

APQNews

Issue 20

Dec. 30, 2019



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2. Key Speech
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4. Project
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6. Coming-up Event

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Chief Editor:

Jianxin Zhang

Editorial Committee:

Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil,
Deepthi Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova

Issue 20

APQN Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them

APQN Values:

To be committed to the quality of higher education and supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region

Editor Message for APQNews (Issue 20)

Dear APQN members, dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the 20th issue of APQNews (2019)! Bells are ringing. The new year is coming. December is the time for the past summary and new expectation. The first message in the 20th issue is “APQN New Year Greeting”. In 2019, one of the most important things is the 2019 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka; one of the most memorable things is to release “Brochure of APQN 15-year Anniversary (2003-2018)” at 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka; one of the most crucial things is to elect the 6th Board Directors and have the 4th host of APQN Secretariat...

The 20th issue of APQNews (2019) made up of 6 columns in 7 articles, which provides detailed information on APQN activities, projects and sustainable development, as well as the QA developments from the QAAs and HEIs from the Asia-Pacific Region.

It is worth mention that the Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0) has been completed, “Individual Member” is new member category to APQN. We are looking forward to welcome teachers, researchers and all the academic workers who are interested in quality assurance join APQN big family.

It is encouraging to see the efforts invested in external QAA by the QAAs, e.g. APQR Review to ECAQA and IAAR in Kazakhstan, SieQA 2019: addressing Quality Assurance in the Context of SDGs. It is commended to see the efforts invested in IQAA by HEIs, e.g. the 11th International Conference held by Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) in cooperation with APQN, NIAD-QE University Quality Assurance Forum 2019 and HED Webinar under the Aegis of APQN Held in Russia. It is inspiring to see New York - Bengaluru Vision Released by the Ministers of HRD and AYUSH in India. We can see, both the QAAs and the HEIs are striving for improving their respective systems, with the aim to enhance credibility and relevance of provisions.

As always, we are happy to share valuable information on upcoming QA events: 2020 AAC and AGM will be co-hosted by APQN and EDUVAUE at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and Singapore Management University (SMU) on April 23-26, 2020. You are warmly welcomed to share your QA experiences next April in Singapore!

Last but not the least, I cordially invite all of you to contribute articles for the next issue of APQNews (Issue 21). Please kindly e-mail them to Chief Editor and APQN Administrator at: 948661302@qq.com & apqnsecretariat@163.com. Please stay tuned for APQNews!

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jianxin Zhang', is placed next to the 'Best regards,' text.

Chief Editor of the 20th Issue of APQNews: Jianxin Zhang

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NEW YEAR GREETING

December 24, 2019

Dear APQN members, dear colleagues and friends: HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On the occasion of New Year, we, APQN Board Directors, are extending our festival greetings and best wishes to 241 members from 42 countries/territories, extending our sincere appreciation and deep respect to those who care and support the sustainable development of APQN! We'd like to thank you for your continual support of our goal of *"Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region"* and our enhancement of *"Quality Culture"*.

Bells are ringing. New Year is the cause for celebration and reflection. In the passing year, many things are worth mentioning:

One of the most important things is the 2019 APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In March, 151 participants from 30 countries/territories attended over 20 sessions to discuss the theme of *"Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region: Insight into the Future"*, we enjoyed Quality Award Ceremony, Cultural Show and Excursion Tour to Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage....

One of the most memorable things is to release *"Brochure of APQN 15-year Anniversary (2003-2018)"* at 2019 AAC in Sri Lanka. Since its inception in 2003, APQN has been continuously fighting for its ultimate goal and mission for Quality Culture. To mark the important milestone, APQN united the founding fathers, pioneers and active members at this special occasion.

One of the most remarkable things is the Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0). The main amendments include: 1) adding the member category of *"Individual Member"*; 2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal implemented for more than a decade; 3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to *"APQN Procedure Manual"*, etc.

One of the most crucial things is to elect the 6th Board Directors and have the 4th host of APQN Secretariat. Jianxin Zhang from China, Galina Motova from Russia, Deepthi Bandara from Sri Lanka, I-Jung Grace Lu from Chinese Taipei, Farida Nurmanbetova from Kazakhstan are the Board Directors. Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI) in China was the 4th host after HEEC of the Ministry of Education in China. We believe the new Directors and SEEI will give their dedication and commitment for APQN sustainable development.

The impressive things are APQN published *"Anthology of 2018 AAC: Capacity Building for Next Generation Quality Assurance in Higher Education"*, *"APQN Strategic Plan (2019-2022)"*, *"APQNews (Issue 19)"* and *"APQNews (Issue 20)"*; Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) Review to MNCEA in Mongolia, ECAQA and IAAR in Kazakhstan, Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) Review to Symbiosis International University on Internationalization in India...

Dear all, the past 16 years was full of difficulties and challenges but APQN has


achieved the vision of “being a self-sustaining Network”. The future is a new path for APQN to enhance “Quality Culture”. We believe, if we have a strong commitment to our goals and dreams, if we wake up every day with a passion to do our job, everything is possible!

On the New Year’s Day, we sincerely wish all members “Happy New Year”, 12 months of happiness and good health, 52 weeks of love and prosperity, 365 days of non-stopping health and fun. A new year brings new beginnings. See you in 2020 APQN Annual Conference in Singapore on April 16-19, 2020!


