

AEC Executive Committee and Council Elections 2023 - CVs and Statements of Candidates



Association Européenne des
Conservatoires, Académies de
Musique et Musikhochschulen

List of Candidates for the Council

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- Sternal, Małgorzata (Poland)
- Willi, Barbara Maria (Czech Republic)

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Prof. Rico Gubler
HKB - Hochschule der Künste Bern,
Switzerland

Curriculum Vitae

Prof. Rico Gubler took up his post as Head of the Department of Music at the Bern University of the Arts on 1 February 2023, after spending nearly a decade as President of the Lübeck University of Music in northern Germany. The trained lawyer, saxophonist and composer first studied jazz saxophone in Lucerne, classical saxophone with Iwan Roth in Basel, with Marcus Weiss in Zurich and with Jean-Michel Goury in Paris. During his music studies he specialised in contemporary music, free improvisation and live electronic performances. As a young Swiss musician, he received the coveted study prize of the Migros Genossenschaftsbund and the Ernst Göhner Foundation in 1997 and 1998. In addition to his training as a saxophonist, Rico Gubler studied composition with Balz Trümpy in Basel and Salvatore Sciarrino in Florence. Numerous scholarships and awards followed: in 1998 he received the Prix du Club de mécénat suisse en France for his work, and a year later the cultural award of the Canton of Zurich. In 2001 he was a scholarship holder at the Künstlerhof Schreyahn, and from 2001 to 2002 the Landis & Gyr Foundation in London supported him. This was followed by a scholarship from the Dr. Robert and Lina Thyll-Dürr Foundation. The City of Zurich supported him twice with a year of work: in 2004 for composition and in 2005 for interpretation. In addition to his musical work, 2003-2007 Rico Gubler studied law in Zurich, which he completed with the Lizenziat II. From 2004 to 2014 he taught saxophone and chamber music at the Lugano Conservatory, and from 2010 to 2014 he was head of studies and a member of the management of the Basel School of Music, as well as a member of the board of trustees of the collecting society Swissperform for several years. From 2018 to 2020, Rico Gubler was the elected chairman of the Conference of Schleswig-Holstein Universities. He was a board member of the Network of Music Universities for Quality Management and Teaching Development in Germany. In 2023 he has been elected as chairman of the scientific advisory board of the Alliance for Teacher Education in Schleswig-Holstein, is a member of evalag's evaluation commission for continuing education programmes, a board member of the Swiss Music Council and, as of November, vice-president of the Conference of Swiss Music Universities. Rico Gubler has German and Swiss citizenship and lives in Bern.

Statement

After almost three years on the AEC Council, I have learned a lot and can therefore look forward to an good basis for a possible further term as AEC-Council member. Important aspects were my expertise as head of HMEI in Germany (until 2023) and Switzerland (from 2023), my teaching experience in higher education of about 15 years and my legal view on certain topics. As part of my Council work, I was in charge of the Pop and Jazz Platform, was allowed to participate in the work on the new Strategic Plan and other central documents and have recently also been responsible for the Artemis Working package 7 (capacity building). I would be delighted to be able to continue this work.

As a saxophonist and composer, I have been living between the different musical genres, fighting for the new and the unconsumed, beyond the musical or pedagogical work. As a university teacher, it is important to me that students are enabled to actively participate in musical life and also learn to actively shape there skills with the necessary degree of reflection. Studying law, on the other hand, sharpened my eye for structures and subtle differences, even into the political spheres that surround and influence us. Through my activities, I became acquainted with a wide variety of higher education systems and political cultures and, in addition to the entire spectrum of management and strategy, I am particularly interested in the creation of sustainable higher education structures, in the necessary connections for the social anchoring of these structures in the tertiary sector, as well as in the topics of higher education autonomy and freedom of science and art.

It will also be helpful that I will take over the co-vice-presidency of the Conference of Swiss Music Universities in November and was recently elected to the board of the Swiss Music Council. There are various cross-references and synergies that could help to link these different levels and responsibilities.

