

AEC IRCs Meeting 2021

Parallel Session 5 - Thursday, 16th September, Vigo

Blended Mobility – the use of LoLa for ERASMUS, by Anna Maria Bordin and Susanne van Els, SMS working group on Learning and Teaching

LoLa, a Low Latency audiovisual teleconferencing system tailor-made for the needs of online musical ensemble play, has been a regular topic at IRC meetings for several years. The technical features are constantly improving, and the number of network of partners having access to the necessary equipment is constantly growing. Above all, however, two years of pandemic are now behind us, which has made LoLa and other online tools appear in a completely new light.

The Learning & Teaching working group of AEC's SMS project investigated the issue of how LoLa and other online teleconferencing systems are impacting learning and teaching. Today's three speakers, all members of the AEC-SMS L&T WG, have taken on this task by conducting guided interviews with teachers and students involved in the Erasmus+ SP project SWING (Synergic Work Incoming New Goals for Higher Education Music Institutions). one of SWING's objective is to collect user data on LoLa, which can be used as a basis for the further development of the system.

Anna Maria Bordin will report on the knowledge gained in this study on the experiences of teachers and students in using the system. Susanne van Els will then talk about how these findings connect with thoughts and ideas that were developed in the L&T WG, in which the principle of student-centred learning plays a key role. Susanne will also report on her experiences from another project (EOALAB) in which a module was developed that works with a learning community and fits well to the idea and goal of the Erasmus 21-27 short exchanges. Stefan Gies wil then take up the thread and finally present more in detail the extended options that the short time and blended mobility offer which provided by the latest generation of Erasmus programmes, and in which teleconferencing systems such as LoLa are the key to bring blended mobility as part of performing music studies to live and make it successful.