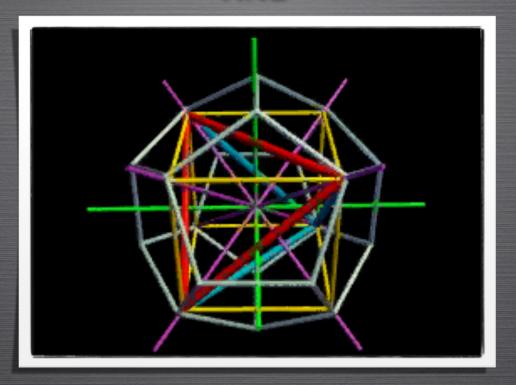
# TENSEGRITY

AND



# SCHOOL/COLLEGE COLLABORATION IN MUSIC EDUCATION

MITCHELL ROBINSON,
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



### CONTEXT FOR COLLABORATION

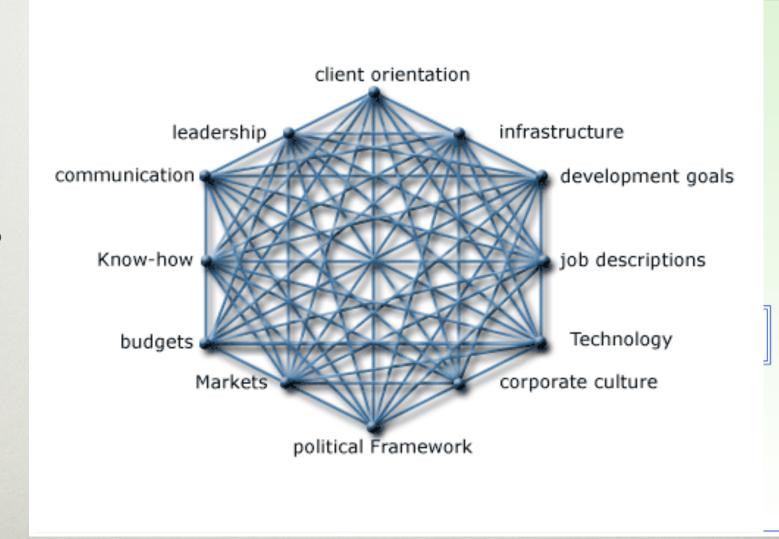
#### THE WILLIAM WARFIELD PARTNERSHIP

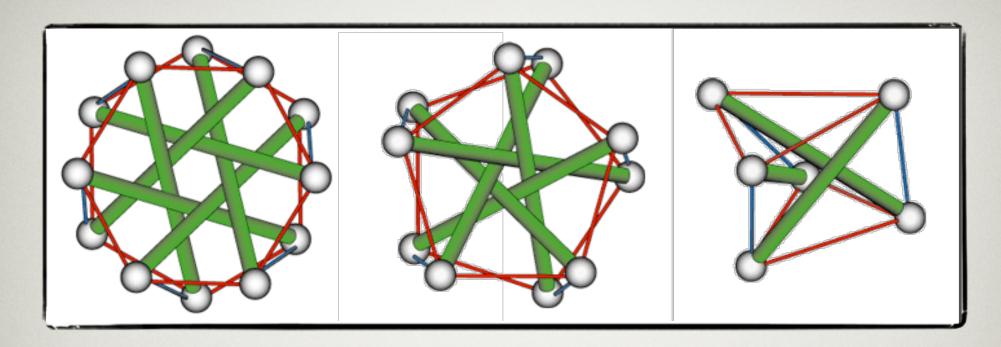
- INITIATED IN 1996, RENAMED IN 2000
- COLLABORATION BETWEEN
   EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC &
   ROCHESTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
- STRING PROJECT, CHORAL PROJECT, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR RCSD TEACHERS, EASTMAN PATHWAYS PROGRAM
- INITIALLY INVOLVED ALL ESM
   MUSIC EDUCATION FACULTY AND
   90+ RCSD MUSIC TEACHERS



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Hierarchical?





