

Quarterly Communiqué to the General Assembly

Quarter 1, 2017

The period of January-March 2017 was marked with hard work from the INQAAHE Board Secretariat and invaluable contribution of our members to successfully implement the planned activities and move our strategies forward. In particular, the following major activities were implemented within the first quarter of this year.

ORGANISATIONAL ASPECTS

To enhance INQAAHE Board's operations, the following major activities have been undertaken:

- **Revision of the INQAAHE Activity Plan 2017:** Based on the analysis of the activities completed in 2016 and their effectiveness, the INQAAHE Board has revised its Activity Plan 2017 by supplementing it with new projects and initiatives. The new/revised activities were approved by the Board at its meeting in Bahrain (see the [2017 Activity Plan](#)).
- **Setting up of new Working Groups:** The revised activity plan includes new initiatives to enhance INQAAHE's contribution to the QA of tertiary education, thus four new Working Groups were established as follows:
 - o INQAAHE Forum 2018 under the lead of Eddy Chong;
 - o Revision and update of the INQAAHE Quality Assurance Graduate Programme under the leadership of Anthony McClaran;
 - o Development of the Global Quality Assurance Register under the lead of Jagannath Patil;
 - o Promotion of the strategies related to the Guidelines of Good Practices (GGP) under the leadership of Erika Soboleva and Franz Gertze.
- **INQAAHE Funding Scheme:** The Call for Proposals for 2016 were completed successfully with six (6) grants allocated to successful applications; three (3) for capacity building and three (3) for research and innovation. Based on the pilot results of 2016, a revision to the Funding Scheme Operational Manual will take place and a new call will be announced in summer 2017.
- **Collaboration with other regional networks and quality assurance bodies:** Collaborative ties with key QA organisations were successfully established during the Quarter 1 of 2017. INQAAHE under the auspices of UNESCO and in collaboration with the Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE) and Arab University Association launched a scoping study in the Arab region. The results of the study will feed into the 2018 UNESCO International Conference in Paris.

- **INQAAHE corporate matters:** A major revision to the communication and outreach approach was undertaken. As a result, the following corporate materials have been developed and put into practice:
 - o a sweep of communication templates for visual improvement and to further reinforce/promote the INQAAHE brand. Some examples include the newsletter, brochure covers, PowerPoint presentation, letterhead, etc.
 - o design and layout for publications and for internal communication – these include the INQAAHE GGP and the INQAAHE Annual Report 2016. A standard format for the design and development of INQAAHE Operational Manuals was also introduced.
 - o template creation and design for INQAAHE’s annual event.
- **Financial audit:** The financial audit of INQAAHE activities for 2014, 2015 and 2016 was completed in January 2017 and the auditors’ report regarding INQAAHE’s financial operations is positive.
- **Constitution revision:** The announcement of the proposed INQAAHE Constitution Review at the Annual General Meeting (1 Mar 2017) was received with unanimous approval from the General Assembly! The Constitution Revision Working Group, with Pauline Tang (Vice President of INQAAHE Board) as Chair and Members: Carol Bobby, Anthony McClaran and Erika Soboleva, have the support of our members to proceed. Over the next few months, the Working Group will focus on reviewing and updating the current Constitution with the aim to:
 - o provide clarity in the governance structure of INQAAHE
 - o minimise potential differences in interpretation
 - o ensure a smooth and cohesive operation of the Board
 - o put in place an operationally viable succession plan

Constitution revision is expected to finalise by the end of August. For any queries regarding the proposed Constitution review or proposed key dates, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat (secretariat@inqaahe.org) or the Working Group Chair (vicepresident@inqaahe.org).

EVENTS

- **The INQAAHE 11th Biennial Forum:** A Working Group under the lead of Eddy Chong, an INQAAHE Board Director, was formed to launch the preparatory activities. The Forum will take place from 2-4 May 2018 and will be proudly hosted by the Mauritius Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). The theme for the 2018 Forum is: ***Quality is in the Eye of the Beholder: Relevance, Credibility, and International Visibility.***
- **The INQAAHE 14th Biennial Conference:** Proudly hosted by the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) in Manama from 27 February - 2 March 2017, the Conference was a huge success with high satisfaction recorded from participants. When asked the question ‘How would

you rate this Conference compared to other events of this type that you have attended?', 53.85% of the respondents gave it a 'good' rating; while 30.77% gave it an 'excellent' rating. When asked if they plan to attend the INQAAHE Forum next year, 72.88% of respondents responded positively. About 44.9% of them were 'satisfied' and 50.8% were 'very satisfied' with the networking opportunities provided by the Conference. Our sincere appreciation goes to the BQA as the hosting organisation with 64.1% and 29.9% of the respondents feeling 'very satisfied' and 'satisfied', respectively, with the conference venue and its facilities. Overall, based on the data obtained from 137 participants, the Conference was a great success with due acknowledgement given to INQAAHE, the BQA and all the participants at large.

