



INQA AHE Bulletin

August, 2006

INQA AHE News

➤ **Call for Contributions – INQA AHE Conference 2007, Toronto, Canada**

The Conference accepts papers or posters on the sub-themes of the conference. The Conference Organizing Committee welcomes any contributions on the sub-themes. Examples of topics for contributions are listed under each sub-theme for inspiration. Paper and poster proposals will be assessed by members of the Conference Organizing Committee for compliance with the criteria for acceptance.

Conference Themes and Sub-themes

Presenters are asked to focus on the themes and sub-themes listed below. The sub-themes are provided for inspiration, and delegates are encouraged to present submissions on any sub-theme relevant to any of the four headings.

Outcomes and Theory of Quality Assurance
Quality Assurance and Accountability of Quality Assurance Agencies
Legitimacy and Efficiency of National Systems of Quality Assurance
International Quality Assurance

Requirements for Submissions and timelines for Paper and Poster Proposals are available on the dedicated conference site at <http://www.pegab.edu.gov.on.ca/inqahe/>

Forthcoming Events

- **The COL (The Commonwealth of Learning)** is hosting four e-mail-based virtual conferences that will be held in July, August, September and October 2006 as a lead-up to the fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning. <http://pcf4.dec.uwi.edu/index.php> The discussions are open to all and there is no cost to participate. The three-week long conferences will be moderated by the leaders for the four sub-themes -- Innovation, Learning, Collaboration and Foundations -- and will help to jump-start discussions at the Forum itself. The first, "Foundations", will start on Monday, 10 July. Background papers for all four conferences are available at <http://pcf4.dec.uwi.edu/overview.php> <http://www.col.org/colweb/site/pid/2952>

Theme 1: Foundations – 10-28 July 2006
Theme 2: Learning – 31 July-18 August 2006
Theme 3: Collaboration – 4-22 September 2006
Theme 4: Innovation – 2-20 October 2006

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCES

To join a virtual conference, send an e-mail message to majordomo@hub.col.org and put the following in the body of the message:
subscribe [conference subscribe code] [your e-mail address];
(for example, subscribe pcf3latest xxxx@yyyy.zz)

You will receive a confirmation and further information by e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation within 24 hours, please contact COL at info@col.org

➤ **AEC Annual Meeting for International Relations Coordinators – 8/9 September, Vienna**

The AEC continues with its tradition to organise an Annual Meeting for International Relations Coordinators in European conservatoires. This year, the meeting will take place at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien, September 8-9. Programme, registration form and information about the online hotel reservations can be found at <http://www.aecinfo.org/vienna>.

➤ **ICABE International Conference, at the American Business School, Paris – The Changing Scope of International Education – 22/23 September 2006**

Further information can be found at: [IACBE Conference-Paris](http://www.icabe-paris.com)

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- **Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF4), Ocho Rios, Jamaica – 30 October-3 November 2006**
Online registration is now available for COL's fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF4). Over 300 abstracts/paper proposals have been submitted for the conference, all addressing the theme/sub-themes: "Achieving Development Goals: Innovation, Learning, Collaboration and Foundations". For further information see: www.col.org/pcf4

 - **3rd International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education, Barcelona – 27-29 November 2006**
The Conference is organized by [GUNI](#), and hosted by the [UPC](#) with the aim to create an international forum of higher education. As in the last edition, GUNI will take the opportunity of such important gathering to present the publication *Higher Education in the World 2007* this year focused on accreditation and quality assurance.
The preliminary programme, confirmed speakers and the registration form, can be found at the official Conference's web page: <http://www.guniconference.com>

 - **The Second International Joint Conferences on Computer, Information, and Systems Sciences, and Engineering (CISSE 2006), 4-14 December 2006**
Prospective authors are invited to submit full papers electronically in Microsoft Word format through the website of the individual conferences at <http://www.cisse2006.org> Accepted papers must be presented in the virtual conference by one of the authors. To submit your paper, visit <http://www.cisse2006.org/author/submit.aspx>
Paper submission Deadline: October 13th, 2006
Notification of Acceptance: November 7th, 2006
Final Manuscript and Registration: November 24th, 2006

Items of Interest

- The report on the external review of HETAC was published on 5 July 2006. The evaluation was the first carried out under the European Standards and Guidelines agreed by European Ministers in May. The Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC) was reviewed under the provisions of the Qualifications (Education and Training) Act, 1999 and the European Standards and Guidelines. Further information at www.hetac.ie

 - AUQA has issued a new version of the AUQA Audit Manual. This version of the Manual, Version 3.0, is not a full revision of the Audit Manual but rather a series of minor changes that have been made to bring the Manual up to date and to clarify some matters for auditees in the first cycle. The Manual is available at: <http://www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/auditmanuals/index.shtml>