My candidacy is supported by the Conference of Swiss Music Universities and the Rectors' Conference of the German Musikhochschulen.

Prof. Rico Gubler

Małgorzata Sternal, PhD
The Krzysztof Penderecki Academy of Music, Krakow
Poland

Curriculum Vitae

Academic teacher and researcher, initiator and project manager of artistic and academic projects, including international conferences, as well as intercultural projects involving participants from Europe and beyond. Graduate of the **Jagiellonian University** (MA in musicology as well as postgraduate programme in culture management), and **ESC - Burgundy School of Business in Dijon**, France (Mastère Spécialisé Européen en Management des Entreprises Culturelles, 2001). Command of languages: Polish (native), fluent English, intermediate French, Russian, basic Italian.

In 2001-2006 I worked at the Institute of Public Affairs of the Jagiellonian University (UJ), teaching and researching in the field of cultural policy and cultural management education. My doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Management and Social Communication of UJ concerned the competences and training needs of managers of the public sector cultural institutions in Poland (doctorate in 2005). Between 2001 and 2007 I served as a **board member and then vice-president of ENCATC** - the leading European network in the field of cultural policy and cultural management education. I also collaborated with the European Cultural Foundation as a senior advisor in the ECF grant programme (2007-2010).

In 2006 I started working full time at the Academy of Music in Krakow (now the Krzysztof Penderecki Academy of Music in Krakow, KPAM), at the Department of Music Education Research, focusing my **teaching and research on the issues of culture management, cultural cooperation and professional development of musicians**. I have published a handbook on career development of musicians (in Polish, 2020), as well as **articles and book chapters** (also in English), covering subjects of artist entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial motivations of musicians, entrepreneurship in music education, and cultural cooperation networks. These were also the topics of my guest lectures and conference papers presented in **major international congresses** organized by International Society of Music Education, ENCATC, and universities in several countries including Poland, Romania, Croatia, Austria, UK, Serbia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Belgium, Italy, Spain.

Over the years I have held **managerial positions at the KPAM** - I was head of International Cooperation Centre (2006-2010) and vice-dean of the Faculty of Composition, Interpretation and Music Education (2019-2020). I also designed, organized and was academic leader of a professional postgraduate programme in cultural management (2005-2010). Since 2020 I have been entrusted with the responsibility for students affairs and external relations as a **Vice-rector of the Krzysztof Penderecki Academy of Music in Kraków**.

Statement

There are three reasons why I decided to present my candidature in the next AEC Council elections.

One of them is the idea behind the Council composition, namely that it should represent in the best possible way the Association's membership. Currently the Council does not include any representative of the institutions that keep alive and further develop the **great tradition of professional music education in the region of the Central and Eastern Europe**. That prompted me to think that the HMEIs from this region should have a stronger presence within AEC structures ensuring a more diversified view on the challenges of contemporary higher music education in Europe.

My professional experience has been built not only through academic teaching and researching, but also through active participation in the European cultural cooperation scene. Having been involved - as a board members and vice-president - in strategic planning and evaluation activities in **one of the leading European networks (ENCATC) gave me important knowledge on how European associations work and evolve**. I have realized that this previous experience combined with my on-going interests in the professional musicians career development might be an asset in the challenging tasks of implementing AEC overall mission and particular strategies.

My recent involvement in the activities of the LLL Working Group of the ARTEMIS project, a group composed of expert, competent and enthusiastic individuals representing different countries and educational traditions has brought me to a conclusion that this is the area in which I would like to be more engaged in AEC. I also believe that AEC is the best place where **putting together research activities and exploring practical solutions in the area of lifelong learning can result in creating new knowledge and applicable tools useful in further developing training and support of professional musicians** and - in consequence - leading to „strengthening music in society“. Yes, my referring to the title of AEC's previous project is intentional - AEC builds its strength in continuum, looking into future while benefiting from the past achievements.