- The Events Committee is currently organising a series of webinars and announcements will be made in due course.
- **UNESCO/INQAAHE/ICDE/CoL/WB/CHEA/CIQG/DAAD Conference 2018:**
 - o As a precursor to the UNESCO International Conference in 2018, INQAAHE is currently co-organising regional events in different parts of the world. The first regional event in the Arab states was successfully completed back-to-back with the INQAAHE 14th Biennial Conference in Bahrain. The next steps are aimed at conducting scoping studies in other parts of the world beginning April 2017.

NEW MEMBERS

- INQAAHE is pleased to welcome the following new members who joined us in Quarter 1 of 2017:
 - o [Accreditation Council for Administrative, Accounting and related sciences \(CACECA\), Mexico](#) (Full Member)
 - o Diana Al Jahromi, Bahrain (Affiliate)
 - o Habib Al Souleiman, Switzerland (Affiliate)
 - o [Mauritius Institute of Education \(MIE\), Mauritius](#) (Associate Member)
 - o [Peoples' Friendship University of Russia \(RUDN\), Russian Federation](#) (Associate Member)

GGP ALIGNMENT

- **GGP Alignment Procedures:** Two (2) GGP Alignment cases are being processed; namely the [National Accreditation Council \(CNA\)](#), Colombia and [National Accreditation Commission \(CNA\)](#), Chile.
- **Development of the GGP alignment procedures:** The Recognition Committee is currently developing procedures for GGP alignment. Several options for GGP alignment procedures are offered to lessen the burden of agencies that are eager to undergo a GGP alignment as well as to

ensure that members can avail themselves of the opportunity to be GGP aligned, thus attesting and reaffirming the credibility of their provisions. The new Procedures Manual will be released officially in summer 2017.

PROJECTS

INQAAHE is happy to share the projects that have already been launched to benefit our members and to respond to its strategic priorities. They are as follows:

- A major study on the global impact of quality assurance is being designed. The study aims to explore, among other things, the impact for the last 25 years, recent trends, and the future of quality assurance.

The study was successfully launched on 1 February 2017. The survey will close at the end of March. After the preliminary analysis, the second phase of survey will be launched with the conduct of in-depth interviews.

Concept Notes are currently being developed separately for the following projects:

- Establishment of a Global Register for Quality Assurance (GQAR)
- GGP promotion

We expect a broad involvement of INQAAHE members in the implementation of the projects. Once the Concept Notes are approved by the Board, members will receive invitations to join the projects.

Bid for Erasmus + projects in 2017: INQAAHE submitted/participated in bids for the following two (2) projects in February 2017:

- **INQAAHE Authorship through INTEGRA (Enhancing Quality and Credibility in Higher Education Governance) which is a three-year cross-regional project under Key Action 2 – Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education.** The wider objective is to enhance HE governance and management in Armenia, Ukraine and China through the establishment of a robust assessment framework in combatting or preventing corruption and academic fraud.
- **INQAAHE’s partnership with INT-LA Internationalisation: Strategies for Quality in Higher Education.** The overall broader goal of the project is to enhance the quality of teaching, learning and research capacity of HEIs through the design and implementation of effective internationalisation policies in Latin America and Europe.

2017 ACTIVITY PLAN

	Workpackages	Activities	Responsible	Team	Strategic Objective
1	Planning, Policies & Procedures , Operations	A feasibility study on INQAAHE operations	EC, Secretariat	Set up a team	Operational
		Constitution review	Pauline Tang	Constitution Review Working Group	
		Board's Procedures Manual	Pauline Tang	Constitution Review Working Group	
		Review/update of the INQAAHE Funding Scheme procedures manual for the 2017 Call to be announced in June	Susanna Karakhanyan	Executive Committee/ Membership and Member Services Committee/Secretariat	
		Development of INQAAHE Strategic Plan 2018-2020	Susanna Karakhanyan	Executive Committee	Strategic
2	Finances	Diversification of INQAAHE Funding Model	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		Financial statements	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		INQAAHE Financial Statements, NZ societies	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		Financial Procedures Manual	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4

		Revision of 2017 Budget and Finalization of 2018 Budget	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		Invoicing	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		Financial Audit 2014-2015-2016	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
		Annual report on finances	Jawaher Al Mudhahki	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.4
3	INQAAHE Regular activities	Managing the database of good practices		Membership and Member Services Committee	OBJ 3.3
		Revision/development of criteria for INQAAHE membership	Martin Strah	Membership and Member Services Committee /Secretariat	OBJ 2.2
		Evaluation of INQAAHE membership proposals	Martin Strah	Membership and Member Services Committee	OBJ 2.2
		Develop and announce calls for proposal for research and innovation	Susanna Karakhanyan/Martin Strah	Membership and Member Services Committee	OBJ 3.1
		Develop and announce calls for proposal for capacity building	Susanna Karakhanyan/Martin Strah	Membership and Member Services Committee	OBJ 3.1, 4.1, 4.2
		Finalization of the agreement for offering QAP	Marti Casadesús Fa	Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 3.1, 4.1, 4.2
		Review of the QAP program	Anthony McClaran	Carol Bobby, Erika Soboleva + 1 external (TBC)	OBJ 3.1, 4.1, 4.2
		QAP announcement	Marti Casadesús Fa	Membership and Member Services Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 3.1, 4.1, 4.2

