

Jacques Moreau
Chair of the Board
MusiQuE - Music Quality Enhancement

Huug de Deugd
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P.O. Box 11670
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Brussels, 28 May 2024

Subject: External review of Research Activities at the University of the Arts, The Hague

Dear Colleague,

In 2023, the University of the Arts, The Hague commissioned MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement to conduct an external review procedure at institutional level for the research activities conducted by the University of the Arts The Hague. For the purpose of this review, the entire University of the Arts was considered as a research unit. However, the goal of this exercise was to conduct an evaluation of research activities from a multidisciplinary perspective in terms of expertise and experience, which resulted in tailor-made advice and recommendations for each of the members of the research platform: the Royal Conservatoire, and the Royal Academy of Arts respectively.

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 review followed a three-stage process:

1. The University of the Arts The Hague prepared a self-evaluation report (SER) and supporting documents, offering background information and insights about Research within the institution; based on, and structured according to, the *MusiQuE Framework for the Evaluation of Research Activities* (see [MusiQuE Standards](#)) in combination with the Dutch Branch Protocol Quality Assurance Research - *Brancheprotocol Kwaliteitszorg Onderzoek* (BKO) .
2. An international Review Team studied the self-evaluation report and conducted a site visit at the University of the Arts, The Hague from 12 to 14 December 2023. They visited the two Faculties (KC and KABK) where they were shown the facilities along with some of the research outputs, and met with key personnel including: HdK, KC, KABK, ACPA and PARC management and leadership teams, including Lectors; representatives of Lectorate Research Groups and support for research; teachers/tutors/staff involved with the educational programmes and students and

alumni. The Review Team used the above mentioned standards as the basis of its investigations.

3. The Review Team produced a report, structured following the *MusiQuE Framework for the Evaluation of Research Activities* in combination with the BKO Standards.

The international Review Team was composed of Georg Schulz, Rector and Associate professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Graz (Review Team Chair); Mary Lennon, Senior Lecturer in Music at the TU Dublin Conservatoire (Review Team Secretary); Sean Ferguson, Dean and Professor of Composition at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University (Canada), Co-Director of McGill Digital Composition Studios (Review Team Member); Kristoffer Gansing: Visiting Professor at Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton (Review Team Member); Ivar Grydeland: Associate Professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music, University of Agder and The Norwegian Artistic Research School (Review Team Member); Veerle Van der Sluys: Vice Dean Research at LUCA School of Arts (Review Team Member); Leander Gussmann: PhD student at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Review Team Member and Student Representative); James Slimings: Choral conductor and PhD candidate at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (Review Team Member and Student Representative). All Review Team members have filled in and signed a questionnaire to avoid any conflict of interest.

Outcome of the procedure: review report

The report of the Review Team, after being adjusted in line with the comments sent by the University of the Arts, The Hague on the first draft of the report, has subsequently been scrutinised by the MusiQuE Board on 24 May 2024 by the Board to ensure its consistency with, and relevance to, the MusiQuE and BKO Standards. I can confirm that the MusiQuE Board is satisfied that the review has been undertaken in compliance with the MusiQuE and BKO standards and procedures as described in the MusiQuE Standards.

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 met, substantially met and not met, highlights the institution's strong points, and provides advice and suggestions/recommendations for change. This report is attached and includes, on page 41-42, a summary of the assessment 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 report can therefore serve as an advisory and informative document for institutions; it is 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 report 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 their suggestions for further development.

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

Please note, that the report will be published in full version on the MusiQuE website under the section [Other services](#). In addition, the present letter entitles you to publish on your website the attached MusiQuE logo together with the text: *“The research activities of The University of the Arts in The Hague have been reviewed in 2023 according to the internationally recognised standards of MusiQuE.”* As the periodicity of MusiQuE review procedures is six years, the logo and text above may be published until 28 May 2030.

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 'J. Moreau', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

On behalf of the MusiQuE Board

Jacques Moreau, Chair