香港學術及職業資歷評審局
Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of
Academic & Vocational Qualifications

HKCAAVQ Newsletter

The HKCAAVQ Newsletter gathers information on news and events relating to the HKCAAVQ and its fields of interest. This Newsletter is usually sent out quarterly to all HKCAAVQ Council Members, its quality partners and anyone interested in the work that we do.

Spotlight

HKCAAVQ wins APQN Quality Award

The HKCAAVQ has won an Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Quality Award in the category of training and support of reviewers to recognise the HKCAAVQ's contributions to training and support of reviewers locally and regionally and its development of sound and effective materials for training. The Award was presented to Prof William Lee, Executive Director of the HKCAAVQ, at the APQN Conference held in Vietnam on 7 March 2014.

HKCAAVQ appoints Specialists

The HKCAAVQ Specialists Appointment Ceremony was held on 17 January 2014. Over 50 academics, professionals and experts from various industries and areas of study and training attended the Ceremony to recognise their appointment to serve on accreditation panels.

Sharing on QF Credit Assignment

The HKCAAVQ invited Dr Shir-ming Shen, Former Deputy Director (Academic) of the HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education (HKU SPACE) to share with our staff her practical experience and views on some authentic cases in relation to assignment of Qualifications Framework (QF) credit on 6 March 2014.

Participation in Quality Assurance Conference in Dubai

The HKCAAVQ attended a forum entitled 'Quality Beyond Boundaries – A Dubai Initiative for International Branch Campuses' in Dubai on 24-25 March 2014. The Conference, organised by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) of Dubai, aimed to foster an active conversation to address current issues in international quality assurance and improve the quality assurance process for international branch campuses.

News Roundup

Government refines measures in relation to Hong Kong's development as regional education hub

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government has introduced the following technical refinements to the existing policy in support of Hong Kong's development as a regional education hub:

1. Extending student exchange to sub-degree programmes;
2. Extending the internship arrangement for non-local students at undergraduate or above level to those enrolled in full-time locally-accredited sub-degree local programmes with a study period of not less than two academic years;
3. Aligning the length of stay granted to non-local students admitted to study full-time locally-accredited post-secondary programmes upon entry with the normal duration of study programmes;
4. Aligning the policy on admission of non-local students of full-time locally-accredited non-local programmes at undergraduate or above level with that governing other full-time locally-accredited self-financing local programmes at the same level.

Education Bureau signed cooperation arrangement with NZQA

The Education Bureau (EDB) of the HKSAR Government signed the Cooperation Agreement with the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) on the Development of Qualifications Frameworks on 28 March 2014. This arrangement builds on the Arrangement on Education Cooperation between the EDB and the Ministry of Education, New Zealand, which was signed in 2011.

Launch of New QR Website

The revamped Qualifications Register (QR) website was launched in December 2013. The new public interface now provides a one-stop approach for searching quality assured qualifications. Click here to experience the new functions and features of the QR website. Any feedback on the new QR website is welcome:

QRAdmin@hkcaavq.edu.hk
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Visit by HEEACT

Prof Jin-Li SU, Dean of Office of Quality Assurance, and other colleagues from the Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT) visited the HKCAAVQ on 23-25 April 2014. During her visit, Prof Su gave a talk on HEEACT's work in evaluating and accrediting programmes in higher education institutions of Taiwan. She also participated in the HKCAAVQ Specialist Training Workshop aiming to build the capacity of Specialists engaged in accreditation exercises.

Capacity Building Series

11 Jan	Experience Sharing Session for the HKCAAVQ Financial Experts by HKCAAVQ
14 Jan	Staff forum: Briefing on the Employees Retraining Board (ERB) by Dr. Ivory Chu, Senior Manager (Quality Assurance), Mr. Kaman Fung, Senior Manager (Course Administration) and Mr. Richard Lee, Senior Manager (Course Development), ERB
28 Jan	Staff forum: Outcome-based Assessment - An Introduction by Dr Thomas Cheung, Director, Development and Educational Assessment, Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority
2 Feb	Staff forum: Evidence needed to satisfy accreditation criteria of governance and finance by Mr Spencer Ma, Chief Consulting Officer, Stonehenge Consulting Limited
28 Feb	Workshop for operators on Programme Validation/ Programme Revalidation (QF Level 5 or above) by HKCAAVQ
6 Mar	Staff forum: Sharing on Credit Assignment by Dr Shir-ming Shen, Former Deputy Director (Academic), HKU SPACE
14 Mar	Staff forum: Briefing on the Personal Data Privacy Ordinance by Mr Johnny Yiu, legal advisor, HKCAAVQ
17 Mar	Staff forum: Balancing Cost and Quality by Prof. Lam Chi Chung, Professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
20-21 Mar	Staff forum: Customer Service - Conflict Management and Negotiation by Ms Pauline Ching, Kornerstone Limited
1 Apr	Qualifications Framework Credit Workshop for operators by HKCAAVQ
3 Apr	Staff forum: Vocational course accreditation in Australia – what does it all mean? By Alison Vickers, Former National Manager – Policy and Projects – Education and Training, The Australian Industry Group
4 Apr	Staff forum: Internationalization of Higher Education by Prof Malcolm McVicar, Group Chief Executive Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Central Lancashire
23 Apr	Staff forum: HEEACT's work in assessing and accrediting programmes in higher education institutions of Taiwan by Prof Su Jin-Li, Dean of Office of Quality Assurance, Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT)
25 Apr	Training Workshop for Specialists by HKCAAVQ
29 Apr	Staff forum: Internal Discussion HKCAAVQ on QA and QF by Mr Peter Cheung, Secretary-General of The Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education (FSTE)