# TENSEGRITY

AS A MODEL OF COLLABORATION

TENSIONAL + INTEGRITY

CONTINUOUS TENSION
WITH
DISCONTINUOUS
COMPRESSION



## TENSEGRITY STRUCTURES



# THE GEORGIA DOME, WITH A TENSEGRITY-SUPPORTED ROOF



# TENSEGRITY STRUCTURES

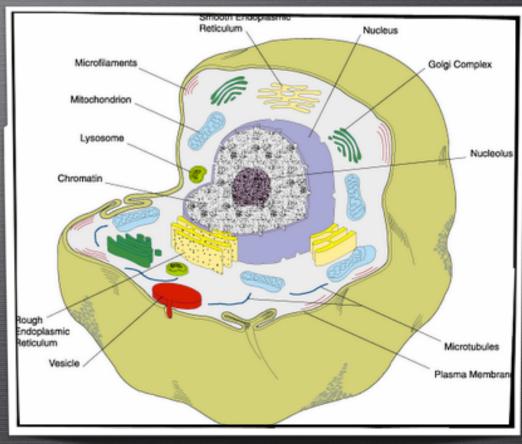


DOME TENT



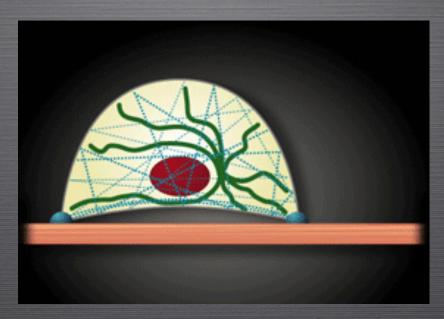
# TENSEGRITY STRUCTURES IN NATURE

CELLULAR
STRUCTURE:
TRADITIONAL
MODEL
("WATER BALLOON
FILLED WITH
MOLASSES")





# CELLULAR STRUCTURE



NEW MODEL, OR
"COMPLEX SYSTEMS BIOLOGY"

(DONALD INGBER,

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL)



#### BENEFITS OF TENSEGRITY

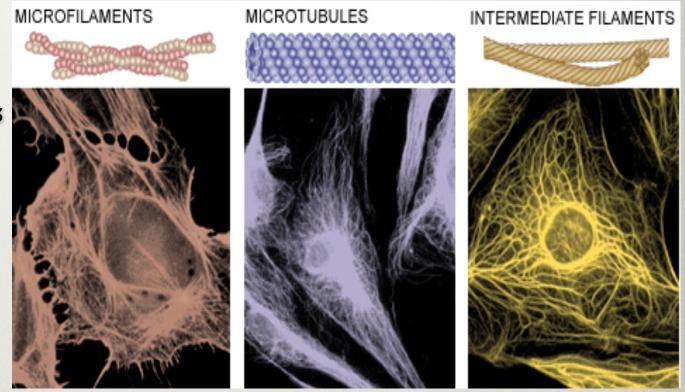
- TENSION STABILIZES
- EFFICIENCY
- PORTABLE & DEPLOYABLE
- STRONG, YET FLEXIBLE
- MOTIVATED FROMBIOLOGY





