



Cumulus International Association of Universities and
Colleges of Art, Design and Media

General Secretary Eija Salmi

PO Box 31000, 00076
Aalto Finland

Rome January 25, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am honored to endorse Professor Dr. Kristof Vaes for the Cumulus Executive Board. As the current President of Cumulus Association, I have had the privilege of working closely with Prof. Vaes, particularly during his exceptional chairmanship of the Cumulus Antwerp Conference "Connectivity and Creativity in Times of Conflict" in April 2023, which stands as one of our association's most successful events.

Under Prof. Vaes's leadership, the Antwerp Conference demonstrated his remarkable ability to bring together diverse perspectives from our global design community. His innovative approach to conference organization and commitment to fostering meaningful dialogue among participants resulted in an event that significantly strengthened our network's collaborative spirit. At the Faculty of Design Sciences at the University of Antwerp, he has consistently shown his capacity to bridge academic excellence with practical innovation in design education.

What particularly distinguishes Prof. Vaes is his deep understanding of Cumulus's mission and his proven ability to transform vision into action. His experience in managing complex international projects, combined with his strong academic background, makes him an ideal candidate for the Executive Board. His collaborative approach and strategic thinking would be invaluable assets in shaping the future direction of our association.

I confidently endorse Prof. Dr. Kristof Vaes, knowing that his presence on the Executive Board would bring fresh perspectives and strengthen our community's ability to address the evolving challenges in design education and research.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for considering my endorsement.
Sincerely,

Prof. Lorenzo Imbesi
President, Cumulus Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lorenzo Imbesi', written over the printed name and title.