Sincerely yours:



APQN Board Directors: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi C. Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova



2020 APQN New Year Greeting



December 14, 2019

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
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Dear all, the past 16 years was full of difficulties and challenges but APQN has achieved the vision of “being a self-sustaining Network”. The future is a new path for APQN to enhance “Quality Culture”. We believe, if we have a strong commitment to our goals and dreams, if we wake up every day with a passion to do our job, everything is possible!

On the New Year's Day, we sincerely wish all members “Happy New Year”, 12 months of happiness and good health, 52 weeks of love and prosperity, 365 days of non-stopping health and fun. A new year brings new beginnings. See you in 2020 APQN Annual Conference in Singapore on April 16-19, 2020!

Sincerely yours:



APQN Board Directors: Jianxin Zhang, Galina Motova, Pingping Liu, Jagannath Patil, Deepthi C. Bandara, I-Jung Grace Lu, Farida Nurmanbetova

KEY SPEECH

Message for Compilation of Good Practices of EQAAs

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is one of the very active founder members of APQN. We are happy to note that, NAAC as a quality assurance agency is bringing out this publication that comprises of study on “Compilation of Good Practices of QA agencies” that exhibits various good practices identification in the field of “External Quality Assurance (EQA)”. Good-practice as a word it suggests “good” in its practice with its standards in the quality assurance of higher education (HE) sector. These practices have shown the major advantage of being accepted by its relevant stakeholders who are concerned about quality. The ultimate purpose of any QA agency is to enhance quality in the EQA process. Hence these practices serve as an approach to bring good in its quality operations of the agencies.

The notion behind the study is to identify and capture the good practices of the QA agency that are being practiced, identify the unidentified good practice of the agencies and profiling the agencies on the basis of practices they follow in HE quality assurance. The study also aims to promote the quality culture in the QA community to make use of the practice by the other agencies to adopt and improve the quality in their QA process.

I hope that, this GPs identification will facilitate to promote healthy communication between the agencies and professionals as long-term network sustainability in the HE arena.

I once again congratulate NAAC and editors of this publication which APQN has agreed to promote on international platforms.

Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (President, APQN)



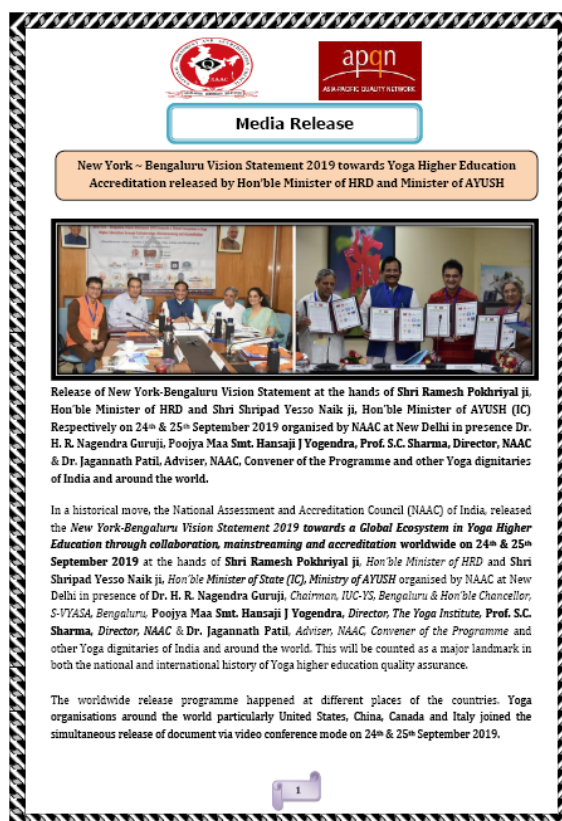
Speech for release of New York Bengaluru Vision Statement

Honorable guests, respected organizer, dear colleagues and friends, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon!

I am President of Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN). On behalf of all APQN Board Directors and 241 members from 42 countries/territories, I'd like to express my sincere congratulations to release "New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement"!

I am fortunate to attend Global Yoga Accreditation Summit (GYAS) held at UN Headquarters, New York on April 26-27th 2019. I do believe this "New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement" is useful in promoting Yoga Higher Education in China, as well as the countries in the Asia-Pacific Region! As we all know, Yoga, "the treasure of the world", is originated in India with a history of over 5,000 years. Yoga is more about harmonizing oneself with the universe, the technology of aligning individual geometry with the cosmic, to achieve the highest level of harmony in this contradictory and diversified globe. Yoga's harmony can also be found at the core of Chinese Confucian ethics: "天人合一" "harmony between human and nature", which has been firmly stuck to, for over 2,000 years in China.

I do believe "New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement" will greatly stress the key essence and ever-lasting spirit of yoga-harmony. I do believe "New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement" will be counted as a milestone in both national and international history of HE quality assurance. I do believe "New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement" will begin a Conversation towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through Collaboration, Mainstreaming and Accreditation. Thank you!



