

Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media General Secretary Eija Salmi

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to endorse Lorenzo Imbesi for his second term as President of the Cumulus Executive Board (2025-2028).

As a member of Cumulus representing the University of Aveiro, Portugal, and having served on the Cumulus Executive Board during Lorenzo Imbesi's first mandate, I have witnessed firsthand his exceptional leadership capabilities and unwavering commitment to our association's values.

During his presidency, Lorenzo skillfully guided Cumulus through a crucial transition period, transforming it into an independent association while preserving its foundational principles of peace, inclusion, openness, and democracy. His diplomatic approach and respect for Cumulus's heritage, including the vital role of the Secretary General, were instrumental in making this transition smooth and successful.

Under his guidance, Cumulus has launched several innovative initiatives that have significantly enhanced value for our members. The establishment of the Cumulus PhD Network, the Cumulus Talent Camp for students, and the Regional Seminars have all strengthened our community's connections.

Lorenzo Imbesi's leadership was particularly crucial in successfully bringing Cumulus back to in-person gatherings following the pandemic years. His emphasis on peace and dialogue during these times of global conflict demonstrates his understanding of design education's role in addressing contemporary challenges.

His extensive travel and engagement with members worldwide reflect his commitment to making Cumulus truly global and inclusive.

Based on my direct experience working with Lorenzo, I strongly believe he is the ideal candidate to lead Cumulus through its next chapter. His combination of strategic vision, diplomatic skills, and deep understanding of our community's needs makes him exceptionally qualified for a second term as President.

Yours sincerely,

Teresa Franqueira