

The INQAAHE Newsletter is your International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies information hub. This publication aims to provide the latest in QAA and industry trends and news to our subscribers. Contributions are most welcome – please email to secretariat@inqaahe.org.

Message from the President



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the 1st issue of the INQAAHE 2018 Newsletter!

INQAAHE launched the new year with the inauguration of the new Strategic Plan (2018-2022), targeting new heights for the organisation, membership, and QA community at large. We will focus and capitalise on the four strategic pillars over the next five years creating and maintaining a sustainable operational environment for continuous investment in the future enhancement and development of quality provisions and quality cultures. Emphasis will be on building knowledge, supporting research, and, promoting the relevance of our services. Underpinned by the principle of diversity, our strategic priorities cater to the diversity of needs of our members, thus benefiting higher education

QA systems worldwide.

Celebrating the launch of the new Strategic Plan, INQAAHE actively contributed to several regional events, which are crucial for the countries in the process of reviewing their respective QA systems. Some examples include: the *International Conference on QA for Latin America and the Caribbean* in Santigao, Chile, co-organised with CINDA, CHEA/CIQG Annual Event in Washington DC, USA, the Phillipines and Eastern Europe. More is planned to follow.

The current issue provides detailed information on the QA developments from all over the world, grouped per region. It is encouraging to see the efforts invested both by governments, external quality assurance bodies, and higher education institutions to review/revise their respective systems, with the aim to enhance credibility and relevance of provisions (e.g., EKKA, GAC, AAEPO) as well as a series of workshops and trainings to enhance internal QA of HEIs (e.g., in Pakistan). The newsletter also highlights the enhancement activities carried out by our members to come up with new approaches to quality assurance of doctoral programmes, among the others (AQU Catalunya).

Finally, as always, we are happy to share valuable information on current and upcoming quality assurance events worldwide. Among the major ones are the INQAAHE Biennial Forum 2018, to be hosted by TEC, Mauritius as well as other important QA events which will help you to orientate and prioritise the enhancement of your quality assurance systems.

I hope you find the information of the most recent developments in quality assurance in this edition both enlightening and useful.

Best regards,



Susanna Karakhanyan,
7th President of INQAAHE

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All INQAAHE members are invited to contribute articles for the next issue of the Newsletter. All submissions and accompanying photographs should be sent to: secretariat@inqaahe.org.

INQAAHE SECRETARIAT

The Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency:
AQU Catalunya
C. dels Vergós, 36-42
08017 Barcelona
Tel: +34 93 268 89 50

The content of this Newsletter is compiled by the INQAAHE Secretariat and reviewed by the INQAAHE Communication and Outreach Committee (COC).






While the responsibility of the content and its accuracy remains with members and networks, the INQAAHE COC reserves the right to edit, correct, revise or omit any submitted article as required for consistency and appropriacy.

If major revisions are required, the INQAAHE COC may contact the member or network before accepting or publishing the content.

News from the Secretariat

Membership Mutations

INQAAHE welcomes the following new members:

-  [University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar](#) (Associate), Pakistan
-  [Capital University of Science and Technology](#) (Associate), Pakistan
-  [Institute of Business Management](#) (Associate), Pakistan
-  [Imperial College of Advanced Studies](#) (Associate), Nigeria
-  [Lyceum of the Philippines University](#) (Associate), Philippines

INQAAHE 11th Biennial Forum 2018



Early bird registration extended until 16th April 2018!

The INQAAHE 11th Biennial Forum will be held at Le Meridien Hotel, Mauritius, **from 2-4 May 2018**. Proudly hosted by the [Mauritius Tertiary Education Commission](#) (TEC), the theme of the Forum is '*Quality is in the Eye of the Beholder: Relevance, Credibility and International Visibility*'.

The Forum features four pre-Forum workshops, two keynote addresses, and three lively discussions, as well as three special addresses related to the three sub-themes of relevance, credibility and international visibility. Please visit the website of the Forum at <http://www.inqaahe2018mauritius.mu/home> for more details.

Exciting pre-Forum workshops covering the sub-themes have been planned to be covered by international experts from Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) of Australia, Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council (HEEACT) of Taiwan, Seychelles Qualifications Authority, and Tertiary Education Commission of Mauritius.

The keynote addresses will be delivered by two distinguished speakers, Professor Bjørn Stensaker of the University of Oslo, and Professor Goolam Mohamedbhai, the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mauritius. Professor Stensaker will be sharing his thoughts on '*Quality and the Battle for Legitimacy: Discourses, Dependencies and Disputes*', whilst Professor Goolam will be speaking on '*The Changing Landscape of Higher Education in Emerging Economies: Challenges for Quality Assurance*'.

Dr Susanna Karakhanyan, the President of INQAAHE, will lead the topical discussion on '*Quality as Recognition: Are We Still Relevant to Our Stakeholders?*'. This will be followed by Miss Pauline Tang, the Vice-President of INQAAHE, and Dr Jagannath Patil, Immediate Past President of INQAAHE, who will be touching on the topic of '*Credibility - Perspectives of Internal and External QA Providers*'. The third topical discussion will be led by Professor Sid Nair, the Executive Director of Tertiary Education Commission of Mauritius. He will be speaking on the topic of '*Relevance & Credibility: How Do We Ensure Graduates of Today are Ready for Tomorrow's Jobs?*'.

In addition, there will be three special addresses on: *Quality Assurance and the UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications*; *Academic Assessment and Trust in Online Provision: Quality Assurance Tools*; and *Enhancing Academic Integrity - Progress on QAA's Online Training*, which are highly relevant to the theme of the Forum.

We promise you an exciting agenda, and we look forward to welcoming you to Mauritius!

INQAAHE Funding Scheme 2017-2018: final results

INQAAHE is funding 7 applications from its members from least developed countries to attend the 11th Biennial Forum 2018, up to USD \$2,500 per application}.

REPRESENTATIVE	ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	MEMBERSHIP
Farrukh Idrees	Fast-NU	Pakistan	Associate
Lindiwe Mabuza	University of South Africa	South Africa	Associate
Fiona Ernesta	Seychelles Qualifications Authority	Seychelles	Full
Fawad Sadiq	Director Quality Enhancement Cell, Riphah International University	Pakistan	Associate
Mohamed Emran Hossain	Daffodil International University	Bangladesh	Associate
Syed Mubashir Ali	Quality Enhancement Cell Lahore University of Management Sciences	Pakistan	Associate
Abigail Dzama Tawiah	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi	Ghana	Associate

Call for Research and Innovation proposals

INQAAHE is funding two proposals for the period of 2017-2018, up to USD \$2,500 for each project.

ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	AUTHOR	TITLE
General Department of Education Testing and Accreditation	Vietnam	Nguyen Huu Cuong	Investigating joint programs in Vietnam: Operation and quality management seen from institutional practices
National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education	Japan	Ayaka Noda	Assessment of Learning Outcomes and Internal Quality Assurance Building in Higher Education in Japan and Taiwan: The Role of External Quality Assurance Agencies and Universities

Call for Capacity Building proposals

INQAAHE is funding three proposals for the period of 2017-2018, up to USD \$10,000 for each project.

ORGANISATION	COUNTRY	AUTHOR	TITLE
SEAMEO	Vietnam	Thu Do Thi Hoai	Capacity Building in Internal Quality Assurance for Higher Education Institutions in Vietnam
Agència de Qualitat de l'Ensenyament Superior d'Andorra, AQUA	Andorra	Marta Fonolleda	Making connections between the Institutional Evaluation and the Sustainable Development Goals (United Nations). Empowering stakeholders for quality enhancement
Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan	Taiwan	Angela Yung Chi Hou	Comparisons of QA systems, Review standards and Procedures, and Transparency in Taiwan and Indonesia: Capacity Building for Mutual Recognition of Joint Programs

INQAAHE's contribution to the CHEA/CIQG Annual Event



By the end of January the US-based Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the CHEA International Quality Group held their [annual conference](#) in Washington DC. INQAAHE was invited to contribute to the theme on the *Current*

Interaction of Politics, Social Justice and Quality, The Role of Multilateralism. The panel presentation and discussions were chaired by the CHEA lead Senior Advisor, Stamenka Uvalic-Trumbic, Senior Advisor. INQAAHE President, Dr. Susanna Karakhanyan, and Mr. Libing Wang, Chief of the Section for Educational Innovation and Skills Development at the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education, were the keynote speakers for the panel.

The questions posed to the panel mainly revolved around UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 on *Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all and promote lifelong opportunities for all*:

- 🌐 Has there been a shift of emphasis by multilateral organisations to include a more prominent focus on social justice and equity in HE?
- 🌐 What are the actual trends reflecting these approaches?
- 🌐 What is the role of politics and its interaction with these trends?

INQAAHE's contribution mainly revolved around the current expectations of the higher education key stakeholders and some potential changes to the approaches of quality assurance to meet the expectations of the stakeholders were proposed by INQAAHE. The core business for QA, as summarized by Dr. Judith Eaton, the CHEA President, is a proposal to make a move towards a social dimension. As Dr. Karakhanyan mentioned, the QA should gear towards supporting the HE providers in their efforts to link academia with the industry and broader, socio-economic needs. Quality as recognition of higher education outcomes and outputs was proposed as one of the solutions to the challenges posed.

[INQAAHE presentation at CHEA/CIQG event](#)

INQAAHE - CINDA co-organised International Conference in Santiago, Chile, 8th-10th January, 2018



The International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education, in cooperation with CINDA (Centro Interuniversitario de Desarrollo), RIACES (La Red Iberoamericana para el Aseguramiento de la Calidad en la Educación Superior), Ministry of Education of Chile, and IESALC (the UNESCO regional office in Latin America and the Caribbean), organized an international conference on quality assurance in tertiary education in Santiago, Chile, from 8-10th of January, 2018.

The focus of the event was on the development of higher education for the 21st century - a time of reforms and structural change. Around the world, including Latin-America and the Caribbean region, governments and institutions advocate changes in higher education systems to provide effective, inclusive, quality higher education. The [International Conference on Diversity, Quality and Improvement](#) provided a trusted platform for tertiary education key stakeholders to reflect on the experiences and impact of the current practices while providing an excellent opportunity to consolidate and plan for the future with global partners, who brought in a wider view. The conference promoted knowledge-sharing and stimulating discussions for like-minded quality assurance enthusiasts. Experts from quality assurance, higher education institutions, and policy maker from Latin America, the Caribbean, and other regions of the world shared their views on the current challenges the global tertiary education system is confronting. The format of the event included keynote and short presentations with breakout groups for participants to hold theme-focused discussions. The outcomes of the Conference will be published and

presented at the Regional Conference for Higher Education, CRES 2018.

Quality as Recognition was the main highlight of the INQAAHE contribution. The message from the INQAAHE President was the significance of promoting relevance and recognition of tertiary education outputs in terms of qualifications, knowledge development and knowledge transfer as well as recognition of quality assurance outcomes and the importance to re-consider approaches to QA to enable such kind of recognition.



One of the highlights of the event was the workshops offered to the tertiary education providers on internal and external quality assurance. To promote recognition of the tertiary education outcomes in general and quality assurance in particular, INQAAHE conducted a [workshop on the new Guidelines of Good Practice](#) adopted in 2016 and the new procedures related to it.

INQAAHE Strategic Plan 2018-2022



The new Strategic Plan draws from the 2017 INQAAHE Impact Study, which includes an in-depth review of

feedback garnered from INQAAHE members over the last five years and the vast experience of the Network accumulated throughout the years of its existence. It was developed with broad involvement of INQAAHE members to ensure that the outlined strategies and goals serve the diverse needs of our valued members and other stakeholders at large. The environmental scan and organisational assessment has helped the

Committee to assess both the challenges and opportunities INQAAHE is likely to face over the next five years and set the context for the directions reflected in this SP.

The SP was approved and adopted by the INQAAHE Board of Directors on 18th of December 2017 and will enter its full implementation on 1 January 2018. The Board of Directors will follow up on the implementation of the SP, report annually on the achievements and identified needs, and detail further implementation steps to ensure its continued relevance.

[Strategic Plan 2018-2022](#)

Bid to host the INQAAHE Forum 2020 - deadline extended!

The Board of INQAAHE seeks expressions of interest from member agencies in hosting the biennial forum of 2020. Agencies interested in hosting an event should note that it is not the practice to hold events in the same region or continent where a recent conference or for forum took place. Considering the venues for the INQAAHE annual events for, at least, the last ten years, preferences for hosting the INQAAHE Forum 2020 will be given to the following regions: Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Southern America, Northern America, and Francophone Africa.