Around the World

Asia Pacific

Presentation materials of the APQN 2014 Conference "Higher Education Quality Assurance in a Changing World: Envisioning the future of Asia Pacific" held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 7-8 March 2014 are now available on the APQN Website.

Australia

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) has released the updated Risk Assessment Framework and summary documents from its consultations with the higher education sector.

Europe

Higher education organisations present a joint proposal for revised "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG)". Click here to view details.

European Commission (EU) Member States urged to improve quality checks in universities and vocational colleges. View EU's reports on quality assurance in higher education and vocational training issued on 28 January 2014.

Malaysia

The Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) quality assurance system is recognised by an external review panel as in alignment with the INQAAHE Guidelines of Good Practice (GGP). Click here to view the INQAAHE GGP alignment Certification Panel Report.

Singapore

The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) launches a nationwide campaign to rally Singaporeans to embracing a culture of lifelong learning. Click here to view details.

UK

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) published their position statement on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

The UK Government released a vocational qualification reform plan which sets out the steps taken to reform vocational qualifications in full-time education, and initiatives for further reform. Click here to view details.

USA

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) issued two papers on Institutional Quality and Quality Assurance:

- An Examination of the Changing Faculty: Ensuring Institutional Quality and Achieving Desired Student Learning Outcomes (click here to view paper)
- The DNA of a Converging Diversity: Regional Approaches to Quality Assurance in Higher Education (click here to view paper)

Just Published

For the purpose of increased transparency in the quality assurance process, the HKCAAVQ decided to publish summary accreditation reports online. For Initial Evaluation (IE) and Programme Validation (PV) / Programme Revalidation (Re-PV) of local programmes with contracts signed on or after 1 March 2013, summary accreditation reports will be published for public access on the HKCAAVQ website. As of the end of April 2014, a total of 25 summary accreditation reports were published. Among them, there are 17 IE reports, 4 PV reports, 3 combined IE and PV reports and 1 Re-PV report.

Latest Update

Guidelines for Promoting Accredited Programmes and Programmes undergoing Accreditation

The HKCAAVQ issued the revised Guidelines for Promoting Accredited Programmes and Programmes undergoing Accreditation on 1 April 2014. All operators and qualifications granting bodies that would like to promote their programmes accredited by, or undergoing accreditation of the HKCAAVQ shall adopt and comply with these guidelines. Click here to view the Guidelines.

Current Projects

Quality Management System

The HKCAAVQ has initiated an IT Infrastructure Development Project to create a "Quality Management System", incorporating an integrated database and central repository to streamline our work processes and facilitate communication and exchange of information among our staff and stakeholders. With the support of the Education Bureau of the HKSAR Government through the Quality Enhancement Support Scheme, phase one of the IT Infrastructure Project has commenced and we are now planning for phase two to further strengthen our accreditation and assessment services.

Training Workshop on Use of Credit under Qualifications Framework (QF)

The HKCAAVQ has been commissioned by the Education Bureau to run six workshops on the use of QF credits in 2014 for QR operators and organisations that intend to participate in the QF. All operators are welcome to attend the workshops and participation will be free of charge. For more details about the training workshop, please visit our website.

Qualifications Register

The HKCAAVQ is appointed as the Qualifications Register (QR) Authority under the Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications Ordinance (Cap 592) and is responsible for administering the QR. As of 9 May 2014, there are 7,727 qualifications on the QR. Click here to view detailed breakdown of the May statistics.

Upcoming Events

12 May
Staff forum: (a) How to determine QF level and (b) Academic Accreditation Vs Vocational Accreditation by Mr John Randall, Former Chief Executive, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), UK

14 May
Staff forum: VET development and vocational accreditation in Taiwan by President I-Fan Chang, Director of Technological and Vocational College Accreditation Committee, Taiwan Assessment and Evaluation Association (TWAEA)

15-16 May, 22-23 May
Workshop for operators on IE, PV & re-PV (QF levels 1 – 3)

29 May
Staff forum: (a) Examples of issues that lead to commendations, affirmations and recommendations, especially at the institutional level; (b) Examples of problems in governance / committee structure and (c) How to identify problems from submissions and panel meetings, what evidence to look for, and how to present them in the affirmations / recommendations by Prof Rudi Lidl, Emeritus Professor, University of Tasmania

3 June, 4 June, 11 June, 12 June
Training Workshop for operators on Use of Credit under QF

20 June
Training Workshop for HKCAAVQ Specialists

Contact us

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