Margareta Jernal
11.09.2023

Barbara Maria Willi
Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts, Brno
Czech Republic

Curriculum vitae

Barbara Maria Willi is a Czech-German innovative historical keyboard player, currently serving as **dean of the Music Faculty of the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts Brno, Czech Republic**. Her contribution to the development of Early Music in the Czech Republic is significant, having recently founded the first Department of Early Music within a Czech academic institution (the Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Brno), which she now leads. She gained her Ph.D. title with a thesis on basso continuo styles in 17th Century Central Europe (2007) and was awarded her professorship by the Czech president, Václav Klaus, in 2010 as the youngest holder of that title in the field of classical music.

She is currently permanent guest professor at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, Netherlands, and co-founder of the Joint Study Programme “European Masters of Early Music”, a cooperation between JAMU Brno and The Royal Conservatory in The Hague.

Barbara Maria Willi has participated in two Early Music Research Projects about Czech emigrant composers in France with the Sorbonne in Paris and her home institutions in Brno, Masaryk University and the Janáček Academy. Since 2017 she has been director of studies at the European EEEMERGING+ network founded by the Centre Culturel in Ambronay, supporting young ensembles in 10 countries with 14 international partners.

Her programming for the renowned Czech festival *Concentus Moraviae* has often been provocative and original (e.g. “Flemish storm”, “Great composers and their enemies”). As a Czech-German keyboard specialist, her unexpected viewpoints and very personal interpretations often surprise. With her unique fortepiano by F. J. Baumeister, built in 1797, she undertook a research journey to the late 18th century vocal and instrumental music of the Czech Lands, and she enjoys discovering and inspiring contemporary composers, notably with the Brno Contemporary Orchestra. She has written a basso continuo detective story entitled, “Thoroughbass or - who murdered Counterpoint?”

Professional experience

1991 - Teacher at the Music Faculty of Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts (JAMU) in Brno, (with the title of an Associate Professor in 1998 and of a Professor in 2006)

1991 - 1995 Fellowship of the German Academic Exchange Office (*Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst*)

2002-2020 Program Director of the International Music festival *Concentus Moraviae*

2016 - 2018 Program Director of the Organ Festival *Bachův varhanní podzim*

2014-2020 Founder and Leader of the Early Music and Organ Department at JAMU

2015-2017 Project manager of The Creative Europe funded project EURTEXT, Back to the future

2014 - Guest teacher at the University of Arts Den Haag, Netherlands

2019-2021 Career development manager within the Creative Europe funded project EEEMERGING+

2019 - 2020 Guest teacher at the Arts Faculty of Ostrava University, Czech Republic

2020 Dean of Music faculty JAMU

2021 President of the International Leoš Janáček Competition

Languages: German (native speaker), Czech, English, French

Statement

My life could be described as international from the outset, being born into a Polish-German family in South Germany near the French and Swiss border. I studied in three countries (Germany, France, Austria) before settling in the Czech Republic, where I was granted Czech citizenship. Concerts have taken me across Europe, Africa, USA and Russia.

Meeting the same love for music in all these different contexts has taught me humility: I understood how many different approaches and standpoints are possible and how diverse the pronunciation of values we all agree on can be.

Studying in Germany, France and Austria and teaching in the Czech Republic has led me to explore a wide range of academic traditions. Seeing the similarities and differences of thinking habits and priorities never ceases to fascinate me, and I understand the AEC community as a unique space for growing together through mutually accepting diversity. I am convinced that if we manage to keep our eyes fresh, curious, and non-judgemental, we can learn so much from each other.

I would like to share that coming to the Czech Republic after the Velvet revolution was one of the most refreshing experiences in my professional life: I had to remodel expectations and search for new solutions. The creation of an East-West Joint Study program between the Royal Conservatoire in the Hague and the Janáček Academy for Music and Performing Arts in Brno was hugely challenging as it involved reconciling the strengths of two different institutions representing two different traditions.

It is my deep wish to create a better world by using diversity as both an opportunity and a challenge. I do believe, that only if we focus on what we can learn from each other and only if we are willing to cultivate win-win thinking, will we be able to create a strong and sustainable European family.

Barbara Maria Willi