

MUSIQUE QUALITY ENHANCEMENT



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



AEC

Content

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(Structure, Services, Principles, Standards)
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Part I: What is MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement?

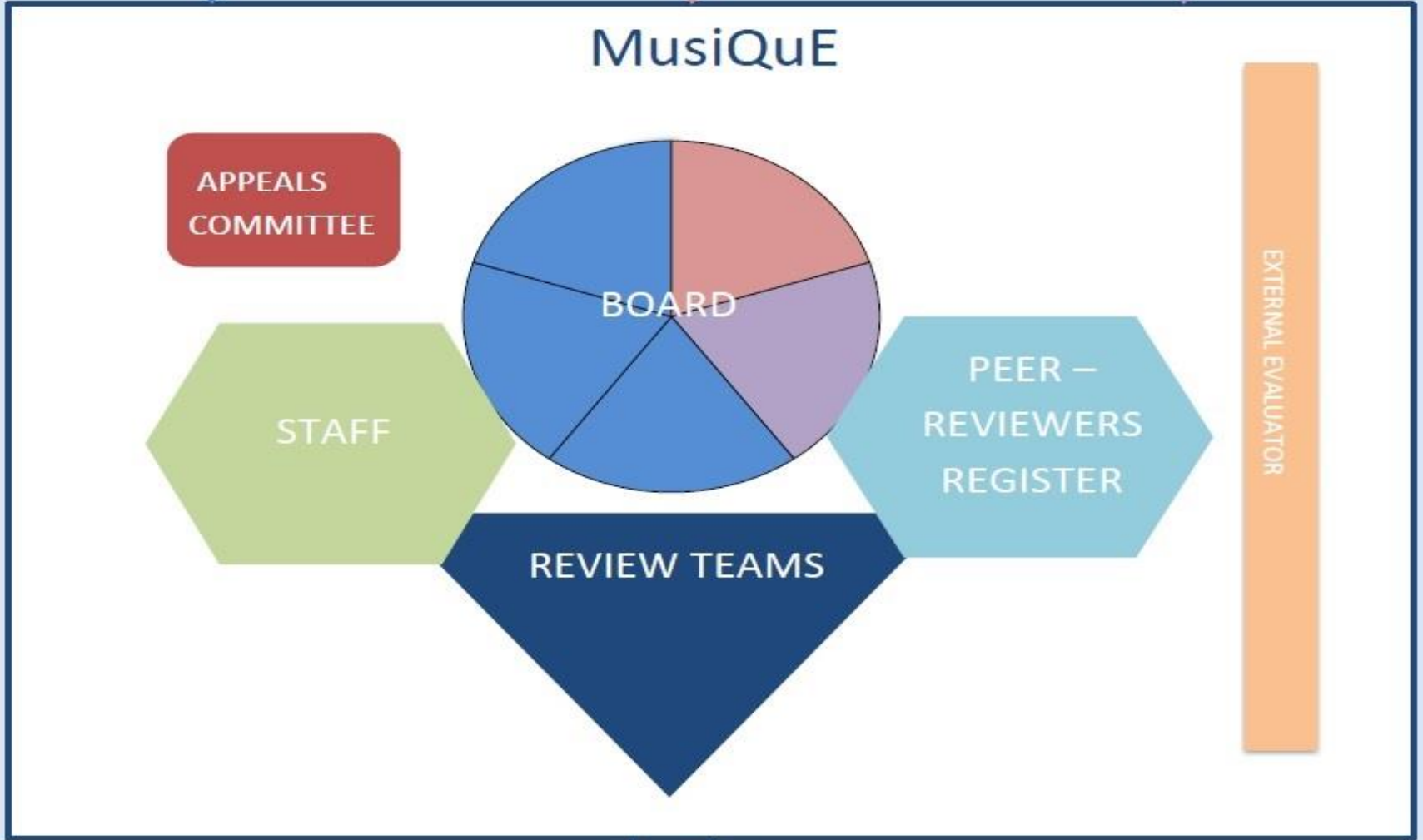
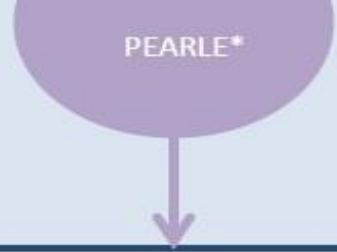
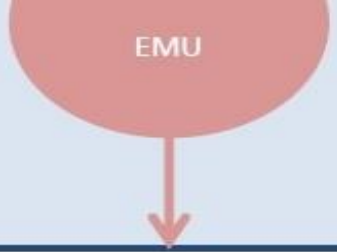
- An independent European-level subject-specific external evaluation body
- Keywords: ENHANCEMENT and FLEXIBILITY

More than 10 years of work on quality enhancement by AEC Working groups!