APQN President: Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang
September 17, 2019

Opening Speech at MPI-APQN 11th HE International Conference

Respected MPI President, Professor Im Sio Kei, Prof. Alfredo Dias, Vice-Rector of Columbia University, Prof. Angela Yung-Chi Hou, INQAAHE Broad Member, dear colleagues and friends, dear teachers and students, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning!

On this beautiful day, in this beautiful “Sea Garden”- Macao, the 11th International Conference is held as scheduled by Macao Polytechnic Institute (MPI) in cooperation with APQN. On behalf of all APQN Board Directors and 241 members from 42 countries/territories, I’d like to express my sincere greetings to all the participants, and express my heartfelt thanks and warm congratulations to MPI for hosting this great event! Let’s warmly congratulate MPI to host the 11th International Conference! (Claps)

MPI deserves our warm congratulations! In the past 5 consecutive years, I saw with my own eyes that MPI’s international conference famous for “5 Similarities”: the same theme -Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning, in the same month -November, in the same city and same university - MPI in Macao, organized by the same hosts -MPI and co-hosted by the same organization -APQN. In the past 5 years, over 150 participants/paper presenters from many countries all over the world such as UK, Portugal, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Sri-Lanka, India, Japan, Mauritius, Philippines, Vietnam, etc.. This is a real platform of “Thinking Globally and Acting Locally” proposed by UNESCO. MPI’s International Conference is unique, because it is the only one among tens of thousands of universities in over 50 countries and territories in the Asia-Pacific Region. MPI’s International Conference is regarded as “the one and only”, also because it is the only one to hold international conference in “Teaching and Learning on Quality Assurance” among all APQN members. MPI is really a good example and good pioneer! That is why in 2015, MPI got “APQN’s Best Internal QA Award”; and in 2017 MPI again carried back home the trophy of “APQN’s Best Model of Internal QA Award”. Congratulations again!

Today is Nov. 20, it is the great day for MPI’s 11th International Conference. (dear colleagues, please pay attention the number, it is the 11th”). Coincidentally, today is also World Children’s Day, the anniversary proposed by the United Nations on Nov. 20, 1989. 20 years ago UN realized the importance of the children and has been striving for “promoting the development of child protection, welfare and education”. What will happen in MPI in 2028, 20 years later from MPI’s first international conference 11 years ago? Can you image what MPI’s teaching and learning will be after 20 years? It is difficult for me to foresee, but I am quite sure that MPI will have outstandingly achieved on the way to adhering to its motto of “knowledge, expertise and global vision”(普专兼擅，中西融通), and striving for its philosophy of “small but beautiful, small but refined, nurturing high-caliber graduates”(小而美、小而精、出精品). I hope by then, 37-year-old MPI will hold the 20th International Conference then we have the chance to meet together to

witness MPI's great achievements. Let's positively wait and see.

I'd like to say something about this year's theme "Teaching and Learning on Quality Assurance in International Contexts" from the perspective of APQN. As you know well, APQN is a non-government and non-profit network with 241 members from 42 countries/territories. Its aim is "to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them" to realize its ultimate goal of "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region". Only by the name of "Asia-Pacific Quality Network", its mission and its final goal, can we see how international APQN is. Coincidentally and purposely to this year's theme "International Contexts", I bring one empirical research from APQN. It is entitled as "Quality Assurance of Higher Education in the Era of Internationalization: Exploration on the Asia-Pacific Quality Label for Internationalization of Higher Education (APQL-IHE)" to share with you.

According to UNESCO, Internationalization of Higher Education (IHE) is not only an activity, a program, but also a process, and a tendency of human development. Since 1980s, globalization has gradually made fundamental changes to human beings. No matter you like it or not, today we are in the era of "globalization" and IHE is an inevitable trend, a fact to all the persons in higher education.

Since 2013, APQN has been exploring the theory and practice of the Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) for IHE. Based on the process of on-site APQL review for IHE conducted by the APQL panel at Symbiotic International (deemed University) in India in April this year, the research first discusses the overview of accreditation criteria of IHE, then analyses the APQL review aims, criteria, steps and methods, and finally, summarizes four characteristics of APQL-IHE.

We believe, In the future, IHE will be the common cause in the whole world. The new mission of each university is to train high-caliber talents with international perspective toward the globe, toward humanity and toward the future. This requires that we must continuously expand the connotation of IHE while understanding the new ideas, new trends, new missions and new challenges, promote the new IHE reforms. I earnestly expect that more universities and stakeholders will actively participate in the great cause of HEI, in order to further promote the sustainable development of IHE in the Asia-Pacific Region, in order to promote IHE quality in this international era.

Ladies and gentlemen, as I always say, this is the platform of "Thinking Globally, Acting Locally". Let's spend the 2 days together, focus on the theme "Teaching and Learning on Quality Assurance in International Contexts" to share, exchange and communicate! Hope we can make full use of this international stage to exchange theoretical ideas and practical experience. Hope we can join hands and fight for the long-journey of "Excellent Quality in Teaching and Learning". Hope the 11th International Conference a great success! Thank you!

APQN President: Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang on November 20, 2019

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

The Amendments of APQN Constitution (version 9.0)

According to the decisions of the first Board meeting of the sixth Board held on March 30, it's high time for APQN to amend APQN Constitution (v. 9.0), which was amended five years ago.

