



INQAAHE

International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education

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News from the Secretariat

Call for papers

INQA AHE's 2011 Biennial Conference will take place in Madrid, Spain, from the 4th till the 7th of April, 2011. The Conference theme is: Quality Assurance: Foundation for the Future. The call for papers is now open and the deadline for paper submissions is November 30th. Please consult the document below for the specific requirements. The conference website will go online in November.



http://www.inqa ahe.org/admin/files/assets/subsites/1/documenten/1287057190_call-fc-papers-2011conference.pdf

INQA AHE membership mutations

INQA AHE welcomes the following new members and affiliates:



Full member:

National Accreditation Council Guyana (Guyana)
Australian Psychology Accreditation Council Limited (Australia)
Agence pour l'Evaluation de la Qualité de l'Enseignement supérieur (Belgium)
Commission on Peer Review and Accreditation of the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (United States)

Institution member:

Kristu Jayanti College (India)
University of Namibia (Namibia)
University of Gujrat (Pakistan)
Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences (Pakistan)

Affiliate:

Doreen Kokorwe (Botswana)
Sajida Shroff (Pakistan)
Ali Al-Hassnawi (Oman)



Contributions INQA AHE Bulletin

Upcoming events, summaries of recent conferences, new publications, or changes in your accreditation procedure? The INQA AHE Secretariat welcomes these type of contributions for the next INQA AHE Bulletin. Please send your contribution to secretariat@inqa ahe.org by 8 December 2010.



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President's Report

1. Small states internships.

Using GIQAC funds for the travel of the various interns, INQAAHE and its members have facilitated the placement of six staff from member agencies. Interns have come from Samoa, Timor Leste, Palestine, Trinidad & Tobago and Rwanda, and been hosted in The Netherlands, New Zealand, Egypt and Australia

2. Scholarships

We received funds from GIQAC to support students of the QA programs at New York University or the University of Melbourne. Six scholarships are being given, selected from 14 applications received.

3. Membership forms

The membership forms have been redesigned. These are used for two purposes, namely 1. for applicants to supply the information needed for INQAAHE to decide on admission to membership, and 2. to provide continuing information to the world on the Members database.

I realise that if, like my own agency, you have been an INQAAHE member for many years this seems an unnecessary imposition, but this is the first time in 10 years that the members' database has been renewed, and the information about many members is out of date. Within a few days you will receive an e-mail that contains a link to the new membership form.

4. Member Survey

In Namibia, we agreed to survey members about the services that INQAAHE provides. I know such things can be tedious, but the Board would love to hear from you, no matter how brief your comments. You will soon receive this survey.

5. Accreditation Mills

INQAAHE is working on a project to combat accreditation mills or bogus quality agencies creating an authoritative list of credible agencies. This is not an easy task, and we are at early stage of discussing the problems and parameters.

6. ICDE

The International Council for Distance Education (ICDE) asked INQAAHE to assist in a project to map national regulations on DE. INQAAHE, in collaboration with some Australia and New Zealand bodies, put in a very thorough proposal and has been successful in gaining the project. We shall report on this in the next newsletter.



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7. Constitution

In a recent vote, members have approved the proposed amendments to the Constitution which were discussed in Namibia. The main changes are to return to having two membership categories (Full and Associate) and to give Associates some voting rights in the General Assembly. There is also some strengthening of the wording in relation to membership of the Board. Please consult the new Constitution at: <http://www.inqaahe.org/main/about-inqaahe/constitution>

8. Forum 2012

Members have also accepted the offer from the Australian Universities Quality Agency to host the 2012 Forum in Melbourne, Australia.

David Woodhouse, October 2010

Good Practices in Quality Assurance Database – Updates

It has been over two years since the INQAAHE Good Practices in Quality Assurance Database (GPQA) was launched. So far only 11 practices have been published on the INQAAHE website which is way too few compared to the rich pool of practices which undoubtedly exists among INQAAHE members. All members are encouraged to submit applications for good practices. More information is available on <http://www.inqaahe.org/gpqa/about-gpqa>

Over the last year, the INQAAHE Board has taken a number of initiatives to attract more attention to the GPQA.

The Manual was revised in the first half of the year with respect to the requirements for submissions. Previously it was a requirement that a practice had been externally reviewed prior to submission, but given that INQAAHE organizes a review process, the Board now considers evidence from the applicant on the added value of the practice to be sufficient.

The definition of a Good Practice is: ““A good practice is an activity that is clear and coherent and that has been documented as adding significant value to the policies or practices of a quality assurance agency and/or its stakeholders”” and when submitting an application applicants are required to:

- provide a clear and coherent description of the practice and the rationale for the introduction of the practice
- provide evidence and/or examples that the practice has added value to its QA activities.

In June this year the INQAAHE Secretariat was invited to make a presentation about the GPQA to the participants in the ENQA workshop on Internal Quality Assurance. 54 people participated in the workshop.



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At the ENQA General Assembly held in September 2010 an important part of the program was dedicated to the sharing of practices among the participating members. Following the workshop under the remit of the ENQA-INQAAHE Memorandum of Cooperation a message has been circulated to ENQA members alerting members to the GPQA and the possibility to have practices published.

