

## 2013 Evaluation of FCT Research and Development Units

Review process - Stage 2

Panel: 06

ESF internal Project Ref Number: 14-FCT-082

FCT Ref: 472

Title: Ethnomusicology Institute - Center for Studies in Music and Dance (INET-md)

P.I.: Dr. Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco

### Final Panel Consensus Report

Total weighted Score (A+B+C+D+E)	24 / 25	Final classification	Excellent
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#### A. Productivity and contribution to the National Scientific and Technological System (NSTS): 5 /5

- i.) Research outputs; knowledge and technology transfer activities, when applicable, giving particular importance to the registration and value of patents, models or other relevant innovation indicators;
- ii.) Contribution to the accumulation of knowledge and skills of the National Science and Technology System (expected effects and results); contribution to the advanced training of researchers; contribution to the promotion and dissemination of scientific and technological research; dissemination of results and actions to promote scientific culture, as well as participation in activities designed to promote public understanding of science, technology, art and culture; relationship between available past funding and output;
- iii.) Degree of multidisciplinary and of internationalization, when relevant.

##### Substantiating comment:

INET is an interdisciplinary research unit with headquarters at Universidade Nova de Lisboa and three branches at Universidade de Aveiro, the Faculdade de Motricidade Humana at Universidade de Lisboa and the Unidade Técnico-Científica de Música, Escola Superior de Educação, Instituto Politécnico do Porto. INET integrates 65 researchers and 104 doctoral students. Reviewers, rapporteurs and panel agree that INET fosters a culture of excellence in advanced training, research, performance and artistic creation within a truly international environment. There is a genuine innovative drive running through the intersection of the different research groups, linking archival and ethnographic research with performance research and development of artistic performance. Here the contribution to the advanced training of researchers is excellent, with a large and steadily increasing number of doctoral students and INET researchers. The strategic program for activities for each of the 6 groups and the dissemination of results in terms of publications, conferences, performances, training, outreach activities and innovative artistic production promise a well-integrated, impressive, multidisciplinary program. The level of internationalization is impressive, although still at the planning stage. The level of English publications varies from branch to branch of INET; it is however generally good or more than good. Outreach and appeal to non-lusophone researchers would be greater, though, by enhancing publications in English, as stated in the research vision. e.g., funding for translations, etc.

The site visit confirmed the mark of 5 for this section. Clarity, enthusiasm and a clear sense of direction in past activities came across strongly in the presentations and discussion. A firm sense of interdisciplinarity was conveyed across a range of diverse practices in arts research, and a real feeling of engagement with the issues of relating research to practice.

#### B. Scientific and technological merit of the research team: 5 /5

- i.) Scientific productivity and merit of the results of the Unit's research, taking into account the relevance of both current and planned research, as well as the level of internationalization of scientific activities, including publications and citations of published works or other relevant aspects;
- ii.) Skills and composition of the research team to adequately execute the proposed program;
- iii.) Ability to successfully compete for national and international research grants and contracts, including contracts with companies.

##### Substantiating comment:

There is no doubt INET has provided Portugal's contribution to an international awareness of music (older or modern, popular and more experimental), not just of a particular culture, both by stimulating the actual production of music and by the research carried out at the center. Some staff members, also among the group leaders, have a more pronounced profile in the research part, others in the artistic world and some groups have a larger and broader output than others. But as a whole the output is impressive in volume, substance and broadness of scope. There is a great and not yet fully used potential for international

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grants. The planned research is promising and has a forward-looking perspective, also with regard to digital media. The technological merit lies in various initiatives to secure the auditory and dance-based memory of Portuguese and lusophone culture, to develop new formats for documenting creative and performative processes in the realm of music and dance, and to enhance novel technologically-mediated creative strategies in the field of music teaching and of music composition.

The site visit confirmed the mark of 5 for this section. Panel members were impressed by the large number and international mix of postgraduate students, their sense of purpose and coherence, and their integration with the activities of the Unit. They had clear reasons for wanting to study in the unit, and appreciated the stimulus and support they received from it.

#### C. Scientific merit and innovative nature of the strategic programme:

5 /5

- i.) Relevance, originality and impact of the proposed strategic programme;
- ii.) Contribution of the scientific, technological, artistic or cultural activities of the proposed programme for a smart specialization strategy of the region in which the RD Unit is incorporated;
- iii.) Degree of multidisciplinary and of internationalization, when relevant.

\*\* The score must be based on C.i and C.iii only. However, comments on C.ii are welcome. \*\*

##### Substantiating comment:

The strategic program is detailed, well-planned and with a sound balance between a continuation of previous research and new ideas. Although the ethnomusicological approach acts already as a unifying conceptual framework, some further critical and theoretical reflections could strengthen the center without reducing the essential practical dimension of the research profile. INET's international outreach in research will gather considerable impact. The strategic objectives are clearly set out and convincing. The number of staff assigned to one or more of these suggests a high level of planning and promises multidisciplinary cross-fertilization, since several of the staff belong to more than one subgroup. The number of doctoral students promises a lively cutting-edge research climate. The panel agrees that internationalization efforts are on track. With appropriate funding the unit has all the elements to become of international significance beyond the existing attraction it has already proven for international conferencing.

