



Re-Imagining Higher Education Quality in an Age of Uncertainty

INQAAHE Biennial Conference 2021 Call for Paper and Poster Presentations

Re-Imagining Higher Education Quality in an Age of Uncertainty **7th to 10th of June, 2021** **Glasgow** **Proudly hosted by** **Quality Assurance Agency, the United Kingdom**

The International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) invites proposals for papers and posters for our 2021 INQAAHE Conference. We are looking for presentations that are interactive, ensuring high levels of participant engagement. These can be based on either the presentation of new research or best practice experiences based on previously developed practices or studies.

Presentations will be made at the conference in Glasgow and recorded for availability online.

The deadline for submissions is **30th of November 2020**. Please pay attention to the criteria as all proposals will be assessed by these.

Conference Theme

Re-imagining Higher Education Quality in an Age of Uncertainty

Quality assurance has come to the fore again to provide confidence and reassurance in changes that have come about as a result of the recent COVID 19 crisis. It has an important role to play in ensuring that the quality of and trust in higher education is not eroded and improved through the known disruptions that we are facing globally, namely changing globalization patterns, changing demographics and technological change including digitalization.

Sub-themes

1. Digital disruption for HE brings disruption for quality assurance

We would like our audience to consider how quality assurance will change if higher education is moving en masse to online or hybrid forms of delivery and assessment. Topics include:

- Challenges and opportunities for quality assurance in a digital era.
- Quality of digital vs. 'in person' learning experiences.
- Innovative quality assurance of learning through digital platforms.
- Innovative ways of conducting quality assurance activity through digital platforms.
- Ensuring qualifications (e.g. in-person, online, hybrid) hold their value in a rapidly changing world.

2. New quality agendas for external and internal quality assurance

The conference will explore the future of internal and external quality assurance and enhancement in an age of uncertainty. We are interested in all topics but especially:

- How to ensure access and equity to quality higher education amid disruptions?
- Supporting new ways of learning that provide access and equity to higher education for different age groups.
 - o Focusing on new skills and competencies.
- Building resilience in higher education: criteria for quality assurance amid disruptions and crises.

3. Quality assurance supporting changing learner journeys

We are interested in finding ways of helping students and staff to feel secure and supported in welcoming new learners and expanding the diversity of provision to meet their needs. Topics include:

- Changing patterns of higher education globalisation and how to ensure we benefit from the advantages of globalization?
- Changing international student patterns and needs.
- Engagement between higher education and employment and the new role of quality assurance.
- Assuring the quality of new forms of provision, shorter programmes and micro-credentials.

4. Maintaining trust in the face of uncertainty

We need to ensure that we continue to maintain trust in higher education in a time of uncertainty.

- New accountability roles for promoting trust in quality assurance.
- Building trust through innovations in quality assurance (e.g. Artificial Intelligence).
- The role of quality assurance in instilling trust to stakeholders (e.g. employers, governments, society at large).
- Building trust through new communications.

Criteria for Submissions

Paper Proposals

Papers will be typically presented in the following format:

- Concurrent sessions with duration of 45 minutes;
 - o Five minutes for introductions at the beginning;
 - o 25 minutes to present;
 - o Five to ten minutes for questions and discussions; and
 - o Five minutes at the end for concluding remarks and closure of the presentation.

There is a limit to the numbers of papers that can be selected. Therefore, we will only select papers that clearly address topics relevant to one of the sub-themes and meet the required criteria.

- There should be a clear focus for the paper, in an area of demonstrable interest to a diversity of conference participants.
- The arguments, development, and structure of the paper must be logical, coherent and understandable.
- Research-based presentations should include details of research design, methodology, data and findings as well as highlight contribution to the body of knowledge.

Each paper proposal should set out the following in this order:

- The selected conference sub-theme;
- The specific topic covered by the paper;
- The author(s);
- The organization(s) of the author(s);
- A 100 – 150-word abstract;
- An outline description of no more than 1,000 words;
- The aims and intentions of the author(s) for the presentation;
- The methodology being adopted to present the paper; and
- Any specific audio-visual requirements.

Each paper should be submitted in 12-point Times New Roman font and the file must be labelled as follows:

- Number of the subtheme, last name of the author, last name of any co-authors (i.e. 2_martin-jara, which means it is a paper under subtheme 2, written by Martin and Jara).

Poster Proposals

Poster formats are a great way for delegates to present their quality assurance practices. They often open up discussions between delegates on a range of aspects related to the practices and create opportunities for presenters to get feedback on these.

Posters will be exhibited in areas where delegates will take their breaks, and a dedicated session is reserved in the programme for contributors to present their posters.

Proposals for poster presentations on any topic related to one of the sub-themes may be submitted for consideration.

Each poster should contain:

- The topic title;
- The name(s) of the presenter(s) and their organisations; and
- A combined textual and graphic description of the topic with the assistance of tables, drawings or charts.

A poster proposal should:

- Identify the presenter(s);
- Identify the organization of the presenter(s);
- Include information on the title or topic;
- Include an abstract explaining the intent of the poster;
- Be no more than 250 words in length;
- The aims and intentions of the author(s) for the presentation;

Each paper should be submitted in 12-point Times New Roman font and the file must be labelled as follows:

- The file must be identified in the following way: p_last name of the author-last name of any co-authors (i.e. p_martin-jara, which means it is a poster presented by Martin and Jara).

Note: The conference organizers will provide poster boards. The size of a poster should be A1 (84 cm by 60 cm). Presenters are responsible for bringing the poster to the Conference venue for displaying it to the poster board and for being present at the board during breaks and the special poster sessions.

Deadline and Timelines

The following are the deadline and timelines for submissions:

- **30th of November, 2020:** all paper and poster proposals must be submitted to the INQAAHE Secretariat.
- **20th of January, 2021:** contributors are notified on their paper or poster acceptance.
- **15th of March, 2021:** the final version of papers and posters are submitted to the INQAAHE Secretariat.
- **30th of April, 2021:** publication of the conference materials is completed.

Conference Registration

Please note that in submitting a presentation, all authors listed in the programme description book and on the web site proceedings are accepting that, if selected, they will register for the conference.

Information on registration fees and early bird discounts will be available on the INQAAHE as well as conference website.

The deadline for the authors to register for the Conference is **15th of March, 2021**. Authors not presenting can be recognized in the brief or detailed description in the conference programme and in the content of the presentation.

Proposals should be sent to: secretariat@inqaahe.org.

Contact Us

For further information and questions regarding the submission of papers, please contact the INQAAHE Secretariat at:

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