Submission of proposals to host the INQAAHE 2020 Forum should be made to the Board of INQAAHE through the network Secretariat. There will be a two-step process for members interested in hosting the INQAAHE 2020 Forum, with the first step being the submission of a formal letter of intent with the preliminary proposal. The letter of intent and the preliminary proposal must be submitted electronically, using the [APPLICATION FORM](#), to [the Secretariat](#) by **13th April 13, 2018**.

Please read the document entitled [Requirements for hosting a conference](#) or forum prior to submitting the preliminary proposal. This document will provide an overview of the review and the decision-making process to be followed with regard to the handling of all submitted proposals.

News from Members

ASIA

Independent Accreditation of higher educational and VET institutions has begun in Kyrgyzstan

Previously, the State Accreditation of Higher Educational and VET Institutions was carried out by the Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic. This procedure differed from Independent Accreditation in the absence of transparent, clear, and detailed standards, rules, criteria and procedures.

In 2013, the Law "On education" was amended to replace the State Accreditation by Independent Accreditation that was carried out by Independent Accreditation Agencies in 2014. However, at the initiative of the Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic, the introduction of Independent Accreditation was postponed to 2016 and did not begin until 2017.

Agency for Accreditation of Educational Programmes and Organisations (AAEPO) was founded in 2014 and was recognized by the National Accreditation Council in 2016. Programme of the German Society for Development (GIZ) "Vocational Educational Training and Employment Promotion" realized great assistance in the formation and development of AAEPO. With the help of this Programme normative and methodological base, standards, criteria, technologies and procedures of accreditation have been developed. In 2012, after the preliminary training, Pilot Accreditation of 6 Educational Institutions was carried out. In 2015-2016, this number rose to 22 Educational Institutions. Based on the results of the Pilot Accreditation, the regulatory and methodological framework, standards, criteria, technologies and accreditation procedures have been refined and improved.

The work of AAEPO is based on Accreditation Standards and Criteria approved by the Government of Kyrgyz Republic in 2016. These Accreditation Standards and Criteria were developed on the basis of European standards and guidelines (ESG-2015) adopted by the meeting of Ministers of Education of European countries in May 2015 in Yerevan (Armenia).

AAEPO held in 2017 Accreditation of 30 Institutions in 134 Programs. The results of Accreditation are published on the [website of AAEPO](#) and sent to the Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic. AAEPO teaches Experts and includes them in its database of more than 300 Experts from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Russia, Bulgaria, Germany. Accreditation decisions are made by the Accreditation Council at AAEPO. This Council consists of one third of representatives of the State, one third of representatives of the Economic Sector and one third of representatives of Civil Society.

Staff of AAEPO was taught in USA, Germany, Belgium, Kyrgyzstan.

Accreditation is difficult because Educational Institutions are poorly prepared for it. However, both Educational Institutions and their Social Partners are beginning to understand that there is no other way but Independent Accreditation to improve the Quality of Education.

News from FAST-National University QEC



FAST-National University QEC presents a research paper on quality in higher education in 16th International Conference of Statistical Sciences in Peshawar

Mr. Farrukh Idrees, Manager QEC, FAST-NU Pakistan presented a research paper on quality in Higher Education with specific focus on final year projects in 16th International Conference on Statistical Sciences organized by Islamic Society of Statistical Sciences in March 2018 in Islamia College University, Peshawar. More than 120 research papers were presented on the application of statistics in education management, manufacturing, energy management etc. by scholars and professionals in different sessions of the conference. The significance of the research presented by FAST-NU QEC was highly admired by the participating scholars, jury, and the practitioners for enhancing the standards of education. A certificate of appreciation was awarded by the jury to Mr. Farrukh

Idrees for his research on the emerging theme of quality in higher education.

FAST-NU QEC holds a training workshop on Quality of MS/PhD programs in the purview of OBE in Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology



Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) at FAST-National University is committed to facilitating continual staff development, systems' upgradation, and capacity building of stakeholders for flourishing of Outcome Based Education (OBE) model in education management. This would espouse the cause of good policy making and efficient delivery of knowledge, as per the requirements of Higher Education Commission (HEC) and accreditation councils. In recognition to the above, FAST-NU QEC delivered a keynote lecture on 'Integration of Information Technology in Outcome Based Education and Assessment (as per HEC requirements)' dated 16th January 2018 in Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology (GIKI). The participants extended their keen interest to burgeon further professional linkages in future to share best practices between FAST-National University and GIKI on a periodic basis for mutual quality assurance developments in terms of ranking frameworks at national and international levels.

FAST-National University holds a workshop on Quality Assurance for Staff in Islamabad Campus

Quality Enhancement Cell Islamabad Campus arranged a Workshop on Quality Assurance in Higher Education on 17th January, 2018. Mr. Farrukh Idrees, Manager Directorate of Quality Assurance and Mr. Asim Azhar Shah, Deputy Manager Quality Enhancement Cell

Islamabad Campus were resource persons. It was an interactive session regarding working among the departments with respect to Quality Assurance standards set by HEC. Representatives from all the departments attended the workshop and appreciated the arrangement and contents of the workshop. Certificates were distributed among the participants.

KASBIT, Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) organised 2-Day Training Session on Awareness & Transition to ISO 9001:2015



Khadim Ali Shah Bukhari Institute of Technology (KASBIT) is already ISO 9001:2008 certified. Regarding the transition to ISO 9001:2015, QEC Department of KASB Institute of Technology organized two days of training sessions on November 3, 2017 & November 4, 2017 led by Mr. Khalid Aslam Malik, Lead Auditor, United Registrar of Systems (URS), Lahore, in order to know the new clauses and standards of ISO 9001:2015. For such training, two staff members from each department were selected. Three exercises had been performed during training session: firstly, to prepare a list of interested parties related to KASB Institute of Technology, secondly to prepare Process Approach document and Process Flow Chart of all departments, and the third exercise was integrated with the previous exercise in which all departments had to identify potential and actual risk. Trainer briefly explained all standards of ISO 9001:2015 to trainees by defining all new clauses that have been introduced in ISO 9001:2015 through practical scenarios. Question and Answer session was also done at the end of both days.