Approved by the sixth Board, the following is the schedule of the Amendments of APQN Constitution:

Date	Item
July, 2019	The General Council agreed to accept Individual Member by voting
August 1-20	The Office Bearers amend APQN Constitution by: (1) adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN implements for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; and (4) some expressions that might cause confusion.
August 20-30,	Endorsement by the sixth Board Directors
Sep. 1-Oct. 30	APQN Secretariat sent the first cycle of e-mails to APQN members for feedback and endorsement.
Nov. 1-30	APQN Secretariat sent the second cycle of e-mails to APQN members for feedback and endorsement.
Dec.1-2	Amending the Constitution according to the feedback from the members
Dec. 3	APQN Secretariat submitted the Board "APQN Members' Feedbacks on the Amendments of APQN Constitution".
Dec.3-15	The Board discussed again and get it proofread by a native speaker
Dec. 30	Release "APQN Constitution (v.9.0) " at APQN Website
April 18, 2020	Report the Amendments of APQN Constitution to all the members at Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The amendments of the 9th version of APQN Constitution include the following 4 aspects: (1) Adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; (4) some expressions that might cause confusion; and (5) a few more changes have been made to fine tune Constitution.

Below are the historical records of APQN Constitutions:

Date	Version	Brief Description of the Amendments
April, 2004	1 st version	Preliminary discussion, formulating draft
October, 2004	2 nd version	Fundamental contents
November, 2004	3 th version	Fundamental contents
January, 2005	4 th version	Fundamental contents
April, 2006	5 th version	Further improvement
February, 2007	6 th Version	Add a new member category: Institution Member
February, 2008	7 th version	Define the responsibilities of the Secretariat; modify the voting rights of co-elected Board directors
March, 2014	8 th version	Determine that immediate Past President is Board director (Ex Officio); modify the term of APQN Board
December, 2019	9 th version	(1) Adding the member category of "Individual Member"; (2) adding APQN mission, value, vision and goal which APQN has implemented for more than a decade; (3) adding the benefits of APQN members according to "APQN Procedure Manual" released in 2018; (4) some expressions that might cause confusion; and (5) a few more changes have been made to fine tune Constitution.

A constitution is not the mere papers on which fundamental principles and rights are listed. It is a living document which ensures that all the persons in APQN can exercise their powers on the members' behalf. It is the lighthouse flashing afar for the direction of APQN. The Sixth Board firmly believes, with the amendments of the Constitution, APQN can better maintain its sustainable development and efficiently realize its mission of "enhancing the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them".

(Written by Jianxin Zhang, APQN President)

APQN Members' Feedbacks on the Amendments of APQN Constitution

APQN Constitution plays an essential role in the governance of APQN. The first Board Meeting of the sixth Board was held on March 30 in Sri Lanka decided that it's high time for APQN to amend APQN Constitution, which was amended five years ago.

To complete these proceedings, APQN Secretariat sent the first cycle of the e-mail entitled *"To Seek your Opinions on the Amendments of APQN"* to all members on September 16th for further opinions and feedback, which was viewed by all members. About one month later, we collected these following precious opinions. On October 25th, APQN Secretariat sent the second cycle of the e-mail again to all the members. Most members feel it acceptable for the new amendments, such as Certification Association "Russian Register" and some also provides their own ideas about APQN Constitution.

Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center (YHEEC) from China greatly supported the new amendments. YHEEC mentioned that "We do support all the amendments of the Constitution!" Moreover, YHEEC strongly suggested adding "Quality Culture" as the core elements of APQN's ultimate goal, except "dissolving boundary for a quality region"!

Karen Treloar from the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA), shared two detailed ideas: 1) the basis on which clause 9 has been included; 2) Clause 48 is unclear about the numbers of the directors for authorization purposes.

It is worth mention that Dr. Muhammad Mansha from University of Education, Lahore, Pakistan gave their advices on polishing the words and sentence structures, offering an attachment containing detailed opinions and suggestions. They made over 10 changes, such as adding "quality culture" in the Constitution...

APQN respects all members' valuable thoughts and have taken member's opinions into consideration and then amend the Constitution according to the feedback from APQN members.

After six months' working process and several cycles of negotiation and endorsement among the Office Bearers, Board Directors, and the Members, a revised version came out under the efforts of all APQN persons in the General Council.

(Written by YingJie Xu, APQN Administrator)

APQN Constitution (Version 9.0)

Amended by the sixth Board on September 15, 2019

Approved by the General Council on November 30, 2019

I. Name

1. An organization is established under the name of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network Inc. (APQN).

2. APQN intends to operate as a regional network in association with the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education Incorporated (INQAAHE).

