

Martin Prchal
Chair of the Board
MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement



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Brussels, 4 July 2019

Subject: Programme Quality Enhancement Review 2018

Dear Colleague,

In 2018, the Royal Conservatory of Brussels (KCB) engaged in a Programme Quality Enhancement Review with MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement. On behalf of the Board of MusiQuE, I have pleasure in writing to you concerning the outcomes of the review procedure.

Stages of the procedure and review team composition

The procedure for the review of the music programmes followed a three-stage process:

- KCB prepared two *Self-evaluation Reports (SERs)* and supporting documents, SER of the Bachelor and Master of Arts in Music programmes and SER of the Bachelor of Musical programme, based on the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review*;
- an international review team composed by MusiQuE studied the *SER* and carried out a site-visit at RCA on 16-17 May 2018. The site-visit comprised of meetings with representatives of the KCB management team, teaching and support staff, students, alumni, employers and external stakeholders, and visits to classes and performances. The review team used the *MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review* as the basis of its investigations;
- the review team produced two review reports, one report for the Bachelor and Master of Arts in Music programmes and one report for the Bachelor of Musical, both of the reports structured along the *Standards* mentioned above.

The review team consisted of: Georg Schulz (Chair), Associate professor at, and former rector of, the University of Music and Performing Arts Graz, Austria; Jacques Moreau, Director of the Cefedem Auvergne Rhône-Alpes, Centre

de formation des enseignants de la musique, Lyon, France; Hannie Van Veldhoven, Head of jazz and pop at HKU University of the Arts Utrecht, The Netherlands; Ankna Arockiam (Student member), Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom; Patrick Van den Bosch (Secretary), Advisor quality assurance at VLUHR KZ, Brussels, Belgium.

Outcome of the procedure: review reports

The reports of the review team, after being adjusted in line with the comments sent by KCB on the first draft of the reports, have subsequently been scrutinised by the MusiQuE Board on 20 June 2019 to ensure their consistency with, and relevance to, the MusiQuE Standards. I can confirm that the MusiQuE Board is satisfied that the review has been undertaken in compliance with the MusiQuE standards and procedures as described in the MusiQuE Framework Document.

In the case of a Quality Enhancement Review, the result of the review procedure is the final report itself, which includes the list of the MusiQuE standards fully, substantially, partially and not met, highlights the institution's strong points, and provides advice and suggestions/recommendations for change. Both reports are attached and include a summary of compliance with the MusiQuE standards and recommendations.

The main aims of the MusiQuE Quality Enhancement Reviews are to provide an opportunity for institutions to engage with quality enhancement issues outside the constraining framework of a formal review; to stimulate the process of internal reflection on quality issues and, where relevant, to assist institutional leaders in implementing quality-related reforms; and to bring fresh ideas and wider perspectives into institutions, encouraging the principle of 'many correct answers' to questions concerning the pursuit of quality in higher music education.

The attached reports can therefore serve as advisory and informative documents for the institution; they are not a substitute for existing national legal requirements for external quality assurance. Nevertheless, we hope very much that the observations and recommendations included in the reports will be of assistance to your institution in its quality enhancement activities, confirming the strengths of your current achievements by their recognition of good practice and guiding your future endeavours through the suggestions for further development.

Publication of the reports on MusiQuE website and MusiQuE logo for reviewed institutions

Please note, that the reports will be published in full version on the MusiQuE website under the section [Completed reviews](#). In addition, the present letter entitles you to publish on your website the attached MusiQuE logo together with the text: "*The Royal Conservatory of Brussels has been reviewed according to the MusiQuE standards in 2018.*" As the periodicity of MusiQuE review procedures is six years, the logo and text above may be published until July 2025.

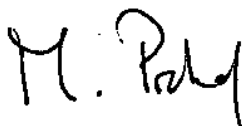
MusiQuE Follow-up Processes

Please note that, in order to assist visited institutions in the post-site-visit process and to enable MusiQuE to assess its impact, a peer-reviewed follow-up process is provided to institutions and programmes in the framework of the

MusiQuE Quality Enhancement Reviews. The MusiQuE Office will therefore send you the *Template for MusiQuE Follow-up Procedures*, which lists in its first column the issues pointed out by the review team as elements to be developed/ further developed. We would like to recommend that your institution makes use of this opportunity of a follow-up process and fills in the second column of the template by July 2020, with short reports of the actions undertaken for each element of improvement and each recommendation. One or more members of the review team which visited your institution in May 2018 will then be asked to study the template filled in by the institution, as well as the evidence provided, and to fill in the third column of the *Follow-up Template* with comments and, if appropriate, further recommendations.

I would like to thank you and your colleagues for your hard work in relation to the formulation of the self-evaluation report and the excellent organisation of the site-visit. Please accept my congratulations on the outcomes of the procedure on behalf of the entire MusiQuE Board.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Prchal', written in a cursive style.

On behalf of the MusiQuE Board

Martin Prchal, Chair