First International Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education, Peshawar

First international conference on quality assurance was organized on December 18-19, 2017 by Khyber Medical University, Peshawar. Mr. Bilal Azam, Assistant Manager QEC, attended the conference to ensure the representation of Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). The theme of the conference revolved around the Quality Enhancement Practices in Higher Education Institutes. The conference was a good opportunity to meet Members of Accreditation Council, Representatives of Quality Assurance Agencies, National and International Quality Assurance Professionals, Faculty Members of HEI's and Staff of QEC from different institutions. The conference further opened the gate of linkages and association with different institutions for LUMS.

World Quality Day at Lahore College for Women University (LCWU)

World Quality Day was organized on January 11, 2018 by Lahore College for Women University, Pakistan. Ms. Hiba Khurshid, Assistant Manager QEC, attended the event from LUMS. Debate competition and posters related to quality enhancement were presented by students. Representatives of Quality Assurance from different institutions were attending the event. The event was thus a good platform to communicate with QA society.

Riphah International University Holds Risk Management Training (ISO 9001:2015 QMS)

Riphah International University, Islamabad, Pakistan is a Private Sector General Category university with a student population of 11,000 plus. The university is certified to ISO 9001:2008 QMS since 2012. The certification has been awarded by M/S Lloyd's Register, UK. The re-certification of the University on the new version i.e. ISO 9001:2015 is due in September 2018. One of the major changes in the new version is addition of Risk Management in all areas of the University. The theme of this change is *"To conform to the requirements of ISO 9001:2015 QMS Standard, plan and implement actions to address risks and opportunities. Addressing both risks and opportunities establishes a basis for increasing the effectiveness of*

the quality management system, achieving improved results and preventing negative effects". Working on the theme, the university arranged 2 Days training on 9th and 15th January 2018 for all the Deans/Directors of the University and their nominated Departmental QMS Representatives. On the first day, the Senior Tutor of LRQA, Mr. Raheel Ehsan, discussed the processes of carrying out Risk Identification, Assessment, and Mitigation. On the second day, The Faculty/Departmental Heads presented their Risk Management Plans with respect to their areas of responsibilities. The Risk Management Plans were then made part of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Riphah International University is now all set to undergo the transition from ISO 9001:2008 to ISO 9001:2015 QMS.



On the second day, The Faculty/Departmental Heads presented their Risk Management Plans with respect to their areas of responsibilities. The Risk Management Plans were then made part of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Riphah International University is now all set to undergo the transition from ISO 9001:2008 to ISO 9001:2015 QMS.

Institutional Performance Evaluation- Cross Functional Feedback at ILMA University

The Quality Assurance & Liaison (QAL) department of the ILMA University, Karachi, Pakistan, organized a one-day workshop: *"Institutional Performance Evaluation-Cross Functional Feedback"* on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at Board room of Main Campus. It was largely attended by Directors/Officers of Quality Assurance & faculty members of various Universities of Sindh. Invited as key speaker on the occasion was Ms. Ambreen Asif Qureshi, Director QEC Dadabhoj Institute of Higher Education Karachi, and the panelists

were: Ms. Sheema Haider, Director QEC Indus University; Dr. Munir Hussain Director QEC Muhammad Ali Jinnah University; and Mr. Atif Butt, Assistant Director QEC Institute of Business Management (IoBM) Karachi. Also present on this occasion were Dr. Asif Kamran, HoTD of Business Administration Department and Program Coordinator of BBA/MBA.

This workshop was hosted by Mr. Muhammad Asif Joyo



Deputy Director QAL, ILMA and it was well-coordinated by Director QAL Mr. Fawwad Mehmood Butt and team QAL. Meanwhile, QAL department expressed its gratitude towards Speaker & Panelist on sharing knowledge with the QEC family.

NIAD-QE Signed a MOU with CIQG Regarding Quality Principles during CHEA/CIQG Annual Meetings



With Dr. Eaton, President of CHEA, at signing ceremony.

Annual meetings for the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) were held from Tuesday, 30th January, to Thursday, 1st February, 2018 in Washington, DC. Members of NIAD-QE attended the meetings.

sign a MoU with CIQG regarding the Quality Principles. These Quality Principles, which were proposed by CIQG in 2015, aim to seek common ground and establish a foundation for understanding quality among academics and other higher education professionals, students, employers, government officials and the public. CIQG intends to spread these Quality Principles globally by signing MoUs with organizations that agree with and conduct quality assurance activities in line with the Quality Principles. NIAD-QE ensures it will respect and utilize the Quality Principles from now on and will begin the third cycle of its Certified Evaluation and Accreditation in 2019.

KABONE - First QA Institute for Nursing in Korea

Accreditation of the Nursing Education Program

Evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education program in 2017

As an accreditation authority, KABONE accredited 11 programs (10 bachelor's degree courses, 1 diploma course) through certification in the second half of 2017. On 28 February 2018, KABONE held a certificate ceremony for certified nursing colleges, and hosted a meeting to guide the quality management of nursing education and provide feedback on the certification process.

Certified Nursing College Fellows with KABONE President Yang in the Certification Ceremony.



Evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education program in 2018

A one-day workshop on self-evaluation for faculty members who applied in the first half of 2018 for evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education program was held on 17 January 2018 in Seoul.

In this workshop, 131 faculty members from 15 colleges attended. The aim of the placement was to provide information on evaluation and accreditation, including the accreditation process, preparation for self-evaluation, understanding of standards and criteria for the accreditation of the nursing program, understanding and preparation for the evaluation of basic critical nursing skills, and self-evaluation through the nursing information system.

In the first half of 2018, a total of 15 nursing colleges are undergoing evaluation and accreditation of their nursing education programs.

Monitoring of the second half of the 2017 evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education programme



One-day Workshop on the Evaluation and Designation of NurseAid Education and Training Agencies

The universities or colleges that obtained accreditation of their nursing education programs are obliged to maintain the quality of their education throughout the period of accreditation (22, Accreditation of the Nursing Education Program Regulation). Therefore, we confirmed the quality and the consistency of nursing education through continuous monitoring, and through a self-evaluation paper submitted by the university or college within six months from the date of the certification period of 2 years. The second half of the 2017 evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education program involved 32 nursing colleges. A total of 30 nursing colleges obtained a 'maintenance of certification,' while two nursing colleges were informed of the 'submission of the reason'.

Evaluation and Designation of Nurse Aid Education and Training Agencies

Result and Plan of the Evaluation and Designation since 2017

KABONE designated 196 nurse aid education and training agencies after thorough evaluation in the second half of 2017. This year, the evaluation and designation of a nurse aid education program that has been implemented in high schools will be introduced. It is expected that about 460 institutions will participate in the designation and evaluation in the second half of this year.

