can get to know the ideas and priorities of other training locations and broaden your horizons not only to technical aspects, but much more to personalities, with whom to build a relationship in these three days. Sometimes the most beautiful thing for me was the openness, the enthusiasm and the reciprocal action of all participants, which in a short time could create contact and a sense of attachment. Once again I am grateful for this experience and for the fact that there are people who organize such meetings and breathe life into them with their commitment. Together with a colleague, I dared to lead a workshop, which was a great enrichment for me. The willpower and enthusiasm on the part of the CMTS team in pursuing the idea of networking in the long term was notable. The more people follow and get involved the easier it can be! Therefore, I am a member of the CMTS-working-group since this weekend and hope that many more come to it. It is worthwhile."

Many thanks to all sponsors and the Institute for Music Therapy of the mdw for the support of the ConnAction meeting - especially to Dr. med. Elena Fitzthum, who gave an inspiring lecture at the

beginning of the meeting.

A report from Armin Gluttig & Nina Reiter (students, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz, Austria)