3. APQN is a non-profit, non-government organization.

3.1. APQN's mission is to enhance the quality of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region through strengthening internal and external quality assurance in all kinds of organizations and extending the cooperation among them;

3.2. APQN is committed to the quality of higher education and is supportive of both internal and external quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region;

3.3. APQN's vision is to promote quality culture and develop self-sustaining organizations. APQN being the first point of reference, will advise and support, enhance interaction and share information among member organizations;

3.4. The ultimate goal of APQN is "Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region".

II. Purpose

4. The purpose of APQN is:

4.1. to promote good practices in developing an effective and comprehensive quality culture of higher education in the Asia-Pacific Region;

4.2. to foster research activities in quality assurance practices for rebuilding the employability oriented higher education in Asia Pacific Region;

4.3. to provide advice and expertise in order to assist in the development of new quality assurance organizations in the region;

4.4. to facilitate cooperation among Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and recognize each other's decisions and judgment;

4.5. to assist APQN members in determining the quality standards operating across national borders;

4.6. to ensure better-informed international recognition of qualifications throughout the region;

4.7. to assist in the development and application of credit transfer systems;

4.8. to enhance the mobility of students between institutions both within and across national borders;

4.9. to make the APQN members aware of and alert against the dubious accrediting practices and organizations;

4.10. to promote the interest of the Asia-Pacific Region by effective representation vis-à-vis interacting with other networks and international organizations.

III. Methods

5. APQN achieves its purpose through a range of methods, including:

5.1. dissemination of information through APQNews, documents, journals, anthologies and books, whether in paper-based or electronic form;

5.2. training and development through seminars, workshops, conferences and staff capacity building;

5.3. developing and using databases of experts and good practices both in EQAA and international networks such as INQAAHE, CHEA/CIQG and other appropriate organizations working on accreditation and quality assurance in education;

5.4. recognition and dissemination of good practices through Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR), Asia-Pacific Quality label (APQL) and APQN Quality Awards (AQA) and so on;

5.5. other appropriate means as determined by the General Council or the Board.

IV. Finance

6. The APQN's financial year is from January 1 to December 31. The APQN Annual Financial Statement must be audited and published in the "APQN Annual Report".

7. Funding for APQN is derived from membership fees, grants, donations or other earnings and fees. APQN may seek donations and may derive income as determined by the General Council or Board for a period of 3 years.

8. APQN may set fees and levy charges for its products and services.

9. APQN owns intellectual property rights for the paid products or fully-supported projects that are under the APQN budget.

10. Membership fees are set as determined by the General Council.

11. The assets and income of APQN shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned purpose, and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organization except as bona fide compensation for services rendered, or expenses incurred on behalf of the organization.

V. Membership

12. APQN has five categories of membership: Full Member, Intermediate Member, Associate Member, Institutional Member and Individual Member.

12.1. Full Members are either organizations responsible for assuring the academic quality of post-secondary institutions or education programs other than their own, or organizations responsible for assuring the quality of external quality assurance agencies, which meet the conditions for membership as expressed in the membership criteria of APQN, as decided by the General Council.

12.2. Intermediate Members are either organizations responsible for assuring the academic quality of post-secondary institutions or education programs other than their own, or organizations responsible for assuring the quality of external quality assurance agencies, but which do not fully meet the conditions for membership as expressed in the membership criteria of APQN, as decided by the General Council.

12.3. Associate Members are organizations with a major interest and active involvement in evaluation, accreditation and quality assurance in higher education, but without the responsibility for assuring the quality of institutions, education programs, or external quality assurance agencies as described in Section V. Clause 12.1.

12.4. Institutional Members are institutions of higher education in the region that are in good standing with the relevant quality assurance agency if one exists.

12.5. Individual Members are representatives of academic or the QA community with a major interest and active involvement in the development of quality and research in higher education and the purpose of APQN.

13. APQN grants Observer status to those who are interested in Outside the Asia-Pacific Region, including external QAAs; institutions with a major interest in evaluation, accreditation and quality assurance in higher education; other regional networks that have major interests and strong links with the region.

14. Those within the APQN region who satisfy the membership criteria

referred to in Section V. Clauses 12.1-12.5, are accepted as members of APQN on completion of the online 'Membership Application' and payment of the initial joining fees and annual membership fee determined by the General Council.

15. The procedure for admission is as follows:

15.1. the Secretariat verifies that the request for membership complies with either of the conditions mentioned in Section V. Clauses 12.1-12.5 and makes a recommendation about the membership category; and

15.2. the Secretariat's recommendation is presented to the Board for approval.

16. Only Full and Intermediate Members are eligible to participate in the governance and administration of APQN.

17. Associate, Institutional and Individual Members may participate in the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and other meetings of the General Council, but without the right to vote.

18. All members may:

18.1. benefit from APQN's activities, collaborate in the attainment of APQN's purposes; and exercise their rights according to this Constitution.

18.2. participate in APQN Academic Conferences (AAC) and AGMs, APQN online forums and other APQN meaningful events;

18.3. promote members' branding by using the APQN logo on their website or relative documents;

18.4. develop different kinds of collaborations among QAAs and HEIs through AACs;

18.5. co-organize international seminars, workshops or forums together with APQN in the local context;

18.6. apply for the annual APQN Award;

18.7. have access to the Consultant Data Base and get advice on general and specific QA matters;

18.8. receive APQNews, the Annual Report, the APQN Brochure and other documents in e-form;

18.9. publish their qualified research papers in the APQN Anthology after AAC.

19. All members undertake to:

19.1. abide by this Constitution;

19.2. comply with APQN decisions and resolutions; and

19.3. pay, in due time, the fees or any other contributions determined in accordance with this Constitution.

20. The procedures for disciplining of members are as described in Section V. Clauses 21 .21.4 and 32.6, and in Section IX.

