Quarterly Communiqué to the General Assembly

November 6, 2019 (Quarter 3)

The Communique is a quarterly publication of INQAAHE, addressing the organization’s operations and activities. The central purpose and role of INQAAHE is to promote and advance excellence in higher education through the support of an active international community of quality assurance agencies.

SERVICES TO THE MEMBERS

INQAAHE FUNDING SCHEME

The Board approved funding for 2019-2020 round of Capacity Building and Research and Innovation grants. The official call was announced earlier this quarter. All members are encouraged to apply. Proposals should be submitted by November 15, 2019.

INQAAHE FORUM 2020 (MOSCOW)

The Board and 2020 Forum Programme Committee have worked together with AKKORK, host of INQAAHE Forum 2020 in Moscow, on specific details of the event such as a detailed programme, budget and launching the official Forum website. The submission period has ended and proposals are currently under review.

INQAAHE CONFERENCE 2021 (GLASGOW)

The members approved by a secured vote the revised proposal for the INQAAHE Conference 2021, which will be hosted by QAA UK on 7-10 June 2021 in Glasgow. The Board of Directors is currently assembling the planning committee to determine the theme.

GGP ALIGNMENT

The Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP) initiative promotes and evaluates good practice in quality assurance through a rigorous review process. INQAAHE congratulates the following agencies on their successful GGP alignment renewals:

- Agència per a la Qualitat del Sistema Universitari de Catalunya (AQU Catalunya, Spain)
- Sistema Nacional de Acreditación de la Educación Superior (SINAES, Costa Rica)

GGP ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE

The GGP Recognition Committee has embarked on a year-long initiative to enhance the policies and procedures surrounding the GGP Alignment activities, as well as the support offered to agencies seeking GGP alignment. During this last quarter, the committee has been working to enhance policies surrounding renewal procedures, internal tracking of processes, consistency in decision making, and clearer public communication of current status. The committee’s next
projects are enhancing education to members around GGP, building a marketing package for GGP aligned members, and reaching out to potential applicants.

INQAAHE GLOBAL STUDY

INQAAHE has completed its ambitious Global Study manuscript characterizing quality assurance activities around the globe. This two year study is currently undergoing revisions and will be released publicly at the end of that process.

MICROCREDENTIALS

The INQAAHE Board has approved a new initiative to explore the creation of the guidelines on good practices for quality assurance around microcredentials, in support of life-long learning imperatives, skills attainment, and equitable access. The Board is setting up a steering committee with external partners such as UNESCO and regional groups to design the most useful form for this project.

MARJORIE PEACE LENN CENTRE

The MPL Centre will become the umbrella initiative housing all of INQAAHE’s learning and best practice activities across the organization. The Centre is currently exploring the creation or use of asynchronous quality assurance modules for external reviewers to be housed on the Centre, with a plan to build custom content and synchronous content as the Centre grows over the next few years.

The training centre will start with courses on improving management and leadership, as well as how to become a GGP reviewer. Over the next year, courses specific to INQAAHE needs will be developed, such as best practices in quality assurance and the development of quality assurance in various regions.

OUTREACH

The INQAAHE Board will be directly inviting all regional networks to the 2020 INQAAHE Forum in Moscow, as part of an effort to enhance the programming and conversation in the regional networks meeting. The President and CEO have met with several partners in Quarter 3 to establish relationships and will also attend the signing of the UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications in November 2019.

ORGANISATIONAL ASPECTS

FINANCIAL STABILITY

INQAAHE’s CEO has established legal operations in the United States of America in order to support an employment infrastructure.

The Executive Committee, along with the new CEO, are working on a number of internal initiatives to establish a financial infrastructure to allow for revenue collection for services, support stronger analytical capabilities regarding budget projections, and allow for INQAAHE to stand independently when the contract with the current Secretariat ends.
The Secretariat is currently planning for a financial review, which will take place at the end of Fiscal year 2019 and be reported to the members at the March 2020 General Assembly meeting.

The Secretariat and the CEO have initiated administrative reforms, including ensuring all members are current in their dues payments, in order to ensure INQAAHE has an accurate picture of its current member composition. This will allow INQAAHE to better support and serve its active members moving forward.

CAPACITY

The Board of Directors opened nominations to appoint a co-opted Board member with specific expertise in the financial or legal management of non-profit organizations, particularly in one of the country contexts in which INQAAHE legally and financially operates (New Zealand, Spain and the United States). All applications were reviewed fully and the Board selected two new co-opted members at its October 2019 meeting. Upon acceptance, those members will be announced to the INQAAHE community.

OPERATIONS

The Communications Committee of INQAAHE has established a new modern newsletter in a format accessible to mobile devices, and with a new sponsorship option. The committee is working on new marketing materials for GGP and membership communications so members can better share their affiliations and achievements and so the purpose of various INQAAHE communications can be more easily recognized.

NEW MEMBERS

INQAAHE welcomes the following new members for the third quarter of 2019:

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<tr>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
<th>MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Saudi Commission for Health Specialties</td>
<td>Full</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>Associate</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>Global Humanistic University</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>Netherlands Antilles</td>
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<td>Pôle Universitaire Euclide / Euclid University</td>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
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<td>Yasir Ellathody</td>
<td>Affiliate</td>
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<td>Mohammad Hassoneh</td>
<td>Affiliate</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
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<td>Dianne Thurab-Nkhosi</td>
<td>Affiliate</td>
<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
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