**Inquiry in Music Education: Concepts and Methods for the Beginning Researcher (2nd ed.)**

**IME Worksheet 3.2 Crafting the Research Purpose**

Relates to **Crafting the Research Purpose**, p. 59

**Objectives**

* Analyze research purposes suggested by students in RC 533
* Practice crafting your own research purpose

**Review**

The purpose statement communicates the intent, functional scope, and parameters of a particular study. This means providing a sense of (1) the topic, (2) the mode of inquiry (i.e., historical, empirical, or philosophical), and (3) the focus—learner, teacher, music, or some combination.

**Analyzing RC533 Purpose Statements**

Describe the mode of inquiry and focus suggested by each of these purpose statements.

***Christy*** *… to investigate the historical contexts of influential vocal pedagogues between 1800 and 1900.*

Mode of Inquiry:

Focus:

***Keisha*** *… to study the effects of speech-based rhythm patterns on the rhythmic achievement of young children.*

Mode of Inquiry:

Focus:

***Liam*** *… to explore stories about the cultural and musical origins of the practice of jazz scat singing.*

Mode of Inquiry:

Focus:

***Marguerite*** *… to use Small’s (1997) concept of musicking to explore how relationships are affirmed and celebrated “every time we take part in a musical performance” p. 4).*

Mode of Inquiry:

Focus:

**Crafting your Research Purpose**

1. State your research topic:
2. Thinking about what you have learned about your topic from your review of literature, what gap in understanding or connection to new ideas will you address?
3. Who or what is the focus of your research? [Teacher, Learner, Music, or combination]
4. With the above components in mind, complete this sentence:
   1. *The purpose of this study is to…*
5. (optional) Add any purpose specifications (sub-purposes, questions, or hypotheses) you think are necessary to clarify your research purpose.