

Accreditation of the Bachelor of Music and Master in Advanced Music Performance Studies: Classical and Contemporary Music Instruments

Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC)

Site visit dates: 20-21 November 2018

It was clear to the RT during its visit that the institution is at a pivotal point in its development; the ESMUC, only in its 17th year, is well underway to face 21st century challenges. There has been a great deal of change, growth and new strategic planning (although the findings of the RT are based on the institution as it is now). The RT was impressed by teamwork and shared values in the senior management and elsewhere in the institution; there is a very firm sense of the mission and vision of the ESMUC among all the staff and students that the RT encountered.

The RT was also impressed by the self-aware and self-reflective attitude of the ESMUC senior team. There is ample evidence that the ESMUC works in a spirit of positive enhancement, is very much future-focussed and puts the student at the centre of its thinking.

Some illustrative highlights for the RT were:

- Undergraduate students' enthusiasm for the transversal philosophy that is clearly supported by teaching staff;
- Support staff who have a passion for and pride in their work which allows them to go the extra mile;
- Seeing the work on Moodle and the very student-centred approach – particularly in the peer assessment methods – which reflects international best practice;
- The very positive views of both alumni and members of the profession.

The RT found a good correlation between the AQU standards and the MusiQuE standards. The ESMUC meets or exceeds the vast majority of the standards. There is a sound and functioning quality system that is being aligned with both formal and informal institutional processes; the Improvement Plan is testimony to the energy with which this is being pursued.

The RT finds that ESMUC is now an institution in a state of maturity and wishes it well in the next phase: the implementation of its ambitious strategic plan.