The Board hopes that these initiatives will have a positive impact on the number of applications being submitted so that the GPQA can develop into a truly useful tool for members.

In Memoriam Marjorie Peace Lenn

All INQAAHE colleagues will be extremely saddened to learn of the death on 17 October of Dr Marjorie Peace Lenn. Marjorie fought a rare and aggressive form of cancer this past year.

She has been a leading global figure in quality in higher education for over 20 years, dating from her position with the US Council on Postsecondary Accreditation (COPA) in the 1980s. In 1991, she was one of the founding group of INQAAHE, and was a joint chair of its second conference (in Montreal in 1993). Recognising the increasingly global nature of higher education, and hence of the need for international attention to quality in higher education, she founded the Center for Quality Assurance in International Education early in the 1990s, and has led it since its inception. Many of you will have benefited from her knowledge, advice, energy and commitment, and will now sorely miss them.



I met her in 1990, and we have worked closely over the years on many projects. Her passing leaves a great gap in my professional life, as it will for many others.

The INQAAHE Board offers its warmest condolences to her husband and daughter. The Board will reflect on possible ways of recognising and remembering her – in addition, of course, to the impressive legacy she leaves behind in the form of organisations, structures and systems that she helped to design and create.

David Woodhouse

News from other networks



APQN 2011 Conference and AGM

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in India will host the annual APQN Conference and AGM in Bangalore, India from 2 to 4 March 2011. The conference will be preceded by the NAAC- COL (Commonwealth on Learning) workshop on the 1st of March. More information will be available at the APQN website soon.

<http://www.apqn.org/events>



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APQN Online Forum on Best Practices in External Quality Assurance

APQN will conduct an Online Forum on Best Practices in EQA from Oct. 1 to 28, 2010. This project is supported by the GIQAC grant. The following are the sub-topics to be covered:

1. Best practices in identifying, training and involving peers in EQA
2. Best practices in facilitating effective self study by HEIs
3. Best practices in effective site visits
4. Best practices in supporting IQA in HEIs

This is the 3rd APQN Online Forum that has been supported by the GIQAC grant.

The forum will take place in the APQN's restricted area: <http://www.apqn.org/members>

ASEAN Quality Assurance Network Roundtable Meeting

The 3rd ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN) Roundtable Meeting, held in Jakarta from 29th to 30th July 2010 was co-organized by the National Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (NAAHE/BAN-PT) and the Directorate General of Higher Education (DGHE), Ministry of National Education (MoNE) of the Republic of Indonesia.

The annual gathering themed - '*The Interfacing between IQA and EQA in Higher Education*'- was attended by the representatives of quality assurance agencies, higher education ministries and professional bodies of the AQAN member countries as well as QA partners from New Zealand and Japan.

The three-day program was officiated by H.E. Prof. Dr. Fasli Jalal, the Vice Minister of the Ministry of National Education, Republic of Indonesia. It started with a seminar addressing the issues on interfacing internal and external quality assurance in higher education.



At the end of the seminar, four recommendations have been suggested to the Roundtable Meeting which are as follows:

1. Internally driven quality assurance is an essential factor in the advancement of Higher education Institutions (HEI) in ASEAN countries.
2. There is a need to develop National Qualification Framework (NQF) in each ASEAN countries as one of the instruments of interaction among HEI.



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3. It is imperative to build trust and mutual recognition among HEI, QA agencies and professional bodies in ASEAN countries.

4. QA agencies should continuously get input from the professional bodies in developing standards and mechanism for accreditation.

The seminar was continued with a policy dialogue session with ASEAN QA Partners, AQAN 2010 Roundtable Meeting and AQAN Executive Committee Meeting. Apart from full participation from all the participants, the gathering had significantly contributed to a meaningful, fruitful and productive meeting and intervention.

More information can be found at:

http://www.mqa.gov.my/aqan/events_news_20100731.cfm



7th Annual International CANQATE Conference and meeti

“Continuously Enhancing The Quality Of Higher Education For Global Competitiveness”

November 23-26, 2010

National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA), Port of Spain, Trinidad

The CANQATE Conference and Meeting offers a platform for academics, teachers, educational administrators, training coordinators, quality assurance professionals, government officials, and industry personnel to share experiences, present research results, and review recent developments in the area of quality in tertiary education.

STRANDS FOR THE THEME

- Enhancing quality in higher education through faculty and staff development
- Building quality into an institution’s operations
- Achieving a competitive advantage through quality assurance
- Leveraging Information and Communications Technology (ICT) towards continuous improvement in higher education institutions
- Ensuring stakeholder satisfaction through future focussed strategies

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ENQA: 10 years (2000-2010)

ENQA celebrated its 10th anniversary in a seminar arranged in conjunction with the 7th ENQA General Assembly on 23-24 September 2010 in Helsinki, Finland. The anniversary was celebrated with the publication ‘ENQA: 10 years (2000–2010) -A decade of European co-operation in quality assurance in higher education’

<http://enqa.eu/files/ENQA%2010th%20Anniversary%20publication.pdf>



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Upcoming Events

EU Drivers and DEAN Conferences

15-17 November, Barcelona, Spain



The **DEAN Conference** (15-16 November) will address the following theme: "**Out of the crisis into sustainable recovery? Maintaining quality in a time of constrained resources**". DEAN is a European network of deans of faculties and academic leaders of ESMU, the European centre for Strategic Management of Universities. More information can be found at: <http://www.esmu.be/deanconference2010.html>

The EU-DRIVERS conference (17 November) "**Universities leading regional innovation: New partnerships at a time of economic crisis**" tackles the issue through a different angle, focusing on the perspective of regional innovation and regional partnerships between triple helix actors. EU-DRIVERS is a three-year EU-funded structural project in the EU Lifelong Learning Programme.