		Bid for hosting Forum 2020	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		Call- Bid for hosting Conference 2021	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		E-forums	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		Plan and template for organizing and delivering webinars	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		Conference 2017		Meetings and Events Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		Preparatory activities for the Forum 2018	Eddy Chong	Forum Program Organization Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		Revision of the procedures for forum and conference organization, including development of an agreement between INQAAHE and the host	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee/Executive Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1
		INQAAHE Board elections 2018	Marti Casadesús Fa	Executive Committee/Secretariat	Operational
4	Projects	MPL Center concept note and operationalization plan	Carol Bobby	MPL Center Working Group	OBJ 4.1, 4.2, 4.4
		INQAAHE Impact study	Susanna Karakhanyan	Impact Study Working Group	OBJ 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 3.1
		GQAR	Jagannath Patil	GQAR Working Group	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3
		GGP Promotion strategy	Franz Gertze	GGP Recognition Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3

		GGP Procedures Manual	Erika Soboleva	GGP Recognition Committee	OBJ 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3
		Mapping study on the QA developments all over the world	Susanna Karakhanyan	TBD	OBJ 1.1, 3.1
		Events resulting from the calls for proposals for capacity building	Maiki Udam	Meetings and Events Committee	OBJ 3.1, 4.1, 4.2
		INQAAHE Feasibility Study	Carol Bobby	Executive Committee/Carol Bobby	
		Review of QAP	Anthony McClaran	Carol Bobby/Erika Soboleva	
5	Visibility Promotion	Revision and constant update of the web-site	Pauline Tang/Secretariat	Communication and Outreach Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1
		Newsletter	Pauline Tang /Eddy Chong /Secretariat	Communication and Outreach Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1
		Quarterly Communiqué	Susanna Karakhanyan	President/Committees and Working Groups/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1
		GGP publication	Erika Soboleva	GGP Recognition Committee	OBJ 1.1
		UNESCO/INQAAHE/ICDE Conference 2018	Pauline Tang /Eddy Chong /Secretariat	2018CC	OBJ 1.1, 4.3
		Journal "Quality in Higher Education"	Secretariat	Membership and Member services Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 3.1
		Publication of occasional papers as a result of projects in Workpacakge 4	Anthony McClaran	Communication and Outreach Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 3.2

	Promotion of INQAAHE through social media	Pauline Tang	Communication and Outreach Committee/Secretariat	OBJ 1.1
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6	Quality Assurance	Quality plan -identify outcomes with each work package that will be monitored BASED ON THEIR TOR	Tashmin Khamis	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	Operational
		Develop and implement a Survey on the effectiveness of the events	Tashmin Khamis	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	
		Measuring effectiveness of the projects including ensuring improvement plans are in place by each workpackage based on the survey	Tashmin Khamis	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	
		Bi-Annual survey to the members on the INQAAHE effectiveness, expectations, challenges and needs	Tashmin Khamis	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	
		Annual reports from Committees and Working Groups	Tashmin Khamis	All Committees and Working Groups	
		Annual reports on INQAAHE performance	Tashmin Khamis	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	

Committees				
Abbreviation	Name	Chair	Members	Invited/external
EC	Executive Committee	Susanna Karakhanyan	PT, JAM, MCF	
MMSC	Membership and Member Services Committee	Martin Strah	SK, MU	
COC	Communication and Outreach	Pauline Tang	EC, FG	Lee Harvey, Jane Gentle, Viola Chan
MEC	Meetings and Events Committee	Maiki Udam	PT, JAM,ES,JP	
RC	Recognition Committee	Erika Soboleva-Franz Gertze	CB, MS	
IQAC	Internal Quality Assurance Committee	Tashmin Khamis	EC, ES,AMC	

Working Groups				
Abbreviation	Name	Chair	Members	Invited/external
MPLC	Marjorie Peace Lenn Centre	Carol Bobby	SK, TK, FG	
CR	Constitution Review	Pauline Tang	CB, ES, AMC	
2018 CC	2018 UNESCO/INQAAHE/ICDE Conference Working Group	Susanna Karakhanyan	EC, TK, MS, PT	
FPC	Forum 2018 Program Committee	Eddy Chong	TK,JP, MU, PT, SK	Vivek Gupta (TEC)
GQAR	GQAR Working Group	Jagannath Patil	JP, JAM,PT, MS	Hassmik Tortian (UNESCO) (pending approval)
IS	Impact Study Working Group	Susanna Karakhanyan	MU, TK, EC, MS	
FSIO	Feasibility study on INQAAHE operations	Carol Bobby	SK, JM, MCF, PT, external member	Alexandra Carr (British Accreditation Council) Pending approval
QAP	Review of the QAP program	Anthony McClaran	CB, ES	External to be invited