Launching Ceremony of Karachi Research Chair at Greenwich University

Greenwich University successfully launched Karachi Research Chair on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at Greenwich University, Pakistan. The Chief Guest, Governor of Sindh, His Excellency Mohammed Zubair and Guests of Honor, Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan, Dr. Sirajuddin Aziz and Dr. Sardar Yaseen Malik graced the occasion with their kind presence. The audience comprised of dignitaries and distinguished guests from different spheres of life.

Karachi Research Chair (KRC), a brainchild of Greenwich University, is a resolve to address the city's issues by providing a strategic platform for collective reflection and collaborative action. Conceptualizing KRC is a step towards Quaid's dream of a democratic state, a welfare economy, and a pluralistic society - also reiterated in Pakistan's Vision 2025. KRC envisions **establishing a knowledge-platform that brings together multi-disciplinary expertise facilitating governance reforms to shape Karachi's future.**

Establishing KRC resonates with the merger of Greenwich's Mission and Vision of conducting *issue-centric research* towards solutions for the *reformation of society*. KRC is a step in that direction with the prospects of working towards a better future for Karachi.

The Chair aims to institutionalize a culture of research that promotes evidence-based decision-making around key issues facing Karachi. Taking from Chomsky's view of Intellectual's responsibility to uphold truth, Greenwich has broadened the spectrum of Intellectual Social Responsibility to mobilize intellectual faculties for collective social good as KRC's motive. The purpose is to orchestrate strategic initiatives by engaging various actors from academia, civil society, government and private sector to reshape

the governance PIE (Planning, Implementation and Evaluation).

The launching ceremony started off with the recitation of Holy Quran. Professor Dr. A.Q. Mughal, Research Professor, Greenwich University discussed the raison d'être of Karachi Research Chair followed by a brief introduction presented by the host, Mr. Ali Jilani, Focal Person of KRC, Greenwich University. The Patrons of Karachi Research Chair, Dr. Sirajuddin Aziz and Dr. Sardar Yaseen Malik highly appreciated this initiative of Greenwich University towards a more pluralistic and meritocratic society and assured their cooperation in every aspect.

The Governor of Sindh, His Excellency Mohammed Zubair, also expressed his profound appreciation for enabling social change in the society and bridging the gap between academia and industry, government and civil society through this venture. The Governor also emphasized the need for such collaborations and offered Greenwich to extend ties with his office so that it would be a part of strategic deliberative processes of Governor's office.



Governor of Sindh Mohammad Zubair, launching Karachi Research Chair at Greenwich University, Pakistan. From left Dr. AQ Mughal, Senator Haseeb Ahmed Khan, Vice Chancellor Ms. Seema Mughal, Governor Sindh Mohammad Zubair, Sardar Yaseen Malik, Dr. Sirajuddin Aziz, and Mr. Naveed Mughal.

Ms. Seema Mughal^{TI}, Vice Chancellor, at Greenwich University expressed her profound gratitude to the Presiding Governor, His Excellency Muhammed Zubair, Patrons of Karachi Research Chair and the eminent guests for their gracious presence.

AUSTRALASIA

PACUCOA & THE-ICE signed History-making MoU in the Philippines

During a recent visit to the Philippines, THE-ICE CEO, Ms Pauline Tang, and General Manager, Jane Gentle, were received with gracious hospitality by PACUCOA (the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities Commission on Accreditation), a national accreditation agency that provides formal recognition of private educational institutions by attesting that their academic programmes maintain excellence across educational operations.



THE-ICE Executive Team and representatives from the Board and PACUCOA Board of Directors and Commissioners sign history-making MoU.

The Executive Team, along with Deputy Chair, Dr Craig Thompson, and Company Secretary, Mam Christina Aquino, of THE-ICE Board met with: the PACUCOA Board Chair, Dr Conrado Iñigo; Vice Chair, Dr Esther Vedaña; Treasurer, Dr Rosita Navarro; Executive Director, Dr Adlai Castigador; and Auditor, Dr Floredeliza Castro. The two QA agencies cemented their relationship through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with a view to further develop the arrangement into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) in the near future, creating a partnership that enables joint accreditation of Filipino institutes that specialise in tourism, hospitality, events and culinary arts (TH&E) higher education.

The Philippines is a global leader in terms of the number of higher education institutions that specialise in TH&E, with an astonishing 1,388 public and private institutions, over 250,000 students enrolled, and over 45,000 graduating students in AY2016-2017. With many countries sharing common concerns about the performance of their higher education systems, this

new partnership is the first step in paving the way for joint accreditation in an effort to recognise excellence in TH&E higher education in the Philippines through quality assurance, accreditation and benchmarking.

Mutual recognition of cross-border quality assurance and accreditation standards is a key part of THE-ICE's organisational strategic mission. Since 2013, THE-ICE has established several formal strategic partnerships with global peers including [NVAO](#) in the Netherlands, [FIBAA](#) in Germany, [CAA](#) in the United Arab Emirates, [TEQSA](#) in Australia and [AKKORF](#) in Russia to name a few. To read more about THE-ICE's global strategic partnerships, please visit [THE-ICE Strategic Partners website](#).

Peer Review Portal at the International Conference in Chile 2018



Dr Sara Booth, from the University of Tasmania in Australia, was invited to present on the implementation of an online Peer Review Portal at the recent CINDA and INQAAHE hosted International Conference in Santiago, Chile on 8-9 January 2018. Representatives from Chile, Lima, Argentina, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Barbados, and Jamaica expressed interest in how the Portal could be used for internal and external quality assurance purposes.

Since the implementation of the Peer Review Portal at the Universities Australia Conference in March 2017, there are now 145 registered higher education institutions and over 550 users on the Portal. Dr Booth was awarded best paper for quality on 'A cost-effective solution for external referencing of accredited courses of study' at the recent TEQSA Conference in late November 2017. The Higher Education Academy and the QAA in the UK have also expressed interest in using the Portal for external quality reviews.

The purpose of the Peer Review Portal is to support programme accreditation and professional accreditation by making the process more efficient, secure and user friendly. A key feature is the broadcast function which facilitates the connection with peer experts institutionally, nationally, and internationally for review.

For more information on the Peer Review Portal contact Dr Sara Booth at Sara.Booth@utas.edu.au. The Portal can be accessed at <https://www.peerreviewportal.com>.