- 2002-2004: Project with NASM (US)
- 2006-2007: First review criteria and procedures
- 2007-2014 (Polifonia projects): Criteria and procedures fine-tuned, standards formulated
- 2011-2013: AEC Quality Enhancement Committee
- **7 October 2014: MusiQuE established as an independent legal entity**
- **June 2016: MusiQuE listed on EQAR (European Quality Assurance Register)**

3 Partner organisations

1. AEC
2. The European Music Schools Union (EMU)
3. The Performing Arts Employers Associations League Europe (Pearle* - Live Performance Europe)



Part II: Why MusiQuE?

- Don't leave quality enhancement in music to the bureaucrats
- Don't leave quality enhancement in music to the accountants
- Don't leave quality enhancement in music to the politicians

Part II: Why MusiQuE?

- MusiQuE wants to find subject-specific, self-controlled solutions
- Costs should remain as low as possible, let's challenge the 'quality assurance industry'
- QE in music is different: concept of quality

Part II: Concept of Quality

- Tension between ‘standards’ and ‘quality’
- Music sector has been strong on musical/artistic standards
- ‘Educational quality’ fairly new
- MusiQuE brings both together and can suggest tools to support both aspects

Part II: Key Principles of MusiQuE services

- Respecting the special characteristics of higher music education
- Bringing a European/international dimension to quality enhancement
- Encouraging institutions to reflect on their own practice, development and challenges
- Making quality assurance more meaningful to teaching staff
- Offering tailor-made services and innovative approaches to external review

Part III: Standards for Institutional, Programme and Joint Programme Review

3 Sets of Standards

8 Domains of enquiry

1. Mission and vision /Programme goals and context
2. Educational processes
3. Student profiles (admission to, progress through and completion of the programme)
4. Teaching staff
5. Facilities, resources and support
6. Organisation and decision-making processes and
7. Internal quality culture
8. Public interaction

Standard 2.2
The institution offers a range of opportunities for students to gain an international perspective.

Questions to be considered when addressing this standard

a) What is the institutional strategy for offering international perspectives and experiences to students?

b) To what extent do the study programmes and the extra-curricular activities broaden the students' international perspectives and experiences?

c) How is the institution participating in international partnerships/exchanges?

d) How are incoming and outgoing students and staff supported by the institution?

e) Does the institution have international teachers delivering parts of the curriculum?

f) How have teachers developed international expertise?

Supportive material/ evidence

- International strategy
- Any other strategies to promote international cooperation, the inclusion of foreign students and staff and student and staff exchanges
- Language policy
- Information and services available for incoming and outgoing students and staff
- Overview of international partnerships, co-operation agreements and participation in European/ international projects
- International activities within and outside the curriculum
 - Masterclasses
 - International projects
 - Visiting performers/lecturers
 - Etc.
- Student/staff feedback (focus groups, internal and external surveys)
- Statistical data:
 - Numbers of international students and staff
 - Numbers of international visiting

Part IV: MusiQuE Services

- QUALITY ENHANCEMENT REVIEWS for institutions, programmes and joint programmes
 - ‘Classic review’
 - Tailor-made services
- ACCREDITATION procedures for institutions, programmes and joint programmes
- JOINT PROCEDURE with national quality assurance and accreditation agencies

Tailor-made services and innovative approaches

- Annual visits by critical friends
 - 3-day-visit to review one or more programme(s)
 - Meetings, visits of classes, performances and examinations, study of sample written work and relevant materials
 - Short report with concrete recommendations, structured along the MusiQuE Standards for Programme Review
 - Each programme (or group of similar programmes) visited by a different ‘critical friend’ with specific expertise on the content of the courses

Part V: Benefits of this approach

- Stronger involvement of teachers in QA processes
- Assessment of the quality of the programmes both in terms of artistic standards and educational quality
- When combined with a ‘classic’ review visits: workload for the preparation for external review spread over several years
- An effective model for the QA of programmes or departments within multi-disciplinary higher education institutions

Part V: Benefits of using MusiQuE – for institutions

- Use of internationally accepted standards
- Advice from international specialists
- Strong emphasis on improvement
- Help to establish an international reputation
- A process informed by musical knowledge and understanding from first to last
- MusiQuE speaks the same language as those working and studying in the institutions
- MusiQuE adjusts to ALL needs

Part V: Benefits of using MusiQuE – for students

- Improved quality of education and service
- An active involvement in the procedures
- Empowerment through feedback
- Improved recognition

How is MusiQuE doing?

- International recognition through listing on the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) June 2016
- Increased level of activity
- Development of standards for pre-college music education and classroom music teacher training
- MusiQuE is increasingly visible and respected in generic QA contexts

Finally, MusiQuE is all about:

- Taking a pro-active and positive approach towards quality issues in our sector that is focused on improvement, not control
- Being flexible towards national and institutional contexts and needs
- Keeping costs low
- Confirming the international reality of our sector
- Strengthening the credibility of the sector by showing this is something we can do ourselves

○ **MusiQuE IS YOURS.....**

Part VII: MusiQuE and YOU

- How could MusiQuE be helpful for YOU?
- How could MusiQuE further help to bridge the gap between quality assurance, teachers and students?

MusiQuE – Music Quality Enhancement

Website : www.musique-qe.eu

Request a MusiQuE review? Contact us!

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