#### TENSEGRITY IN CELLS\*

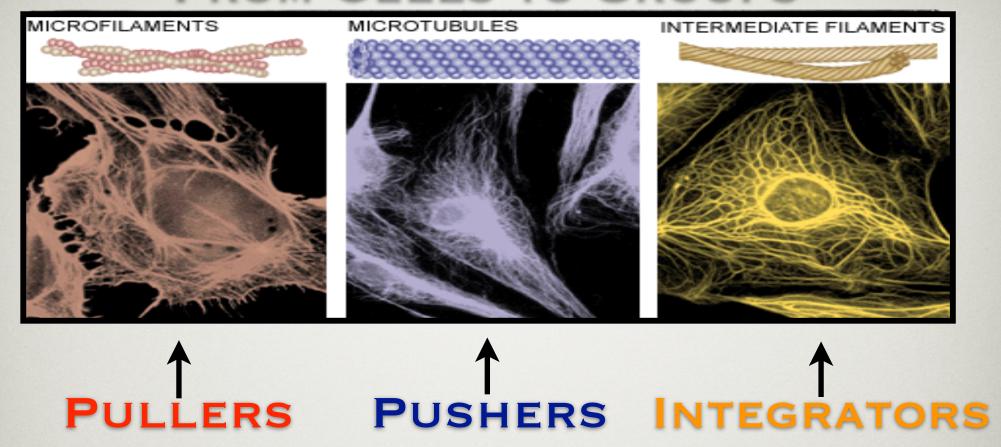
- NUCLEUS
- CONTRACTILEMICROFILAMENTS
- COMPRESSIVE ELEMENTS
- INTERMEDIATE
   FILAMENTS OR
   INTEGRINS



#### HOW TO APPLY TO PARTNERSHIPS?



#### FROM CELLS TO GROUPS

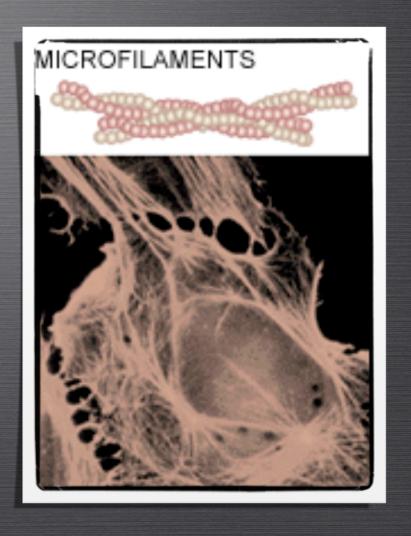


EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS NEED
DIFFERENT KINDS OF PEOPLE TO FILL
NEEDED ROLES



#### **PULLERS**

OFTEN CHARGED WITH DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT **DUTIES**; **RESPOND TO** PRESSURE BY TURNING INWARD, FOCUSING ON HEALTH OF HOST **ORGANIZATION** 



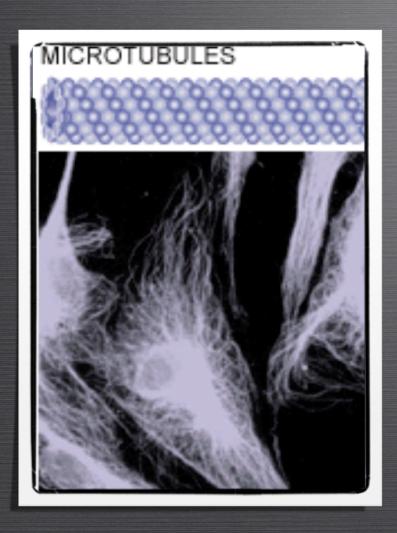


#### Notes on "Pulling"

"WE (BOTH PARTNERS) ALL ARE TRYING TO WORK TOGETHER TO PULL SOMETHING, AND SOMETIMES ON SOME ISSUES WE (COLLEGE PARTNER) HAVE MORE CLOUT. . . AND SO, I THINK THIS INITIAL YEAR AND A HALF OF THE PARTNERSHIP HAS BEEN TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO SHOULD PULL WHEN, WHO SHOULD PULL HARDER ON WHICH ISSUES. AND WHERE ACTUALLY CAN WE MAKE THE BEST USE OF OUR RESOURCES, OF OUR STATUS, OF OUR STUDENTS AND OUR FACILITIES AND OUR PROGRAM."



