Personal statement /Marja-Leena Juntunen (PhD, LicEd, MM)

I am Professor in Music Education at the Sibelius-Academy, University of the Arts Helsinki, Finland (since 2014). Previously, I have worked as University Lecturer and Associate Professor in (music) teacher education programs at the University of Oulu, University of Helsinki, and SibA (1994–2014). I have also worked as a music teacher in lower and secondary schools, music schools (instrumental tuition and early childhood mus ed), and in-service teacher education. I have been a faculty member of Longy School of Music of Bard College (Boston) and Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh) from where I also hold a Dalcroze License degree. I have given Dalcroze related workshops and lectures in twenty countries in different parts of the world (e.g. Mexico, Venezuela, Costa Rica, South-Africa, Canada, USA, and Taiwan). As a musician, I have a background in classical, jazz, latin, and folk music. I speak Finnish, English, Spanish, Swedish, and French.

As a researcher, I have published widely in international research journals and anthologies.

My research has focused on embodied aspects of music learning and musicianship, applying the theories of embodiment to examine the role and possibilities of body movement in music education. In recent years, my research has centered on issues of accessibility and equ(al)ity, aiming at increasing opportunities of all children and young to participate in quality music and arts education in Finland and beyond. I have, for example, collaborated in building music teacher education in Nepal and taught in several international courses for teachers and other professionals.

I have actively presented in ISME world conferences since 1990 and served as a member of the Editorial Committee of the *International Journal of Music Education* (2008–2014). I am already active in several international networks but standing for the ISME Board would offer possibilities for wider engagement in international collaboration and advancing music education globally. As a board member, I would be able to act as a liaison between ISME and our university when organizing the world conference of 2024 in Helsinki. To the board, I would bring my comprehensive experience in music education practice and research and the Scandinavian perspective with its strong emphasis on educational quality and democracy.