International visitors to TEQSA



From left: Le Thi Hoang Ha, Felicity Gianatti, Associate Prof Nguyen Phuong Nga

TEQSA is pleased to have welcomed to Australia Prof Bambang Suryoatmono and Dr Iwan Mulyawan from the Accreditation Council of Indonesian National Accreditation Agency for Higher Education and Associate Prof Nguyen Phuong Nga and Ms Le Thi Hoang Ha on behalf of the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam.

These visits provided an opportunity to discuss how TEQSA collects and uses data as part of our risk assessment process and regulatory activity, as well as compare approaches to quality assurance and consider opportunities for future collaboration.

Student Expert Advisory Group gathers for inaugural meeting

On 2 March the inaugural meeting of the TEQSA Student Expert Advisory Group meeting was held in Canberra, bringing student representatives together with our senior management and Commissioners. This group was formed to discuss how we can better utilise the student voice in our regulatory and quality assurance work and discuss options for future collaboration.

The group gathered student leaders from around the country and included representatives of domestic, international and Indigenous undergraduate and postgraduate student bodies. The diverse make-up of this group will allow TEQSA to call on student experience to guide and advise us on a range of issues relevant to Australia's higher education sector.

After having a strong student attendance and focus at its 2017 conference, TEQSA has continued to formalise partnerships with student representative bodies. The agency now has formal MoUs with four of Australia's leading student representative bodies, with more planned for 2018.

Plans are underway for the next meeting of the Student Expert Advisory Group, with plans to meet at least three times per year. More information about our [engagement with students is available online](#).

TEQSA and the KHDA renew formal partnership



TEQSA has renewed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) with the Knowledge and Human Development Authority, Dubai. Originally signed in

January 2015, the MoU was renewed by our CEO Anthony McClaran and KHDA's Chief of Higher Education, Dr Warren Fox.

The formal partnership provides a platform for information sharing regarding providers and best practice and was signed with the intention of reducing regulatory burden wherever possible by relying on work already done by each agency. For more about TEQSA's international engagement visit [our International Engagement web page](#).

Talking risk and data with QAA

TEQSA recently welcomed Gemma Long from the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), who met with our risk specialist, Greg Simmons.

The meeting, organised as part of an active MoU between TEQSA and QAA focused on our risk assessment framework, how we collect and use data, and our intelligence sharing activities with ASQA and the Department of Education and Training.

EUROPE

AS New QA model in Estonia integrates institutional accreditation and study programme group assessment elements

Estonian higher education QA will undergo a major change starting from 2019, when the former system of parallel institutional accreditation and study programme group assessment will be replaced with a new – integrated model.

The EKKA Assessment Council for Higher Education has adopted the following principles for future assessments:

1. to combine institutional accreditation with assessment of selected study programmes/study programme groups; and
2. to launch thematic evaluations that focus on bottlenecks identified during the previous assessments and on national priorities.

The aim of this new model is to support the development of strategic management and a quality culture that values learning-centredness, creativity and innovation in HEIs, as well as to increase the impact of academic, research and development activities of the higher education institutions on social development.

Benefits of the new model will include reduced assessment burden for HEIs; less or no overlapping between different types of assessment and better understanding of how decisions made at top management level are implemented in study programmes, i.e. real learning. Potential challenges include finding experts suited both for management and programme evaluation as well as the method for choosing the most relevant study programmes to be assessed (e.g., representative, random or risk-based selection). The main risk is that study programmes not under review will get less or no attention, which means that their quality may drop without it being noticed. This risk can be overcome by focusing especially on internal quality assurance processes during the accreditation – how HEIs themselves assure that all study programs are of high quality.

Read more about the new concept [here](#).

EKKA completed its first ever continuous education assessment

For the first time in the history of the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (EKKA), the Agency assessed a continuous education study programme. Moreover, this was not done in Estonia but in Tajikistan.

The study programme that was assessed is a one-year blended learning program at the OSCE Border Management Staff College (BMSC) entitled Border Security and Management for Senior Leadership Course. The majority of this study programme is conducted online, supplemented by contact learning sessions. The programme is designed for current and future mid to senior level law enforcement officers of 57 OSCE participating States and 11 Partners for Co-operation. BMSC applied for accreditation of the study programme in compliance with level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework.

The assessment was based on [Requirements and procedure for accreditation of study programmes in continuing education](#) adopted by the EKKA Assessment Council 2017.

The assessment panel, comprising of experts from the UK, Estonia and Romania and coordinated by Maiki Udam from EKKA, conducted the assessment visit to BMSC in October and EKKA Assessment Council for Higher Education adopted a positive five year [accreditation decision](#) in the beginning of 2018. A positive accreditation result gives graduates of the programme the opportunity to transfer credit points earned to equivalent level of academic studies or to be treated similarly to alumni of Master's programs in professional situations.

German Accreditation Council

As a result of a decision of Germany's Federal Constitutional Court in February 2016, the distribution of tasks between the German Accreditation Council (GAC) and the accreditation agencies in Germany has been changed. From 1st January, 2018 GAC is responsible for taking the accreditation decisions. The agencies will still carry out the accreditation procedures. Criteria and procedural rules are now based on an Interstate Treaty of all 16 German states ("Länder"). Details will be regulated in decrees of the Länder. The new rules will be applicable for accreditation contracts which date from January 1, 2018 or later. The former licensing procedure of

agencies was replaced by a formal permission by GAC based on the listing of the agency in the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR).

Higher education in the Republic of Croatia: Guide for members of expert panels in evaluations of HEIs and scientific organisations



As part of the SKAZVO project, Agency for Science and Higher Education published an overview of relevant facts regarding the system of higher education and science in the Republic of Croatia called '*Higher education in the Republic of Croatia: Guide for members of expert panels in evaluations of higher education institutions and scientific organisations*'.

The main goal of this Guide is to provide insight into the Croatian system of higher education and science and its specific features to national and international members of expert panels that participate in evaluation procedures conducted by the Agency for Science and Higher Education. However, other stakeholders might also find this overview helpful.

You can find the publication [here](#).

Conference on managing human resources at higher education institutions held in Zagreb

Higher education can be considered competitive if it effectively uses human resources in its social and economic development – this was the central idea behind the conference on '*Managing human resources at higher education institutions*' that was held on March 2nd, 2018 in Zagreb at the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Zagreb, and organised by the Agency for Science and Higher Education.