#### **PUSHERS**



OFTEN FOUND IN DEVELOPMENT AND PR ROLES; RESPOND TO PRESSURE BY COMMUNICATING CORE VALUES TO OUTSIDE GROUPS



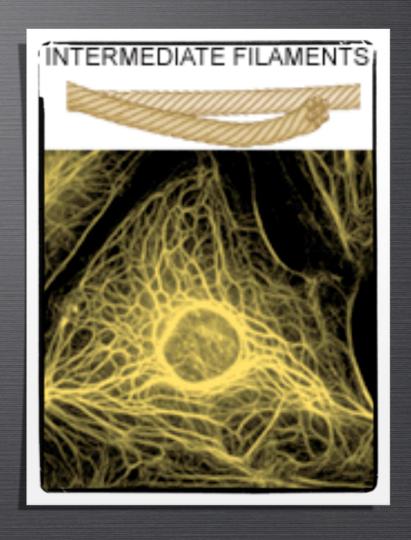
#### Notes on "Pushers"

"I'M INTERESTED IN BEING SURE THAT THE ENERGY (THE PR AND THE BUSTLE) DOESN'T OVERWHELM THE PRODUCT--IN THIS CASE THE TEACHING. I HAVE THIS PRESS RELEASE OUR PR FOLKS WANT TO SEND OUT ABOUT THE STRING PROGRAM. (LAUGHS) AND IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S BEEN AROUND FOR 5 YEARS! "AND THE IDEAS ARE THIS, AND THIS IS HAPPENING." AND IF YOU GO OVER TO THE SCHOOL, WE ARE STILL MEASURING KIDS FOR INSTRUMENTS AND COLLECTING PARENT INFORMATION. SO THE PR IS WAY OUT AHEAD OF THE REALITY. AND THAT CAN BE GREAT. . . BUT I THINK IT CAN ALSO REACH A POINT WHERE THE ADVANCE BUZZ OVERWHELMS THE REALITY, AND CAN EVEN HAVE A NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCE TO IT. SO I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE ALL THE PEOPLE LOOKING TO GET ATTENTION ABOUT THIS KEEP THEIR HANDS OFF THE KIDS, AS MUCH AS I CAN."



#### INTEGRATORS

**CONNECT OTHER** MEMBERS AND PROVIDE STABILITY WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION; **RESPOND TO** PRESSURE BY MONITORING AND BALANCING **TENSIONS WITHIN** THE ORGANIZATION



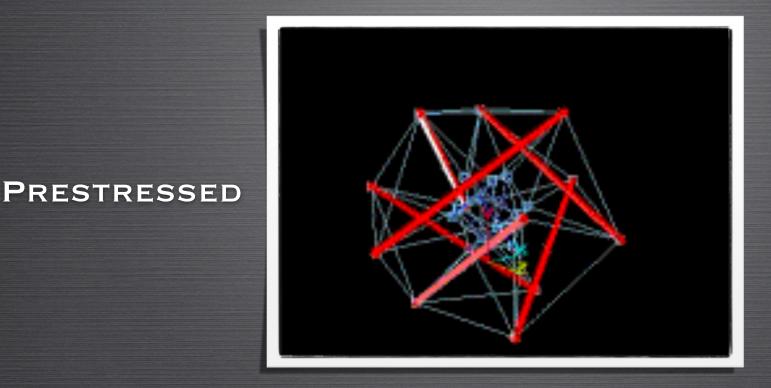


# NOTES FROM AN "INTEGRATOR"

"(LAUGHS) I DON'T KNOW, MITCH--I'M LEARNING SO MUCH ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON! COMING IN AS AN OUTSIDER, ITS KIND OF A SHOCK TO YOUR SYSTEM TO SEE THE EXTENT OF IT, AND TO GET AN EARFUL OF THE POLITICS, WHICH ARE EXTENSIVE. YOU KIND OF BECOME THE CONFESSOR FOR A VARIETY OF PEOPLE WHO VIEW YOU AS AN OBJECTIVE THIRD PARTY WITH THE DISTRICT. THERE'S A LOT OF DISCONTENT ABOUT THE POLITICS OF THE SITUATION--NOT WITH THE PARTNERSHIP--BUT THE POLITICS OF THE DISTRICT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO SAY--IT'S BEEN A SHOCK TO MY SYSTEM."



