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Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

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The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

The Royal College of Music in Stockholm (Kungl. Musikhögskolan i Stockholm, KMH) is the second oldest higher education institution in music in the world, founded in 1771.

When choosing international partners, there is one European association that has influenced the work at KMH and continues to play an important role for the work within the field of international relations and mobility: Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen (AEC) as mentioned in part C2 above. KMH is an active partner in different educational and research projects, for instance as a project partner in the Erasmus Thematic Network "Polifonia" (<http://www.polifonia-tn.org>) hosted by the AEC.

In addition, KMH collaborates with partners from all over Europe, USA, China and South Africa. KMH intends to continue the cooperation with our reputable partner schools and engagement in networks for education and research. KMH is taking part in three exchange programmes, Erasmus, Nordplus and Linnaeus-Palme. Our institution is firmly committed to continue developing and promoting the mobility activities (for our target groups that include students and employees) offered within these programmes.

It is of importance to underline that KMH is in the process of developing more interdisciplinary and intersectional cooperation. In order to reach that goal KMH has identified five different areas that should be developed further when choosing partners and activities in relation to internationalization in the future:

1) Artistic excellence

KMH is among the few higher education institutions in the world that can offer (artistic) excellence in the following disciplines: classical music, folk music, jazz and improvisation, composition, conducting, music and media technology, as well as various forms of music teacher training and research. The intention is to establish collaboration with partners that have the same high ambitions. One main objective for KMH's departments is to find partner schools or organizations with a high artistic excellence in its discipline.

2) Adding competences

The music industry has a great impact in other disciplines like for instance music and health, music and technics, music and tourism. These are just some examples of interesting fields for both educational programmes as well as for research. KMH has started and finds interest in developing this further and wishes to add competences related to interesting educational cooperation or research projects in the mentioned areas and not only in music.

3) Entrepreneurship issues and awareness

When choosing partners KMH has a vision of broaden up the consciousness of the great impact the music industry has achieved over the last 10 years. The music industry is increasing its growth as opposed to the rest of the economy in Europe. This is an important fact that has an impact on the higher education institutions of music. One of the challenges for the higher music institutions in the future is to address questions about entrepreneurship and create entrepreneurial learning labs for young students as well for the teaching personnel. KMH has established cooperation with partners in the Nordic countries as well as in the Baltic region, where the awareness of these issues are high.

4) Educational structure

The quality assurance work regarding educational structure for both second and third cycle is of great importance to KMH. To create an educational structure with concrete learning outcomes, transparency with the assessment procedure and defining concrete criteria is a main target for KMH. To have a well structured and functioning quality assurance system when building degree programmes is the same as creating a sustainable value both for students and staff.

5) Language

KMH is a governmental authorization with an assignment that the institution should have the Swedish language as the official language. Music could indeed be described as a "universal language". However, in order to build sustainable relations with other higher education institutions it demands a common language - in this case English.

KMH is currently developing a joint programme The Master in Contemporary Performance and Composition (<http://www.copeco.net>). This Master's programme is being jointly developed as a three-year LLP Erasmus Curriculum

Development Project. The project consortium includes the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, the Royal College of Music in Stockholm, the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre and the National Superior Conservatory of Music and Dance of Lyon.

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

In its board-approved strategy for 2011-2014 (published at www.kmh.se) it is stated that KMH "Should be an active and respected part of the national and international networks and projects working to develop the higher music education". In order to become a respected partner on an international level, the institution's strategy has been a commitment to quality assurance. To assure the quality, KMH has developed a quality indicator system. This system is an important tool for constructing new courses in degree programmes and to give transparency for students, staff and stakeholders and is crucial for KMH's international engagement.

KMH is aiming for an increased international engagement in different areas. One concrete field is to find partners for drawing bilateral exchange agreements, but also more deeply develop joint programmes. In order to be concrete when developing joint programmes, KMH has defined three areas that need to be in focus:

- 1) Legal contract
- 2) Programme syllabus and course syllabuses (curriculum)
- 3) Study handbook

These areas should be stressed for creating a constructive platform for pedagogical discussions about the content. KMH's strategy in this matter is to look for international partners that are interested in the structure part of building a joint programme, or discuss various viewpoints of both education and research.

KMH has recently started a feasibility study funded by a governmental project, with objective of creating an international Bachelor's Programme in music together with a non-EU member country. The aim of this project is to search for possibilities creating and constructing other programme syllabuses with international partners outside the EU region. KMH wants to share the outcome of this feasibility study with our European partners. One of the possibilities KMH is looking at is to develop CEIMS – China Europe International Music School.

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

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1) to increase the number of graduates

KMH has worked intensively with creating a sustainable system for various degree programmes the last years and the figures of graduates in relation to enrolled students are high (approximately 90%) and have been so for the last decades. However, KMH will despite the positive figures continue to work and combat the pattern in the European society and encourage and attract students from underrepresented groups within the institution and to "non-traditional learners" and continue the work for equality.

2) to improve the quality and relevance

KMH's courses must be relevant, quality assured by the internal and external requirements and interact with each other. The education is continuously under evaluation and as well as the development of pedagogical methods. To have a well structured and transparent functioning quality assurance system is of importance for KMH. It creates sustainable value for students and employees and will have an impact when recruiting highly skilled students, researchers and employees and it is of importance for being a respected partner in international networks.

3) to gain additional skills

In the on-going work with both the feasibility study mentioned and the quality system for constructing degree programmes, the main objective is to provide various opportunities both for students and staff to encourage international engagements. International mobility inspires and raises the students' professional performance and teaching skills and makes our students aware of how the music market functions and may also improve their employability in a global economy.

4) strengthen the "knowledge triangle"

KMH has recently released a new concept to stress the work with entrepreneurial issues; Arty Business. In this concept, KMH will create Arty Business labs with objective to create hubs for artists, business, education and research. The aim is to establish an Arty Business Center for research, education and innovation reflecting the balance between the strengths of the artistic and business processes, both of high quality. A number of international and cross-border collaborations should be established: companies and organizations shall be offered to participate in KMH education and research to strengthen the students in the regular labour market and to strengthen KMH's brand on an international mobile training and education market.

5) to create effective governance

As a public funded institution KMH has on-going strategy how to reform the use of resources and increase transparency and enhance the cooperation with the surrounding society. In addition, KMH has for years worked with national founded cooperation projects with developing countries in Asia and Africa. This experience will be useful if the Erasmus programme will be enlarged to include such possibilities.

* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)



Approved by
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