

Prof. Dr. Andreas Georg Stascheit

Professor of Aesthetics and Communication

Dortmund University of Technology

Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Office:

Emil-Figge-Str. 38a

44226 Dortmund

Germany

phone: +49 178 729 7292

email: andreas.stascheit@udo.edu

Centro de Estudos de Sociologia e Estética Musical (CESEM), FCSH, UNL

Evaluation of anual reports 2013 and 2014

The wide scope and the scale of activities at this research unit of Universidade Nova is mirrored by the volume of the annual reports, counting 88 and 87 pages for the reports of 2013 and 2014 respectively. That said and with reference to the many evaluations that have certified CESEM to perform on internationally competitive level, I would like to limit my evaluation to very few selected aspects. Nevertheless, from the perspective of a decade as a member of CESEM's advisory board the selection appears to be significant.

First of all, it is remarkable that in spite of the indeed unfavorable circumstances (to say the least) during 2013 and 2014, the research unit maintained the level of activity and output of the previous years, with a negligible decrease with respect to quantitative performance indicators. But with regard to quality of output, we see quite the reverse: an increase in high quality performance and recognition, epitomized in the excellent rating received by the European Science Foundation's evaluation panel.

I would like to highlight the following significant achievements:

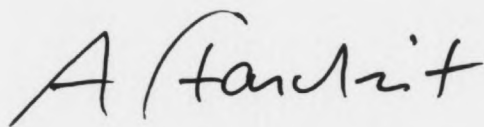
1. CESEM successfully managed to develop new institutionalized cooperations with Portuguese partner universities (with ESML, the Lisbon High School of Music, and with University of Évora) besides the already installed collaboration with Universidade do Porto and Universidade de Aveiro. As the establishment of such partner networks in university contexts is always a delicate endeavor, it should be pointed out that CESEM's Direcção and in the first place CESEM's president and acting director have delivered an excellent job by assembling so many different stakeholders under one umbrella. Evidently, this upscaling has contributed significantly to CESEM achieving "critical mass". It may well have been one factor contributing to CESEM in 2014 being evaluated as "excellent" by the ESF / FCT evaluation panel, awarded to a research unit "distinguished by the high quality and international merit of its scientific and technology output and with significant contributions to its area of research".
2. A step of crucial importance was made with the successful application for funding of the Doctoral Program "Music as Culture and Cognition", chaired by CESEM's director and set up in cooperation with the Department of Musicology at FCSH-UNL and with FCSH research center INET (Institute of Ethnomusicology). From my point of view, this initiative was a great success, as it provides an adequate response to the only 'weakness' diagnosed in

the 2007/2008 ESF/FCT evaluation panel report, stating: "Stronger links could be made with other related research groups in the University (e.g., Institute of Ethnomusicology)".

3. CESEM's engagement for the qualification of young researchers had a visible effect, as the number of completed Ph.D. and MA dissertations grew much more in 2014 than one would have expected in a year of scarce budgets and overall crisis in the academic sector.
4. The Research Group Education and Human Development successfully continued to marry music as a symbolic form (Cassirer) with social reality. I would like to mention two publications, which show that the activities of the group are visible in relevant international discourses of the field, related to the concept of 'inclusion' (a) and to therapeutic perspectives of sound and music (b):
 - (a) Rolf GEHLHAAR, Paulo Maria RODRIGUES, Luis Miguel GIRÃO, Rui PENHA, "Instruments for Everyone: Designing New Means of Musical Expression for Disabled Creators", in *Technologies of Inclusive Well-Being Studies in Computational Intelligence*, Editors: Anthony Lewis Brooks, Sheryl Brahnham, Lakhmi C. Jain, (Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2014), Volume 536, pp 167-196.
 - (b) Martine Van PUYVELDE, Helena RODRIGUES, Gerrit LOOTS, Lotta De COSTER, Kevin Du VILLE; Liesbeth MATTHIJS, David SIMCOCK, Nathalie PATTYN. "Shall we dance? Music as a port of entrance to maternal-infant intersubjectivity in a context of postnatal depression", *Infant Mental Health Journal*, n° 3, vol 35 (2014), pp. 220-232.

The remarkable results of CESEM's work during 2013 and 2014, achieved in spite of having to cope with unfavorable political and financial circumstances, have proved that CESEM has developed a very stable and mature core, enabling the research center to exhibit a constant productivity on an impressive scale.

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(Prof. Dr. Andreas Georg Stascheit)