# TENSION



**STRESSED** 

#### \*TENSION IS NECESSARY FOR EFFECTIVE

(AND SUSTAINABLE) COLLABORATION



\*FROM: JUDGE, A. J. N. (1998). LIVING DIFFERENCES AS A BASIS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY. TRANSNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS [ON-LINE JOURNAL]. AVAILABLE HTTP: HOSTNAME: WWW.UIA.ORG DIRECTORY: UIADOCS/QUENCHIN.HTM 18

### CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF TOP-LEVEL
   LEADERS
- BOTH "TOP DOWN" AND "BOTTOM UP"
   PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP
- A SHARED VISION AND COMMON MISSION AMONG GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS
- "BUY-IN" FROM MEMBERS OF BOTH/ALL
   GROUPS
- LONG-TERM PERSONAL COMMITMENT FROM LEADERS
- EFFICIENT COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS



## NEED FOR RESEARCH ON PARTNERSHIPS

- RESEARCH ON EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS
  - CASE STUDIES
  - EVALUATION PROJECTS
  - DEVELOPMENT OF GROUNDED THEORY
- RESEARCH ON EMERGENT PARTNERSHIPS
  - APPLICATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS TO NEW COLLABORATIONS
  - LONGITUDINAL STUDIES OVER TIME TO ASSESS GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY



#### A PARTNERSHIP PRIMER

#### LEADERSHIP & VISION

- How will your music education community assess its needs?
- Is top-level institutional support and cooperation present from each member organization?
- IS THE INSTITUTIONAL CLIMATE OF EACH MEMBER ORGANIZATION CONDUCIVE TO RISK-TAKING?
- ARE THE GOALS OF EACH MEMBER ORGANIZATION CLEARLY DEFINED AND CONGRUENT?
- DO THE PARTNERS SHARE A COMMON VISION AND GOALS FOR THE COLLABORATION?



#### A PARTNERSHIP PRIMER

#### **RESOURCES & STRUCTURES**

- IS THERE A WRITTEN AGREEMENT CONCERNING RESOURCE ALLOCATION BETWEEN PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING PERSONNEL, FINANCES, RELEASED TIME, IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS, ETC.?
- WHAT RESOURCES (I.E., MUSICAL, HUMAN, FINANCIAL, TIME) ARE AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
- ARE THE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS WILLING TO ALLOCATE SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TOWARD PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES?
- How will key people (i.e., visionaries, leaders, potential adopters) BE IDENTIFIED?
- WILL YOUR PARTNERSHIP INVITE OTHER COMMUNITY MUSIC ORGANIZATIONS AS POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS?
- WILL YOUR PARTNERSHIP INVOLVE:
- PRE-SERVICE TEACHER EDUCATION?
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS?
- DEFINING MUSIC LITERACY FOR THE COMMUNITY?

\* CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT OR REVISION?

#### A PARTNERSHIP PRIMER

#### **ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION**

- How will you document and communicate the activities of your partnership?
- WHAT KINDS OF DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS
   WILL BE COLLECTED THROUGHOUT THE
   EVALUATION PROCESS?
- WHO WILL CONDUCT THE EVALUATION (IN-HOUSE PARTICIPANTS OR OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS)?
- How will you design your assessment to MEASURE MUSIC LEARNING AND OTHER PARTNERSHIP GOALS AUTHENTICALLY?
- How will you know your partnership is successfully meeting its goals?



#### CONTACT INFORMATION

MITCHELL ROBINSON, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF MUSIC

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

EAST LANSING, MI 48824

PHONE: 517.355.7555

EMAIL: MROB@MSU.EDU



