

ENQA report to BFUG, 14-15 March 2013, Dublin

ENQA Highlights since BFUG meeting in Cyprus in August 2012

Revision of the European Standards and Guidelines

ENQA, together with the other E4 organisations, Education International, Business Europe, and EQAR has been working since June 2012 on the first proposal for the revised Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in European Higher Education to the BFUG as mandated by the Ministers in Bucharest in April 2012. The revision of the ESG will continue to be one of the most important tasks of ENQA in the coming year.

New ENQA project on “Transparency of European higher education through public quality assurance reports” (EQArep)

ENQA started to implement its LLP co-funded EQArep project in October 2012. The first project activity that has taken place so far is a survey of QA stakeholders on the use and usefulness of QA reports as an information source on the quality of HEIs and HE programmes, and the needs of stakeholders for transparent and comparable information on HE. The survey outcomes will be discussed, validated, and further enriched by contributions in a forthcoming stakeholders’ workshop in Tallinn on 6-7 May 2013.

The project is carried out by ENQA in cooperation with four ENQA member agencies. The project will run until September 2014.

Other projects

ENQA is a key partner in a University of Barcelona led TEMPUS project on Enhancing Quality Assurance Management in Jordanian Universities. ENQA’s task is to provide overall advice and information on the European framework in quality assurance, and on the implementation of the ESG, and to organise a Round Table discussion on the recent trends in QA in Europe for the European and Jordanian partners (Brussels, 18-19 April).

ENQA is also involved in an EUA led project on Promoting Quality Cultures. In this project ENQA will organise a workshop for its members to discuss how QA agencies are and could be

promoting and supporting the development of institutional quality culture and to identify good practice in this area.

Recent ENQA events

The **ENQA General Assembly** took place in Basel on 18-19 October April 2012. The main themes discussed at this event were the perspectives for QA in the light of the Bucharest Communiqué, the revision of the ESG, and the impact of ENQA activities on QA capacity building in the Balkans and in Central Asia. During the General Assembly four Board members were elected: the terms of Vice-President Helka Kekäläinen and Board member Rafael Llavori were renewed, and Tove Blytt Holmen (NOKUT, Norway) and Caty Duykaerts (AEQES, Belgium) were elected to the ENQA Board as new members.

In January 2013 ENQA organized a **workshop** for its member agencies due to go through an external review in the next 12 months. The purpose of the workshop was to explain the meaning and use of the second round of external reviews for the further development of agencies.

ENQA's 2013 **Members' Forum** will take place on 25-26 April in Prague. The main themes for discussion are excellence and quality assurance; impact of QA; involvement of stakeholders in QA, and staff development in QA agencies.

The next **ENQA training session** for external review experts will take place on 13-14 May in Budapest.

Latest publications

In December 2012 ENQA published the revised **"Guidelines for external reviews of quality assurance agencies in the EHEA"**. The Guidelines contain information and guidance to assist agencies to be reviewed, coordinating organisations and review panel members on how to carry out an ENQA membership review.

In August 2012 ENQA's Workshop report on **"Quality Assurance and Qualifications Frameworks: Exchanging Good Practice"** was published. The report is based on the ENQA workshop which took place in Dublin, Ireland, on 9-10 February 2012 and presents articles on themes such as the state of development of qualifications frameworks, the role of agencies in the self-certification process, and the meaning of qualifications frameworks in external quality assurance.

The publications are available in PDF on the ENQA website: <http://enqa.eu/pubs.lasso>.