Minister of Science and Education, prof. dr. sc. Blaženka Divjak, opened the event by emphasising that people are the strongest link of any organisation, especially educational institutions. She also emphasised that the Ministry of Science and Education supports projects that put this topic at the forefront.

The conference was organised within the scope of the project '*Modernisation of higher education institutions through enhancement of human resources management function*' (HRMinHEI) that is financed through funding from the European Union programme Erasmus+. Its purpose is to strengthen human resources management function at higher education institutions, and to develop innovative tools for self-analysis of the effectiveness of human resources management.

"The goal of this project is to encourage debate on increasing the organisational effectiveness and global competitiveness of higher education institutions, increasing their contribution to economic growth and social development by improving the quality of human capital in the area of higher education, as well as to encourage excellence among academic personnel", stated prof. dr. sc. Jasmina Havranek, ASHE manager.

The conference brought together many participants: representatives of higher education institutions and experts in managing human resources. Among them were prof. dr. sc. Snježana Prijić-Samaržija, Rector of the University of Rijeka, prof. dr. sc. Vlatko Cvrtila, Dean of VERN' Polytechnic, dr. sc. Mislav Balković, Dean of Algebra University College, and other distinguished guests who had the opportunity to participate in debate on the following topics: how human resources (HR) management helps the development of higher education institutions, whether the development of this function is a necessity or a trend; and what HR is like at Croatian higher education institutions. The publication '*Overview of European and national policies related to human resources management at higher education institutions within the European higher education area*' was introduced, which came about as a result of this project.



The HRMinHEI project (Modernisation of higher education institutions through enhancement of human resources management function) is being carried out by the Agency for Science and Higher Education from 2016 to 2018. Project partners include the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Rijeka, Algebra University College, Danube University Krems from Austria, and the University of Tampere from Finland.

The project is financially supported by the European Union programme Erasmus+ in the amount of €241,725.

AQU Catalunya publishes the methodology for the accreditation of doctoral (PhD) programmes

At its meeting on 11th January, AQU's [Institutional and Programme Review Commission \(CAIP\)](#) endorsed the Agency's [Guide to the accreditation of recognised doctoral \(PhD\) programmes](#) [catalan]. The guidebook includes the dimensions and criteria for review, the relevant indicators, and recommendations for drawing up the accreditation self-assessment report. The Agency worked together with the universities in Catalonia to produce the guidebook, for which an open consultation was held during July and October 2017.

The objective of accreditation is to ensure that programmes of study comply with the formal requirements laid down in the prevailing



regulations and that actual levels of student achievement conform to the level certified by the institution. The aspects covered by assessment for accreditation are as follows:

- 🍷 Compliance with the legal requirements laid down by the competent authority (name of the degree/qualification, structure, admission requirements and criteria, etc.).
- 🍷 As regards intended learning outcomes, the proposed academic programme complies with the stipulations of the Qualifications Framework in Spain (QF - EHEA in Spain) for the level of the qualification, together with the current nature and relevance of the knowledge that underpins the discipline.
- 🍷 The programme has been delivered using adequate resources for teaching staff, learning support services, infrastructure and physical resources.
- 🍷 Qualification grades conform to relevant and appropriate procedures for the assessment of student learning outcomes, which in turn demonstrate the required level of quality.
- 🍷 The academic background of doctoral degree holders, in terms of advancement, graduation and employability, matches the characteristics of doctoral/PhD students and the potential of the labour market.
- 🍷 Internal quality assurance mechanisms ensure a regular analysis of the learning process and continuous improvement of the training of doctoral/PhD students.

NORTHERN AMERICA

Québec - A completely renewed team at the Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial

The Commission d'évaluation de l'enseignement collégial welcomed three new commissioners this past Fall. They join Murielle Lanciault, who was appointed earlier in 2017 as President of the Commission.

Robert Kavanagh has worked as a teacher and manager for many years in various institutions of higher education, college or university, in Québec and elsewhere in Canada. He most recently served as Academic Dean at Dawson College and as a senior advisor at the same college.

Joanne Munn first served as Academic Dean at Jonquière College and as a training quality consultant at the college level. She then pursued her career at the Ministère de l'Éducation, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche where she acted as director, consultant, and specialist in college education.

Initially a college teacher and involved in research at Rimouski College, Jean-Denis Moffet then worked at the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport before joining the Conseil supérieur de l'éducation as coordinator of the Commission de l'enseignement collégial and then acting director at the Direction des études et de la recherche (studies and research directorate).

Energized by these new arrivals, the Commission will continue its first-round evaluation of the effectiveness of quality assurance systems and develop the second round of this evaluation process.

QM: Gateway to Quality!

Help the international Quality Matters (QM) community improve their quality assurance for online education by [presenting at annual international QM Connect conference](#) from 30th October – 2nd November 2, 2018, in St. Louis, Missouri, USA. This is a great opportunity to share your best practices, connect with peers from all over the world, and help others with the challenges in online education. All it takes is a few simple steps. Start by exploring this year's theme — [Gateway to Quality](#) — and decide which concentration you want to focus on and contribute to. Develop your proposal and [submit your proposal today](#). If you have any questions, please contact Dr Yaping Gao, Senior Academic Director of Member Services and Partnerships, at ygao@qualitymatters.org.

News from Networks

EQUIP project partners publish QA study

The '[Enhancing Quality through Innovative Policy & Practice \(EQUIP\)](#)' project consortium has published a study and recommendations regarding the role of quality assurance in improving higher education in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

The study is the result of a series of activities including workshops, surveys, and focus groups which aimed to support QA stakeholders in meeting the expectations of the [ESG 2015](#) and explore how to tackle the most common challenges in internal and external quality assurance in practice and at the policy level.

This study, entitled '[Enhancing quality: from policy to practice](#)', presents the results of this work and includes recommendations for practitioners and policymakers. Topics covered include the diversity of external contexts and legal frameworks, institutional responsibility for quality assurance, communication about quality assurance, quality culture and bureaucracy, and student-centred learning.

The study notes that stakeholders in the EHEA do have a shared understanding of quality assurance but that there are differences in perspectives and approaches which depend on factors such as: the purpose assigned to higher education; the balance between accountability and enhancement in the QA system; and levels of trust, maturity, and self-confidence in the QA system at institutional and national level. Furthermore, it is clear that there is still work to be done in bridging the gap between the theory of a QA system and how it works in practice.