21. Membership is withdrawn if the member:

21.1. withdraws its membership in writing to the Secretary;

21.2. fails to maintain the conditions that allowed their initial admission, as set out in this Constitution;

21.3. does not fulfill the obligations set out in this Constitution; or

21.4. acts in APQN's name without authorization.

22. All members will be listed in the online register on the APQN website.

23. All members may, upon request, view any records and relevant documents of APQN if not available on the website provided that they peruse the documents in person and by appointment.

24. Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, no member organization shall be expected, by virtue of its membership of the Network, to do anything that contradicts the rules and requirements of that organization.

VI. Governing Bodies

25. The governing bodies and authorities of APQN are the General Council and the Board.

26. The General Council is comprised of Full Members, Intermediate Members, Associate Members, Institutional Members and Individual Members of APQN, each represented by one nominated person.

27. The General Council shall meet at least once every year and notice of the meeting shall be given via email at least 21 days in advance.

28. All APQN notices to APQN members shall be given via e-mail and published on the APQN website.

29. The Full and Intermediate Members present at an in-person meeting of the General Council constitute a quorum for the meeting; for an electronic meeting, 30% of the Full and Intermediate Members of APQN constitute a quorum.

30. Full and Intermediate Members are entitled to vote by proxy at the AGM using an appointment of proxy form available on request.

31. Elections for the Board of Directors will be held by electronic ballot, or other means, according to the procedures agreed by the General Council.

32. The responsibilities of the General Council are to:

- 32.1. elect the President, Vice-President and other four Directors of the Board;**
- 32.2. consider the reports from the Board;**
- 32.3. set the annual fees and any other contribution to be paid by members;**
- 32.4. consider and approve APQN annual financial statements;**
- 32.5. make decisions necessary for the satisfactory operation of APQN; and**
- 32.6. exclude, on the recommendation of the Board, any member who disregards this Constitution.**

33. Meetings of the General Council shall be conducted by the President (or in the absence of the President the Vice-President, or in the Vice-President's absence, by a Chair elected by the General Council for this purpose) and in accordance with accepted meeting procedures.

34. The decisions of the General Council shall be adopted by a simple majority of voting members.

35. Amendments to the APQN Constitution will require a three-quarters majority vote of the Full and Intermediate Members, and at least 21-day notice will be given of any resolution to alter the APQN Constitution.

VII. The Board

36. The Board of APQN consists of the President, immediate Past President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer(ex-officio), and four other elected directors, and other directors whom the Board may decide to co-opt, to a maximum of four co-opted directors on the Board, provided immediate past president can have only one term ex-officio, if he/she has already served 3 successive elected terms on the Board.

37. Each elected Board director is nominated from Full and Intermediate Member organizations.

38. No two elected Board directors should be from the same member organization.

39. The Board is elected by the General Council for a three-year period. Re-election to the Board or any position on the Board is permitted for a maximum of three successive terms, provided that re-elections can be sought by any member after a gap of at least one term.

40. The role of the Board is to:

- 40.1. actively promote the functions provided for in this Constitution; and**

40.2. implement the decisions of the General Council.

41. In furtherance of this objective, the Board may establish committees, such as the Membership Committee, the Finance Committee, the Office Bearers, etc.

42. The Board will appoint Project Group Leaders who, if not already directors of the Board, may be co-opted as directors of the Board to a maximum of two co-opted Project Group Leaders as outlined in Section VII, Clause 36.

43. The Board shall appoint a Secretariat, which must be a Full of Intermediate Member and whose Chief Executive or nominee shall be the Secretary/Treasurer of APQN and a director of the Board ex-officio. No member of APQN is eligible to host the Secretariat for more than three successive terms, provided that re-hosting can be sought after the gap of at least one term.

44. The Board shall meet in person no less than once a year. Each meeting shall be conducted by the President (or in the President's absence the Vice-President, or in the Vice-President's absence, by a Chair elected by the Board for this purpose) and in accordance with the accepted meeting procedures. Fifty percent of the elected directors of the Board constitute a quorum.

45. The responsibilities of the President are to:

45.1. actively represent APQN in all relevant events;

45.2. chair General Council meetings; and

45.3. liaise on behalf of APQN with INQAAHE and other organizations.

46. The responsibilities of the Vice-President are to:

46.1. serve as the President's backup where designated;

46.2. monitor the activities of the Project Groups; and

46.3. chair the Finance Committee.

47. The responsibilities of the Secretary/Treasurer are to:

47.1. arrange for APQN's publications and website;

47.2. prepare APQN Annual Reports;

47.3. keep and maintain APQN's records (including the register of members);

47.4. arrange and record the meetings of the General Council and Board;

47.5. collect fees and subscriptions;

47.6. maintain any necessary bank accounts and make payments as required;

47.7. prepare APQN's financial statements for presentation at the AGM, and

47.8. carry out decisions of the Board and the General Council.

48. All cheques, drafts and bills must be authorized by the President, the Secretary/Treasurer or atleast2directors of the Board.

49. The directors of the Board will have custody of all relevant APQN documents. In the event of a Board director surrendering their position, all the documents will be handed over to acting directors of the Board.