The site visit confirmed the mark of 5 for this section. Members of the unit conveyed a firm sense of strategic purpose and of the unit's distinctive positioning within its field of activity. There was an awareness of specific areas of strength, and of those requiring further investment. There were good plans for networking, and in general an engagingly positive approach to the future. There are very good prospects of involvement with significant areas of international development in the arts and technology.

#### D. Feasibility of the work plan and reasonability of the requested budget:

4 /5

- i.) Organisation of the programme in terms of the proposed objectives and resources (budget, duration, infrastructures); organisation and work environment, with special focus on the adequacy of the research team's critical mass to perform the proposed objectives and on the management of resources directed to research activities, which includes supervision of postgraduate students and post-doctoral involvement in RD activities;
- ii.) Adequacy of proposed budget to accomplish the proposed strategic programme;
- iii.) Institutional resources (technical, scientific, organisational and managerial) of the participating entities. The commitment of the host institution in providing the manpower and material resources to implement the proposed programme is especially valued.

##### Substantiating comment:

The project sets out a substantial number of objectives and an interesting plan of dissemination activities. The number of staff involved and their range of expertise are impressive. The budget anticipates good value for the money, given the extent of the work proposed, while the proportion devoted to human resources is the right one. The institutional commitment at INET's different locations seems to be fully guaranteed and vital to the success of the collaboration, with some internal funding having underpinned

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some of the developments. Their number as stated (65 integrated researchers and 104 doctoral students) is impressive and is shown to be on an upward trend. All of this promises a lively research culture with plenty of new blood joining well established scholars.

The site visit confirmed the mark of 4 for this section. The organisation of the strategic program is generally good, and the justification of the budget convincing, but the absence of a properly articulated workplan prevented a higher mark.

#### E. Impact of the scientific, technological and cultural output:

5 /5

i.) Production of knowledge likely to stimulate a knowledge-based economy and likely to be used by the productive structures, when applicable;

ii.) Contribution of the RD Unit to the national and regional economic growth and development;

iii.) Knowledge and technology transfer and its dissemination.

\*\* The score must be based on E.i and E.iii only. However, comments on C.ii are welcome. \*\*

Substantiating comment:

The scope for public impact is clear, together with a broad awareness of the platforms available for further development. A wide range of public engagement activities is already in place, particularly in the performance area. There is substantial involvement with the arts community, and a firm commitment to work with government and public bodies that will lead to significant knowledge transfer. Thought is being given to potential commercial spinout projects.

#### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

##### 1. Laboratory intensity level

Level validated:

(High - Medium - Low/Null)

Medium

Substantiating comment (non compulsory):

##### 2. Basic and applied research/experimental development share

Basic/applied share validated:

60 / 40

(100%= fully basic - 0%=fully Applied and/or Experimental development; If shared, indicated as XX/xx, with basic research share always in first position)

Substantiating comment (non compulsory):

#### Overall Conclusions:

Substantiating comment, specifying key strengths and weaknesses (if any).

INET has been showing a steady progress throughout its existence, consolidating its research basis and generating a remarkable synthesis between applied research and artistic practice together with sound basic research. On this background, the capacity to create new perspectives and visions is impressive, in particular with regard to INET's growing international engagement. Cutting across the usually typecast concepts of the popular, the ethnomusicological, the historical-performative, and the compositional-creative, INET has provided original and innovative, multi-disciplinary research on an exceptionally rich variety of musical and dance-based expressions, in which the focus on Portugal and lusophone world has been increasingly widened towards multi-cultural processes in a post-colonial world. INET's high number of doctoral students testify to its appeal, its sound research and conference output to its high standing in the

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international community of music and dance research. If all objectives are achieved, the program will also support excellent links between academic research and the general public and thus fulfill the purpose of educating and promoting public understanding of art and culture. It originates from a strong unit in an even stronger host institution with good national links to complementary branches at other institutions.

More could be achieved by adding further international partners in other countries especially in the light of the desire to compete for Horizon 2020. In the consortium there is already a critical mass of dedicated scholars and graduates working across several areas. This promises an excellent research climate and good interaction between senior and junior staff as well as a sizeable body of research students. Its strategic plan has the making of achieving not only national but also international significance beyond the good international links already achieved through international conferencing and individual staff members' role in international committees. The budget is fair and promises good value for money.

Clarity, enthusiasm and a clear sense of direction in past activities came across strongly in the presentations and discussion at the site visit. A firm sense of interdisciplinarity was conveyed across a range of diverse practices in arts research, and a real feeling of engagement with the issues of relating research to practice. Panel members were impressed by the large number and international mix of postgraduate students, their sense of purpose and coherence, and their integration with the activities of the Unit. They had clear reasons for wanting to study in the unit, and appreciated the stimulus and support they received from it. Members of the unit conveyed a firm sense of strategic purpose and of the unit's distinctive positioning within its field of activity. There was an awareness of specific areas of strength, and of those requiring further investment. There were good plans for networking, and in general an engagingly positive approach to the future. There are very good prospects of engagement with significant areas of international development in the arts and technology.