 - **G8 Summit – Education**
The G8 Press Release and Declaration in relation to education are both available to download here...
[Press Release](#) [Declaration](#)

 - The Review Report, AUQA's Performance Portfolio and a Statement from the AUQA Board are now available on the AUQA website at: <http://www.auqa.edu.au/aboutauqa/externalreview/index.shtml>

 - **AEC launches European project on accreditation in music**
The AEC has launched a European new project entitled 'Accreditation in European Professional Music Training'. The project is being supported by a special section in the SOCRATES Programme for '[Bologna](#)' projects. 'Accreditation in European Professional Music Training' aims at the development of a European dimension in quality assurance and accreditation processes used for programmes and institutions for professional music training in higher education. The project will develop criteria and procedures for such processes that take into account the characteristics of the music sector. More information about this project can be found at <http://www.aecinfo.org/accreditation>.

 - **IMHE Newsletter**
The July 06 Higher Education Newsletter "IMHE news" is available to download here...
<http://www.oecd.org>

 - **AEC lobbies the European Parliament on EU proposal for Key Competencies for Lifelong Learning**
The AEC has successfully lobbied the European Parliament to ensure that the cultural dimension in the proposal for [Key Competences for Lifelong Learning](#) is strengthened. After circulating a document with comments to various Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), several
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amendments were adopted by MEPs based on the suggestions made by AEC. More information on the proposal for Key Competences, the comments of AEC and the adopted amendments can be found on the [AEC Policy Paper webpage](#).

- The Fundacion Albéniz has developed a new website as a result of the HARMOS project, which contains hundreds of hours of interesting video footage from master classes with world-famous musicians. These films can now be accessed for free until the end of the month of June through www.magistermusicae.com.
 - **AEC response to the EU proposal for a European Qualifications Framework posted on Official Bologna Website**
The response of AEC to the proposal for a [European Qualifications Framework \(EQF\)](#) has been posted on the [official Bologna website](#). This website is being maintained by the UK Department for Education of Skills, which chairs the Bologna Follow-up Group until the next ministerial Bologna conference in London May 2007. In addition to the AEC response to the EQF proposal, a link to the AEC Bologna On-line Handbook has also been added in the 'Useful links' section.
 - **The International Journal of Private Education 2006** (1) is now published and available at: <http://www.xaiu.com/xaiujournal/>. Appropriate papers are welcome should you wish to contribute.
 - **EU publishes communication on the modernisation of Europe's higher education**
EU Commissioners Figel (education and culture) and Potočník (research) have presented a Commission Communication urging Member States to press on with the modernisation of Europe's higher education institutions. The aim is to increase the contribution of universities and other higher education institutions to the [Lisbon Agenda](#) for more growth, and more and better jobs. The Commission is urging Member States to free up the EU's substantial reservoir of knowledge, talent and energy with immediate, in-depth and coordinated change: from the way in which higher education systems are regulated and managed, to the ways in which institutions are governed. More information can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/2010/lisbon_en.html.
 - NOQA has published a new website: <http://www.noqa.net/>. The network invites you to visit the website for more information about the network and its co-operation, including annual meetings and projects. All the projects have been published as reports which are available on the website.
 - The French National School of Public Health (ENSP) are engaged in a Leonardo pilot projects concerning the setting up of an European accreditation agency for higher education **public health** programmes. They are currently mapping programmes which have undergone an accreditation process (in Europe) and the agency/body that carried this out. They would be grateful for any relevant information on this, perhaps in the form of a list of programmes, or any useful leads you may have in this area. For further information see: www.europubhealth.org
www.europhamili.org
 - The website of the Joint Quality Review Committee Limited (JQRC) has been launched. (www.jqrc.edu.hk) JQRC is an independent corporate quality assurance body formed by the Heads of Universities Committee (HUCOM) constituted by the eight institutions under the aegis of the University Grants Committee (UGC) in Hong Kong. The website announces the establishment of JQRC and highlights its work and activities.
 - **International Group Endorses Principles for Ranking of Higher-Education Institutions** – this news article can be found at: [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
 - **Accreditor of Education Schools Drops Controversial 'Social Justice' Standard for Teacher Candidates** – this article can be found at: [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#)
 - COL launched a new web site today. Comments are welcome – www.col.org
 - COL is currently seeking qualified professionals for the following vacancies in January 2007:
 - * Vancouver, Canada: Education Specialist, Basic Education and Open Schooling
 - * New Delhi, India: Director, Commonwealth Education Media Centre for AsiaClosing date for applications: 31 July 2006. Further information at www.col.org/opportunities or email opportunities@col.org
 - The latest issue of COL's newsletter, "Connections" (with "EdTech News") is now available at
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