50. Occasional vacancies can occur where a Full or Intermediate Member agency with which a Board director is associated

50.1. ceases to be a Full or Intermediate Member of the Network;

50.2. becomes insolvent; or

50.3. the Board director resigns from office by submitting a written notice to the Board thirty days in advance.

51. When an occasional vacancy occurs on the Board, the Board shall make an appointment to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the vacating Board director's term of office.

VIII. Dissolution

52. APQN may be dissolved by a three-quarter majority of voting members at an AGM.

53. Any assets of APQN at its dissolution shall be handed over to INQAAHE unless decided otherwise by the General Council.

IX. Dispute Resolution

54. Any disputes over the interpretation of this Constitution shall be resolved by simple majority vote at a meeting of the General Council.

55. Any disputes arising between APQN and one of its members, or between the members, shall be submitted in written form and/or served on the member in question, and shall be presented to the Board for discussion within 14 days after the delivery of the written notice.

55.1. Failure of the parties to resolve the dispute will result in a mediation meeting with a mutually agreed independent mediator within a further period of 14 days, at the expense of the member organizations.

55.2. All parties must attempt to resolve the disputes at mediation.

55.3. Dispute resolution must allow for natural justice to be applied.

THE PROJECT

MPI-APQN Successfully Held the 11th HE International Conference

In order to discuss the rapid flow of global international students under the internationalisation of education, explore the development of quality assurance development of cross-border higher education, promote the improvement of the quality of higher education in Macao, and play the role of an exchange platform, the “11th Higher Education International Conference on Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in International Contexts” co-organised by the Macao Polytechnic Institute

(MPI) and the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) was held at the MPI from November 19 to 21, 2019. More than thirty experts and scholars from the United Kingdom, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the



Philippines, Vietnam, Mozambique, Papua New Guinea and other countries and the Cross-straits (Mainland China and Taiwan), Hong Kong and Macao in the field of quality assurance in higher education gathered in Macao to publish papers to discuss the impact on higher education teaching and learning international or regional comparative research on quality assurance systems, exchange and share the development trend of teaching and learning quality assurance around the world in the international context.

“The 11th Higher Education International Conference on Teaching and Learning Quality Assurance in International Contexts” opened at 10 am on November 20 at the Auditorium of MPI, was presented by Professor Alfredo Dias, Vice-President of the University of Coimbra, Portugal; Professor Angela Hou, Board Member of International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education; and Professor Im Sio Kei, President of MPI. In Professor Im’s welcoming speech, he mentioned that



MPI has always adhered to the international standards to unite the quality of teaching and learning. Under the global trend of higher education, the Institute has held international conferences on teaching and learning quality assurance for more than ten consecutive years. It turns into an international education exchange platform and annual event for universities in Macao and the world, as well as an important bridge for Macao's higher education to connect the world. He hopes that the conference will continue to promote the sharing and exchange of new theories, new perspectives and new cases of teaching quality assurance in higher education in various international and regional areas, and work together to promote the development of teaching and learning quality assurance in higher education.

Professor Jianxin Zhang, President of APQN sent a congratulatory message on behalf of 222 member organizations in 41 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific region. She congratulates on the successful holding of the eleventh conference and praised the MPI for being the leader and pioneer in the members of APQN in her congratulatory speech, therefore MPI won the APQN Quality Awards in 2015 and 2017. She also hoped that MPI can continue to hold higher education international conference and provide a platform for exchanges among educational scholars in the Asia-Pacific region.

This conference invited three well-known scholars to give keynote speeches: "Monitoring of historic heritage – case study of King John's Library (Biblioteca Joanina) of University of Coimbra" by Professor Alfredo Dias; "A New QA approach: The implementation of self-accreditation policy in Taiwan higher education and its challenges to university internal quality assurance capacity building" by Professor Angela Hou; and "Warwick's approach to embedding a culture of teaching excellence based on evidence" by Ms Maureen McLaughlin, Director of Education Policy and Quality, University of Warwick. During the conference, more than thirty experts and scholars published papers in six special sessions. Attendees discussed in depth the quality assurance of teaching and learning in international contexts.



(Written by MPI)

APQR Review to MNCEA in Mongolia

APQR is register of external quality assurance agencies that demonstrate certain thresholds of maturity launched by APQN as stakeholder initiative in Asia-Pacific region. The independent external review by peers is the backbone of the Register. While the primary purpose of the Register is to acknowledge well developed quality assurance agencies. So far 5 Quality Assurance Agencies (QAAs) in Asia Pacific region have successfully completed review process to be included on APQR. Another 4 QAAs are at various stages of review process.

Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

Accordingly, MNCEA submitted a Self-Evaluation Report (SER) and supporting documents to APQRC. The SAR provides overview of functions of MNCEA, taking account of all its QA activities carried out during the period 2015 to 2018 and touching on some other functions of MNCEA, as per relevant rules and laws of Mongolia.

Based on SER & other supporting documents of MNCEA, APQRC had conducted the on-site visit for Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA) on June 02 - 04, 2019 at the office of MNCEA in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The review conducted against criteria of APQR based on the APQN's membership criteria and the Chiba Principles.

APQRC constituted a review panel to MNCEA comprising following: Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi (Chair): Executive Director, Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei. Dr. Jagannath Patil (Member & Facilitator):, Adviser, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), India, Immediate Past President of Asia Pacific Quality Network [APQN], India. Dr. Diana Hallerud (Member): Associate Director of Accreditation, Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), United States.

