

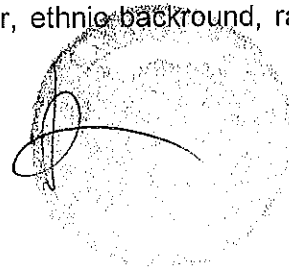
ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

The "V. Bellini" Conservatory of Music aims to achieve and sustain excellence in every area of its teaching. The goal is to provide high international standards and content in the courses delivered in conformity with the Bologna requirements. Another goal is to give students the key qualifications that are important in an international labour market defined by globalization and internationalization. This includes: international skills, knowledge of European and international connections, an understanding of other cultures, expertise in and knowledge of foreign languages and the expansion of each individual's horizons. For all these reasons the main strategy is to encourage changes in course structure that would allow increased student mobility. It will participate in appropriate thematic networks. This strategy also aims to enable departments to build teaching collaborations, both nationally and internationally and establish centres of excellence in teaching and learning. In line with these objectives, the Conservatory intends to focus its Erasmus activities on staff and student mobility. The "V. Bellini" Conservatory of Music ensures a consistent and student-centred approach for incoming and outgoing Erasmus students. Our exchange programs and actions promote among our students and teachers the European citizenship and student mobility. In fact, its international status is confirmed by membership in the prestigious institution that brings together higher schools of music: Association Européenne de Conservatoires. The Conservatory has a number of well-established Erasmus student mobility programmes and all its Erasmus activities are prominently publicised on the Conservatory website.

In order to encourage the development of new links and the internationalization of its programmes, the Conservatory intends to support the extension of Erasmus exchanges to new subject areas. It will continue to support its departments for exchange programmes in Europe and elsewhere, to increase engagement in international and EU projects as a means of enhancing the quality and relevance of our institution locally and globally; we are developing an extensive portfolio of international cooperation projects under the existing Programme, we are committed to increasing the number of projects and widening the participation of all students and staff throughout the Conservatory.

The "V. Bellini" Conservatory of Music continues to expand its international activity and new cultural events are planned for the nearest future: Intensive Programmes and seminars. Moreover masterclasses are being delivered by some of the most eminent artists and scholars from all over the world.

The "V. Bellini" Conservatory of Music will guarantee the highest quality in the organization of student mobility, whilst ensuring equal academic treatment and services to home and Erasmus students; to this end, each incoming Erasmus student will continue to be matriculated and become a fully integrated member of the Conservatory. The Conservatory applies the same criteria of enrollment for all prospective students regardless of their gender, ethnic background, race, views



and disability. Infact, the Conservatory is also committed to making arrangements to enable students with disabilities to participate as fully as possible in student life.

Evaluation of a candidate is based solely on his/her artistic and linguistic abilities and skills.

The opportunity to take part in teacher exchanges is important for the personal development of Conservatory staff. The Conservatory also welcomes visiting academic staff and the contribution they make to its teaching programmes and curriculum development.

The Conservatory's Erasmus programme is promoted throughout its Departments which are committed to ensuring the quality of programmes offered to students incoming and during study periods abroad. Periods of study undertaken by its students under the Erasmus framework receive full academic recognition and do not lead to an increase in the overall length of course of study.

Academic departments will continue to work with partner institutions to ensure that incoming students receive reports, which enable them to receive appropriate credit from their home Conservatory.

All students work and study under the supervision of a tutor or supervisor, and are required to keep in contact with them while on exchange. The Erasmus co-ordinator arrange pre-departure meetings for the outgoing students, who are encouraged to seek advice from the previous year's outgoing students. Incoming students are allowed to participate to all the artistic activities. Infact they can perform in our Orchestras.

The reports of outgoing students on their time abroad are monitored to enable any problems to be identified and discussed with partner institutions. Each incoming student is allocated a tutor or supervisor who is responsible for overseeing their studies whilst at the "V. Bellini" Conservatory of Music; incoming students will be given assistance in finding accommodation. All incoming Erasmus students have access to the University's Language Centre in Palermo in order to improve their Italian. Outgoing students attends language course at the Conservatory of Music.

Teacher exchanges are valued and encouraged as part of the "V. Bellini" State Conservatory of Music policy to continue to develop bilateral and multilateral partnerships.

For any student mobility that may be introduced, each student will be provided with a Learning Agreement/Training Agreement concerning the programme studying/programme placement period; the Conservatory and the host organization will endorse this agreement. A clear agreement is recognised as being an important means of demonstrating that there is a shared understanding both of what is to be provided and what the student can legitimately expect, and also that the Institution –which is ultimately responsible for the provision – is in a position to monitor and evaluate all aspects of the student's studying/placement. In order to guarantee the highest quality in the organization of student study/ placements, all the students have to consign the certification, the Transcript of Records/Work. All the period spent abroad is given full recognition. Moreover, we use the ECTS system in all study programmes and to all our students will be given the Diploma Supplement at the end of their studies.

Il Direttore
Prof. Daniele Ficola

