**Excom – Nordplusmusic meeting**

Reykjavík, 8 January 2017

Present:

Alma Ragnarsdóttir, Iceland Academy of the Arts

Christofer Fredrikson, Stockholm University of the Arts

Hanneleen Pihlak, Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre

Keld Hosbond, The Royal Academy of Music Aarhus/Aalborg

Michael Strobelt, The Arctic University of Norway

Outi Nissi, Oulu University of Applied Sciences

Tale Vik, University of Bergen, Grieg Academy

Not present: Lena Arstam, Malmö Academy of Music

Agenda

1. Working group collaboration, Excom structure and organisation. / Keld
2. Selection of chair and secretary for the next year. / Michael
3. Meeting structure, next IRC Forum. Looking back at feedback from last meeting. / Michael
4. Applications and funding. / Network Coordinators
5. Other issues

Minutes

1. Keld runs through the slides about the structure and organisation of the Executive committee. The slides will be placed on the Nordplusmusic website.
2. Michael agrees to keep his position as Chair for another year as there are three newcomers in the group. Alma agrees to become secretary.
3. Meeting structure, next IRC Forum

**Feedback from previous meeting in Malmö.**

Although it is never possible to come to terms with all of the comments/suggestions for improvement, the Excom agrees that the thematic day/presentations may have taken up too much space on the Malmö programme.

-It is decided to give more focus to breakout group this year as suggested in the feedback from participants. Give better room for discussions to try to reach a deeper level in those.

-We will also look into the set-up of the meeting, try to make it more open for dialogue in Riga (round tables rather than seated rows). Light is also important, not to be too much in a dimly lit setting with presentations as this makes people in-active.

-Parallel sessions in the morning of the first day will be kept. This way we can answer the call for addressing practical issues such as mobility, Easy etc. These sessions are for all, not aimed at newcomers only.

**Ideas on possible models of future IRC Forum meetings: What could be different?**

-To maybe arrange staff training day(s) linked with the IRC Forum every 2nd or 3rd year. E.g. in Bergen 2019. Could be aimed at both IRCs and study coordinators, people dealing directly with incoming/outgoing students every day.

-To join or rather link Anma annual meeting and IRC Forum. Would it make sense to have our meeting in April? As it is now the IRCs are meeting first at AEC in September and then already a month later. There is a wish from ANMA to bring the two organisations somehow closer. This could be discussed further at next ANMA meeting in April this year.

-New type of an event. What if we could bring all the thematic arts networks together as an event in 2020. KUNO, CIRRUS, Norteas, NordicArchitecture, Nordplus Music, + smaller project networks.

Can we work together on Inter-disciplinary collaboration? Can we make our voice as a sector stronger?

These ideas could be introduced and discussed further with ANMA in April and again at IRC Forum in October.

The idea is proposed by Keld and Alma agrees to support him in a further discussion on it as IAA is part of all of the above mentioned networks.

**Riga meeting**

-Bring in one Keynote speaker as an inspiration. Does not have to be a theme that takes over the whole meeting. Ideas that spring forward: Sports, talent and couching. The extrovert vs the rest of the group, how to bring out the best in every person in the group, how to make the inactive active...

-Suggestion that we will work with: approach Joanna Rubin Dranger, a great lecturer who has focused on visual power, stereotypes, how to work against the pre-judgments at work in our everyday life and work.

-Theme, title suggestion: “Awareness” How we meet other people. The topic of awareness can be applied to many factors in our daily work as IRC or as human beings. Very broad.

-Draft schedule is ready, to be finalised at a preparatory meeting in Riga in June.

1. **Applications and Funding**

-We need to find a way of distributing money more early, making sure that all funding is spent before the end of the year. And to distribute it fairly. The network coordinators will write out a suggestion for rules and principles regarding allocation of funding.

-Network applications are hard work in terms of listing mobilities. Can we send comments about this to Nordplus? Keld: Nordplus has a reason to keep the structure of the applications like this, they will not change it.

-The network coordinators discuss the upcoming applications. Seems there will be no lack of IP applications this year.

1. **Other issues**

ANMA

Keld last meeting with ANMA: it seems that the organisation is starting to change, there was a strong indicator of sense and willingness towards more closer collaboration between ANMA and Nordplusmusic.

-ANMA has decided to engage students in all their meetings. This will change the nature of the meeting. They talked about student parliament, parallel to ANMA meeting. This may change the whole dynamics of the organisation.

-Mentor system: needs to be encouraged, the system could become the most powerful and cost-free tool of empowerment for the institutions.

- Alma will join Keld in the effort of exploring further possibility of enhanced collaboration between ANMA and Nordplusmusic (joint/linked annual meetings) as well as looking further into the idea of having a joint networks meeting within the arts in 2020.

Slack

Excom has agreed to use Slack as a tool to share ideas, documents and prepare meetings/events. We might use the Slack also for participants at next IRC Forum.