DRAFT FULL SCORE STUDENT WG ACTION PLAN 2015 – 2017

The sixth objective (Objective F) of the FULL SCORE project application is: *"To draw upon the perspectives of young musicians, in higher education and beyond, so as to make systematic use of their views about how best to facilitate their access to professional opportunities and how to engage in new and innovative ways with contemporary audiences"*.

Objective F - Breakdown of the objectives, actions and expected results per year:

YEAR 1
Objective
✓ To establish methods for drawing upon the perspectives of young musicians so as to make systematic use of their views
Actions

✓ Forming a Student WG with representatives of student associations from AEC members to:
  - Reflect on student involvement in shaping CCHE
  - Communicate about their work to student organisations in Europe
✓ Engaging students in conference 'The Musician as Creative Entrepreneur', Sept 2014
✓ Inviting them to attend other AEC events

Expected Results
✓ Students progressively more involved in defining the content of CCHE through their representation at various AEC events addressing the training of young musicians ✓ Reports of their feedback on these events, exploring how they could be more involved in their preparation and content ✓ Communication tools developed (mailing list of student associations in AEC institutions, student community on AEC Facebook Group, dedicated student newsletter)
YEAR 2
Objectives
✓ To integrate into the planning and delivery of AEC events the perspectives of young musicians, in order to ensure their involvement in shaping CCHE
Actions
✓ Holding 2 Student WG meetings to provide input to work described in B2-E2 ✓ Integrating a Student WG member into each AEC WG that plans events ✓ Communicating to all AEC members' student associations ✓ Collecting advice and good practice from student organisations in Europe
Expected Results
✓ Holding 2 Student WG meetings to provide input to work described in B2-E2 ✓ Integrating a Student WG member into each AEC WG that plans events ✓ Communicating to all AEC members' student associations ✓ Collecting advice and good practice from student organisations in Europe

YEAR 3
Objectives
✓ To set up mechanisms ensuring systematic use is made of the perspectives of young musicians about their access to professional opportunities and engagement with contemporary audiences
Actions
✓ Holding 2 Student WG meetings ✓ Embedding representation by student associations in each AEC working group (IRC, PJP, EMP, EPARM) ✓ Holding 'side-event' for students alongside 2016 Congress and ensuring that students are represented in discussions listed under C3 ✓ Communicating this work to all AEC student associations and to student organisations in Europe
Expected Results
✓ Participation by student representatives embedded in AEC event-planning WGs and a dedicated student event organised alongside 2016 Congress ✓ Communication Plan to ensure regular and wide dissemination of student input (based on tools developed in Years 1 & 2)

LIST OF ACTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING YEAR 1
- ✓ The Student WG was created in September 2014 with representatives of student associations from 6 AEC member institutions.
- ✓ The students attended the conference 'The Musician as Creative Entrepreneur', Sept 2014, where they established a first contact with AEC. They also attended the Congress in Budapest, participating in the Reflection Day on a European Agenda for Music. In addition, they had a preliminary meeting to set their agenda and targets for 2015-2017.
- ✓ The students have drafted a letter, addressed to the whole AEC community, which has been sent as part of the AEC's newsletter at the end of March 2015.
- ✓ 3 Students attended the PJP Platform in Valencia and 4 the EPARM Meeting in Graz in April. They have drafted two reports on the meetings, which have been sent to the membership in the AEC Newsletter in June.
- ✓ The Student WG met on 07 May 2015 at the AEC office to develop its working practices and set an agenda and targets for 2015-17. A report on the meeting has been drafted and will be discussed by the Council during its meeting in September.
- ✓ The Student WG has been meeting though Skype during the summer to work on an Action Plan to be presented to the AEC Council in September.
- ✓ The Student WG and the Students representatives in Glasgow have started to prepare the Student Session in the Congress.
- ✓ Each student has already been allocated to one of the event WGs. The students will join the events WG meetings during the upcoming two years.

The Student WG is starting the 2nd Year of the project activities. This **Draft Student WG Action Plan 2015-2017** aims at determining a list of actions that will enable the WG to meet its main objectives. These objectives have been compiled under the following two main areas:

A) **Student perspectives embedded in AEC ("Students for AEC")** so as to make systematic use of their views (in the content of the events, shaping the curricula…etc.)

B) **"AEC for students"** – **Enhancing the services that AEC provides to the Student Community** (Helping the access of the students to professional opportunities, providing an AEC student Facebook page, Student newsletter...etc.)

The AEC Council is asked to comment on the feasibility of the ideas proposed by the Student WG. Based on its feedback the Student WG will work on a final action plan. In addition, the Student WG is planning to reach out to other music student organizations at European level during this autumn, such as the European Student Union, European Youth Forum, European Music Council's Youth Committee, IMC Youth and Jeunesses Musicales International. The student WG aims at getting to know their configurations, working methods and funding schemes, in order to map the current gaps and be able to finalize a concrete action plan for the AEC.

During the first year of the project, the Student WG has met several times and has been extensively working on shaping a list of key actions for 2015-17. However, the Student WG has repeatedly confronted the same key questions: **Would the AEC wish to create a European Music Study Body? Is AEC prepared to enlarge its events audience to such a large scope as the student community in Europe? It is now that the Student WG needs a clear advice and statement from the AEC Council. If some of the following objectives should be met, this would entitle a strategic decision, as well as an increased level of work from the office side.**

ACTION POINTS for A: STUDENT PERSPECTIVES EMBEDDED IN AEC
- ✓ By 2017, the Student WG will establish mechanisms to integrate into the planning and delivery of AEC events the perspectives of young musicians, in order to ensure their involvement in shaping CCHE
- ✓ By 2017, the Student WG will set up mechanisms ensuring systematic use is made of the perspectives of young musicians about their access to professional opportunities and engagement with contemporary audiences

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STUDENT PERSPECTIVES EMBEDDED IN AEC - IMPLEMENTATION

1. During the project years II and III, FULL SCORE funding will enable to have one member of the Student WG in each event WG meetings

2. During these two years, the Student WG will make sure that, for each event, the hosting institution puts in contact a number of student representatives with the AEC event WG. These students will go to the WG meetings, give feedback on the event content and will assist to the event. This pattern will enable to permanently have student representative(s) working on the content of the AEC events, as well as possibly participating as speakers. It would be advisable that the host institutions cover the trips of their student representative(s) to the WG meetings).

