



INQAAHE News

**President's Message**

Since the September Bulletin was published, the INQAAHE Board has been working on the following tasks.

**Strategic Plan**

The Board has developed a Strategic Plan for the next five years to guide the directions and emphases of the Network, which is available on the network's website or to download here.... [Strategic Plan](#)

**INQAAHE Website**

A new website design has been developed and is now being implemented.

**Relation with other networks**

INQAAHE has discussed how it can best support and relate to regional and other networks of QA agencies, It aims to work with each region for mutual benefit and support... [Regional Networks](#)

**GPOA**

A database of good practices in QA agencies (GPOA) is being designed by a team: Dr Nadia Badrawi, NQAAC, Egypt; Dr Antony Stella, AUQA, Australia; and Dr Janice Ross, QAA, UK.

**GIQAC**

INQAAHE is represented on the Steering Committee of GIQAC (the Global Initiative for QA Capacity-Building), a partnership between the World Bank and UNESCO. The Steering Committee meets for the first time in Paris on 19 November and members will be informed of the outcomes.

**Guidelines of Good Practice**

Increasingly, agencies are being reviewed against the Guidelines of Good Practice. Any member agency that has been reviewed and found to be substantially in alignment with the Guidelines might want this fact recorded publicly. INQAAHE has agreed to assist in this. Any member agency that has been found, through a review or similar means, to be substantially in alignment with the Guidelines can ask the Secretariat to record this fact with the Members' Register on the website.

**Query Service**

Agencies often want a rapid answer to a very specific question about practices or procedures. INQAAHE plans to set up an on-line mechanism whereby members can send these questions to a small group of folk from QA agencies for advice.

Any members willing to be on the panel providing this service should inform the Secretariat.

**Conferences**

On behalf of INQAAHE, I attended the UNESCO/UNESCO 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Forum on International Quality Assurance, Accreditation and the Recognition of Qualifications in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and the African 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in the following week. I was delighted to be back in Dar es Salaam where I had my first job post-doctorate, many years ago.

On behalf of the Board, Mme Marie-Odile Ottenwaelter attended the OECD Thematic Review of Tertiary Education, 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop of Participation Countries, working conference in Paris.

**Support**

On behalf of AUQA, I sent messages of greeting and support to the CANQATE regional conference and the Nigerian quality conference.

**Membership**

Since the last bulletin INQAAHE is pleased to welcome the following new members to the network:  
The Higher Education Evaluation and Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT)  
CNA (the legal continuator of CNAP), Chile  
The Samoa Qualifications Authority (SQA)

**Arab Network**

The idea of establishing an Arab network was conceived in July 2004 at a conference in Cairo, Egypt. Many higher education experts from Arab countries were invited to address issues of quality assurance in their respective countries. A final consensus to establish an Arab network for quality assurance and accreditation was agreed upon in Abu Dhabi in

2005. The past president of INQAAHE was invited to this meeting to support the initiation of the network. The outcome of this meeting was to develop the first draft of constitution. A third meeting in Cairo, 2006 was organised to agree on the draft constitution, and on the launching the network.

The Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education ANQAHE was launched in Jordan in June, 2007. The network is working in association with INQAAHE, who are delighted with the launch of the network and I am particularly pleased that the tremendous work and efforts invested by Dr. Nadia Badrawi, Secretary General of ANQAHE and Board member of INQAAHE have paid off. The ANQAHE website is available here... [ANQAHE](#)

#### **African Network**

At the 2nd International Conference on QA in HE in Africa in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on 17 September, Professor Olusola Oyewole of the Association of African Universities announced the inauguration of the African Network for Quality Assurance (AfriQAN). A Constitution has been drafted, and the AAU will facilitate the setting up of a Board and the registration of member agencies. The AfriQAN website is available here... [AfriQAN](#)

INQAAHE is delighted to learn of this positive step in the growth of quality assurance systems in Africa. I am particularly pleased that AfriQAN wishes to operate in association with INQAAHE.

David Woodhouse  
President, INQAAHE  
November 2007

#### **Items of Interest**

- The dedicated website for the 2008 Member's Forum is now live and gives details of the event, including the preliminary program, registration and accommodation options. The programme is in draft form, but you will receive updates as they become available. The website is available at <http://www.coneau.gov.ar/MemberForum2008/>
- The INQAAHE Strategic Plan, 2008-2012 is available on the network's website at [Strategic Plan](#)
- The ECA is organising a dissemination conference on mutual recognition of accreditation decisions on 10 and 11 December in Barcelona. Among the presenters are members of the INQAAHE Board. There are still places available for INQAAHE members who would like to attend. Registrations can be done on line through: <http://www.eaconsortium.net/conference/>
- A new AUQA Occasional Publication, 'Thematic Analysis: The Role of Academic Boards in University Governance', is available now on the AUQA website at [AUQA Publications](#)
- European Education Policy Network Conference "Advancing the European Education Agenda", 30 November-1 December 2007,

Brussels and Leuven, Belgium

This conference will bring together senior policymakers and leading policy researchers from across Europe for a two-day event at the European Parliament in Brussels and the University of Leuven. Participants will explore the changing objectives, policy trends and research directions that are setting new pathways for European education. Confirmed speakers include Members of the European Parliament, senior Commission officials, and representatives of the Council of Europe, European University Association, Academic Cooperation Association and other policy organisations. Registration is open online at [www.educationpolicy.eu](http://www.educationpolicy.eu)

#### ➤ NEWS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF LEARNING

Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning - PCF5 call for proposals/registration

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A call for proposals has now been issued for contributions to COL's Fifth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF5), "Access to Learning for Development", which will be held from 13-17 July 2008 at the University of London, U.K. General registration is also now open.

Proposals can cover a wide range of activities including workshops, round-table discussions, formal academic papers, presentations, poster sessions, group work and networking. All proposals must be related to the conference themes, which are:

1. Health,
2. Livelihoods,
3. Provision for children and young people, and
4. Governance, conflict and social justice.

Proposal guidelines and online submission forms can be found on the Forum website. The deadline for abstracts is 30 November 2007.

PCF5 is being hosted by COL in partnership with the University of London, forming a part of the University's celebration of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of its External Degrees initiative. Support for delegate participation from developing countries is being provided by COL, the U.K. Open University, the University of London External Programme and UNESCO. Conference Co-Chairs are Sir Graeme Davies, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, and Sir John Daniel, President and CEO of COL. Further information at [www.col.org/pcf5](http://www.col.org/pcf5)

- The annual ELA conference is organized in Lisbon (Portugal) on 13-16 December 2007 and deals with the topic of decentralization in education.  
The Aims and Outcomes of the conference are:  
To look at the policy instruments which governments have at their disposal;  
to help them meet their decentralisation objectives, and discuss best practices.  
The outcome is a publication of the proceedings and concluding chapter on best practices.  
Conference venue  
Auditorium of Law Faculty Lisbon University. Further information at <http://www.eu2007.min-edu.pt/np4/en/home>
  
- The New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit have set up a facility on their website for you to subscribe to website update notifications. Notifications will be sent to those who subscribe whenever the Unit posts new publications or occasional reports associated with the work of the Unit. The facility to subscribe is found on the home page of the Unit's website at <http://www.nzuaau.ac.nz/>