The study also highlights that quality assurance should be treated as one tool among many for fostering quality higher education and that finding synergies with other tools and supporting collaboration between stakeholders is important to increase efficiency and avoid duplication of work.

The findings and recommendations are complemented by case examples illustrating some of the approaches used by institutions and QA agencies across the EHEA. It is hoped that the study will provide inspiration to the higher education community for improving approaches to quality assurance.

The findings of the study were further explored in a webinar, which took place on Wednesday, 28th February, 2018. The recording of the webinar is available [here](#).

The key messages and recommendations for public authorities are also presented in a separate [policy leaflet](#). This is intended to feed into the discussions at the 2018 Bologna Process Ministerial Meeting.

Upcoming Events

The AACSB Annual Accreditation Conference: Europe, Middle East, and Africa, 9–11 May 2018 | London, England, UK



HKCAAVQ (Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications) is the only statutory body tasked with the responsibility for quality assurance of both the education and training sectors in Hong Kong. Under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework (HKQF) which was launched in 2008, HKCAAVQ is responsible for developing the standards and mechanism to safeguard the credibility of academic and vocational qualifications on the Hong Kong Qualifications On **9th to 11th May, 2018**, AACSB International organizes **the Annual Accreditation Conference: Europe, Middle East, and Africa** in **London**. If you are keen to learn about and understand the AACSB Accreditation Standards, we strongly recommend that you attend this conference where we will address important issues affecting business schools in the region, discuss updates to our accreditation standards, and, engage in question and answer sessions.

For everyone who is interested in learning about accreditation through a new perspective and would like to expand their network of peers, **the Annual Accreditation Conference: Europe Middle East, and Africa** provides the ideal blend of learning and networking opportunities. The conference will also allow you to learn from experienced quality assurance managers, meet AACSB's accreditation staff and exchange ideas and best practices. To learn more about the conference, view the program agenda or to register please visit: aacsb.edu/aac-emea.

Event listing:

- 🌿 AACSB Strategic Planning for Business Schools Seminar Athens
21 March 2018 | Athens, Greece
- 🌿 AACSB Business Accreditation Seminar
22–23 March 2018 | Athens, Greece
- 🌿 AACSB Quality Assurance Professionals Workshop
9 April 2018 | Gothenburg, Sweden
- 🌿 AACSB Assurance of Learning Seminar I
10–11 April 2018 | Gothenburg, Sweden
- 🌿 AACSB International Conference and Annual Meeting
22–24 April 2018 | Honolulu, HI, United States
- 🌿 AACSB Annual Accreditation Conference: Europe, Middle East, and Africa
9–11 May 2018 | London, England, UK
- 🌿 AACSB Business Accreditation Seminar
12–13 May 2018 | London, England, UK
- 🌿 AACSB Online and Blended Education Seminar
12–13 May 2018 | London, England, UK
- 🌿 AACSB Continuous Improvement Review Seminar
28 May 2018 | The Hague, the Netherlands
- 🌿 AACSB Assurance of Learning Seminar II
29–30 May 2018 | The Hague, the Netherlands
- 🌿 AACSB Best Practice Speaker Series: Riga, Latvia
31 May 2018 | Riga, Latvia
- 🌿 AACSB New Deans Seminar San Diego
3–5 June 2018 | San Diego, CA, United States
- 🌿 AACSB Co-Lab: Connecting Business Schools with Practice
21–22 June 2018 | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
- 🌿 AACSB Bridge Program London
24–29 June 2018 | London, England, UK

THE-ICE 12th IPoE Forum 2018



THE-ICE is pleased to announce that THE-ICE 12th International Panel of Experts (IPoE) Forum 2018 is to be proudly hosted by Dusit Thani College, Bangkok, Thailand, from 12th to 15th November 2018.

THE-ICE IPoE Forums provide participants the opportunity to engage with invited keynote presenters and discuss key strategic issues and trends with global academics and industry leaders in the field of tourism, hospitality and events education (TH&E).

The theme of this year's IPoE Forum has been confirmed as '*Creating Advanced Learning Experiences*' with the following subthemes:

- 🍷 Learning objectives and future preparedness - towards 2030.
- 🍷 Technology enabled learning and MUSE.
- 🍷 The Advanced Learning Environments and infrastructure: the classroom of the future.
- 🍷 Learning through industry experience and engagement.
- 🍷 Learning across cultures – Gracious Tourism and Hospitality.

THE-ICE's annual Benchmarking Roundtable Series (BRS) workshop will also take place during the 12th IPoE Forum. The BRS workshop harnesses the power of the collective by facilitating collegial sharing in a peer-supported environment for educators and researchers from vocational, private, and higher education sectors as well as industry and government representatives. Participants share their experiences in group brainstorming sessions, enabling identification of key areas by exploring topical issues, themes and ideas.

Dusit Thani College (DTC), Bangkok, Thailand will host the 12th THE-ICE IPoE Forum 2018. DTC was established in 1993 and was the first of its kind in offering an education in hospitality with the aim to producing top-quality graduates to support the growth in the hospitality and tourism industry.

The proposed programme for the IPoE 2018 includes:

- 🍷 THE-ICE Benchmarking Roundtable Series
- 🍷 THE-ICE Board of Directors Meeting
- 🍷 THE-ICE Assessment Panel Meeting
- 🍷 THE-ICE Annual General Meeting

- 🍷 Keynote speakers, panel sessions, and paper presentation sessions. A call for papers will open closer to the event date.
- 🍷 Social, networking, and cultural events, and
- 🍷 The annual Gala Dinner, where the Fellow of THE-ICE Awards presentation will also take place.

For more information, contact Administrative Coordinator of THE-ICE, Ms Elise Lawrence at elise@the-ice.org or on +61-(0)-418-304 489.

Third Annual TEQSA Conference: Innovation, Excellence, Diversity



Following the success of our conference in 2016 and 2017, the Third Annual TEQSA Conference will be held over 28th to 30th November, 2018 at the Grand Hyatt, Melbourne.

The theme for this year's conference – Innovation, Excellence, Diversity – will explore key objects of the TEQSA Act which call for us to protect and enhance these values in Australian higher education.

This year's conference will bring the sector together for an open discussion, and allow attendees to collaborate, connect and discuss ideas.

Registration options are available for one, two, and three days, and include tickets to a welcome reception on the first night of the conference.

For more information and to register for this event visit the [Conference web page](#).