3. In the case of the platforms (PJP/EPARM/EMP), some students enrolled in Master programmes or PhD programmes and with special interest on the platform content, might benefit from participating in or even contributing to these events. The AEC staff should boost member institutions to encourage their MA and PhD students to participate in AEC events, recognizing their participation through the award of ECTS credits.

The Student WG would like to ask to the Council whether is advisable to largely encourage student representation in the AEC Events (students in general from AEC institutions). If yes, the office and Council would need to think on the practical sides of it (fee costs for students, interest of the events content for the students, costs of travel and accommodation for the students, space and availability at the host institution)
If the Council believes that the AEC should go ahead with this, the office should make sure that:
- *The content of the events would be (or at least part of it) adapted to the Student needs*
- *Workshops and seminars addressed to students could be organized in parallel to the events*
- *The Student WG would study how to create fresh avenues of dissemination of information about these events*

4. Student input in AEC activities and projects: The FULL SCORE project funding is enabling the student WG to give input in very different matters, such as the work of the Multirank WG or the development of the AEC website. The Student WG will work on a Plan to ensure regular and wide dissemination of student input within the AEC. This could be done through different ways:

- The students involved in the preparation of AEC events would be asked by the AEC office to fill in questionnaires and give feedback about different projects/activities.
- The AEC Council members could invite, during their year of mandate one student representative of their institution to the Council meetings (In this case, the Council member institution would need to cover the costs of the student).
- The office could create an online discussion platform in the students section of the website. In such a platform the students would share ideas and examples of good practice. However, in order to ensure such a blog remains manageable, it would only be created in case there is a need to discuss specific topics with a limited scope.

ACTION POINTS for B: THE AEC FOR STUDENTS
- ✓ By 2017, the communication tools for students will be developed
- ✓ By 2017, the Student WG will help the AEC staff to enlarge the services given to students
- ✓ By 2017, the Student WG will explore, next to the AEC Council, the feasibility of creating a European network/body for Conservatoire students

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THE AEC FOR STUDENTS – IMPLEMENTATION

1. Strengthening the website Submenu "Students" (About AEC → Staff and Students→Students): The current part of the website for students in too limited and out of date. The Student WG will work close to the office to update and enlarge this part of the website.

2. Counselling and advice: The Student WG would identify the key areas students have questions about. The AEC staff will update and expand the information which is currently displayed on the website. All the relevant information will be moved to the student section of the AEC website.
The Student WG would like to ask to the Council whether is advisable to go beyond and develop a large-scale counselling service for students, which would be able to give personalized advice on any kind of question about higher music education studies in Europe.

3. The AEC members database (Members Login) available for students: to enhance the accessibility to this information, the AEC could develop a clickable map of Europe on the student website, through which the details of the AEC member institutions will be directly accessible. The data would include information about the Academic Year, Curriculum and Developments, exchange programmes and IRC and Student Unions' contact details.

4. News items and general information of student interest: Although the Student WG initially proposed to gather information for students about festivals, concerts and relevant events, the SWG understands that this idea is unrealistic. Instead, a limited amount of news items about specific items, such as upcoming masterclasses and newly created programmes within AEC member institutions, can be displayed on the student section of the website.
The Student WG would like to ask to the Council whether is advisable to go further and provide a whole set of updated information to students about music festivals, contests, information on artistic agencies, a directory of music blogs..etc.

5. Newsletters: If there is any specific information that might be of specific interest of students (masterclasses, call for papers, invitation to take part on AEC events through the ECTS system...etc.), a student newsflash could be sent to the Student Unions of the member institutions.

6. Social media: The Student WG believes that, with the current resources at the office, it is not advisable to create a Student Facebook page.
Would the Council recommend investing more resources and creating a Facebook page for students within AEC?

7. The AEC vacancies site – By Spring 2016 the AEC Vacancies platform will be fully operational. A clear link to the platform will be included in the Students Sub-website, highlighting the section for internships available at AEC member institutions.

The vacancies platform will showcase vacancies for teaching staff, management and IRC positions. This can be interesting for students who want to work as teachers as administrative staff members. However, there are no performance vacancies listed, as this is beyond the scope of the service AEC seeks to offer. The SWG stresses that nevertheless the majority of students is looking for performance vacancies. Therefore, AEC should consider listing national and international websites for performance jobs on the student section of the AEC website, to assist students in the early stages of their careers.

7. A link to the research catalogue – to include (in the student sub-page) a direct link to the Student Research Projects Database. It would be very beneficial if students would have the opportunity to upload their own theses or abstracts. The financial feasibility of such a service will need to be further discussed.

8. Developing an online student portal in the AEC website: The Student WG thinks that it would be an interesting idea to develop a an online platform in AEC website where students from AEC member institutions could register to have an online profile contact information, agenda, activities, CV, research work, blog links, videos, announcement of vacancies on their own musical projects...etc.). This portal could include a blog where students could post articles about common interests and concerns. In this way, the information would also reach the AEC and its member institutions. *However, this would be costly and would entitle lot of work from the office side. Would the Council recommend having such a platform?*