More information can be found at: <http://www.eu-drivers.eu/>

The Fifth European Quality Assurance Forum

Building Bridges: Making sense of QA in European, national and institutional contexts

18-20 November 2010, University Claude Bernard Lyon I, France



The fifth EQAF provides a unique platform for the higher education and QA communities to follow, shape and anticipate developments in the area. The theme of this year's Forum is "Building Bridges: Making sense of QA in European, national and institutional contexts".

Through plenary and parallel sessions, the discussion will focus on the grass roots level of quality assurance in the context of the ongoing development of the European Higher Education Area.

Following the success of the previous European Quality Assurance Forums, the fifth forum, co-organised by ENQA, ESU, EUA and EURASHE and supported by the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Commission, is hosted by University Claude Bernard Lyon I, France on 18-20 November 2010. For more information visit: <http://www.eua.be/EQAF-Lyon.aspx>



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**Fifth International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education
Higher Education's Commitment to Sustainability: from Understanding to Action
23-25 November 2010, Barcelona, Spain**



The 5th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education will take place at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, in Barcelona

UNESCO has considered the Conference as a follow-up event of the World Conference on Higher Education (Paris, 2009)

GUNI joins the work on the contribution of higher education to sustainability currently being carried out by international agencies, special programmes of the United Nations, networks and institutions of higher education in the world with the conviction that the greatest challenge of higher education in next decades consists in putting the knowledge at the service of social transformation, a process which at present means moving toward sustainability.

The Conference offers a collective work and active participation. It will include working sessions to analyze how the world regions are advancing on the issue, using examples and good practices. It also will be a work space where participants will discuss and propose specific ways of action to move forward application.

Visit the Conference website at <http://www.guni.rmies.net/conference2010>

5th EAPRIL Conference



**Challenges in Professional Learning across the Disciplines
24-26 November, Lissabon, Portugal**

The EAPRIL 2010 conference is the second conference organized by the European Association for Practitioner Research on Improving Learning in education and professional practice (EAPRIL). Before EAPRIL was founded, this conference was referred to as PBPR conference.

Modern society is characterized by concepts as 'fast changing', 'complex' and 'dynamic'. This leads to a focus on 'professional development' as a crucial factor for successful business and successful education.

Professional development by creating effective learning environments is thus high on the agenda. Formal and informal training methods should be adapted to the dynamic environment, which requires and interweaving of learning and working processes. Learning is thus a cross-cutting concern of several processes. Related key concepts as 'knowledge and competence development', 'professional learning and training', 'creation of learning environments' are subject of many studies, models, theories and professional practices. Across the disciplines, there are often different underlying conceptualizations of learning and knowledge. To overcome these conceptual differences and isolation, EAPRIL wants to create a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas. With this conference, we will strengthen the research and practice in this fascinating area.

Visit the conference website at: <http://www.eapril.org/EAPRIL2010>



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ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN 2010 - Learning for All

16th International Conference on Technology Supported Learning & Training

1-3 December 2010

Hotel Intercontinental, Berlin



Under the banner of Learning for All, the 16th edition of ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN addresses the core issues of e-learning in the corporate, public and academic sector. See innovation at work, get immersed in virtual worlds, join the discussion on the ethical and practical implications of digitally enhanced learning, experience the highlights and challenges of the classroom evolution and find out all about smarter working environments which focus on achieving organisational results through collaborative intelligence and learning. More information can be found at: <http://www.online-educa.com/en>

**Mobility under the magnifying glass:
New insights, old challenges, future perspectives
3 December 2010, Brussel**



On 3 December 2010 the Academic Cooperation Association is organising a seminar focused on student mobility. Europe seems rather unique on the world map of international student mobility, at least in one respect: the degree of visibility and support - be it academic, political or financial - granted to this phenomenon during the past decade within the 'old continent' is simply outstanding. But while various European states are undoubtedly keen to attract the 'best and brightest' foreign mobile students from around the world, to make European 'youth' more mobile, and to ensure that 20% of those graduating in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) by 2020 will have had a study or training period abroad, do we really have a clear picture of European and global mobility developments? How accurate is our knowledge of this highly interesting phenomenon, and how might our understanding be deepened and refined?

The 4th ACA European Policy Seminar of this year will investigate these questions, as well as many other controversial aspects related to the international mobility phenomenon.

<http://www.aca-secretariat.be/index.php?id=434>



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