Commendations and recommendations to MNCEA on each criterion are precise, evidence based and self – explanatory statements by APQR review panel.

Finally the Panel's assessment on MNCEA is "substantially compliant" based on each criterion of APQR.



The APQR Council and the review Panel express their sincere thanks and appreciation to MNCEA for its meticulous organization of the site visit process and for its consistent support during the review process. In particular, the Panel members are grateful to Dr. Ariunbold Jaaljav, Director of MNCEA and Dr. Batsuuri, Senior Specialist for their assistance and their management of the entire process.

(Written by Dr. Jagannath Patil)



MONGOLIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR EDUCATION ACCREDITATION
SINCE 1998

/a brief introduction/

Mongolian National Council for Education Accreditation (MNCEA)



MNCEA was established in
1998 by the Government
Resolution.

MNCEA is currently under quality
assurance review by APQR (on
site visit June 3-5)

APQR Review to ECAQA in Kazakhstan

The Eurasian Centre for Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Health Care (ECAQA) as a quality assurance agency that recognised by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan has expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

ECAQA is a specialized/professional accreditation agency in medicine, biomedicine and health sciences that included in Directory of Organizations that Recognize/Accredit Medical Schools (DORA) of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER), USA and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation International Quality Group (CHEA/CIQG) International Directory, USA.

The APQR Review Panel to ECAQA included the international experts: Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Chair and Facilitator) from China, Vd. Jayant Deopujari (Co-chair) from India and Prof. Rie Mori from Japan.

The panel visited ECAQA on November 1-2, 2019 and the external evaluation was based on the interviews with ECAQA's staff members, ECAQA's Board members, the external assessors (reviewers), representatives from Kazakhstan Ministry of Health, Members of the ECAQA's Accreditation Council and Chair Dr. Alma Syzdykova, Director of Department for Science and Education, University Medical Centre Corporate Fund Nazarbayev University and Prof. Salomuddin Yusufi, the WHO Executive Board Member (elected), Vice-Rector for Science and Research of Avicenna Tajik State Medical University, Medical students' association and with a range of other relevant stakeholders, review of agency's quality assurance programme and documents as well as the validation of statements in the "ECAQA's Self-Evaluation Report" with relevant details in the attachments.

During the onsite visit, the APQR Review Panel has found convincing evidence for the ECAQA's external and internal quality assurance and its operation, including the presentations of developments in Quality Improvement in Basic and Postgraduate Medical Education, CPD and Nursing Education in the Republic of Kazakhstan and interviews with the Director General of ECAQA Prof. Saule Sarsenbayeva, Adviser Dr. Farida Nurmanbetova, Chair of the ECAQA's Experts Board Associate Prof. Almagul Kuzgibekova, Chair of Expert Committees Dr. Sholpan Kaliyeva, Dr. Gulmira Ibrayeva, Dr. Zauze Baygozhina.



The APQR Review Panel has met with a representative of the Association “Kazakhstan Medical Council” and visited the Museum of History of Kazakhstan Medicine and Healthcare at the Asfendiyarov Kazakh National Medical University. Also the Panel has visited the Kazakh Medical University of Continuing Education and the Kazakh-Russian Medical University that accredited by the ECAQA.



ECAQA ensures and improves academic quality, training of healthcare professionals, contributes to introduction of the quality culture within higher education institutions as well as promoting the establishment and development of transparent national quality assurance system on health professions education.

ECAQA actively collaborate with broad range of partner organizations through international organizations and with quality assurance agencies across national borders. The ECAQA confirmed and demonstrated that its operation was based on the fundamental principles of the WHO and WFME Guidelines for accreditation of medical education as well as the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015). With the development tendency of internationalization, ECAQA stands out as a leading QAA in health care to unite all profession in medicine and health sciences.

Based on the onsite-visit at the ECAQA and its external evaluation, the APQR Review Panel finds that ECAQA is in either “fully” or “substantial” compliance with the APQR Criteria. The Panel recommends and agrees that ECAQA has been accepted onto APQR.

(Written by ECAQA Team)

APQR Review to IAAR in Kazakhstan

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) in the Republic of Kazakhstan expressed its interest to the Asia-Pacific Quality Register Council (APQRC) to be considered for inclusion on the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR).

In the beginning of 2017 IAAR had registered at the EQAR (the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education). Based on “The Inclusion of Other Quality Assurance Organizations’ Review onto the Asia-Pacific Quality Register” approved in 2016 by the APQR Council, acceptance onto the Register is based on an external quality assurance agency (EQAA) being found to be “substantially compliance” against 11 APQR criteria, incorporating the Chiba Principles. The APQR Council decided to adopt desk review (instead of site visit) to IAAR.

On Nov. 20-Dec.20, 2019, a review panel of three experts, Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (Chair and Facilitator) from China, Dr. Maiki Udam (panellist) from Estonia, Oksana MATVEEVA from Russia conducted desk review to the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The SER of IAAR and “Final Report of ENQA Review” are viewed. The SER is a thorough and critical examination of IAAR, taking account of all its QA functions and activities carried out during its 8-year development (2011 - 2019) and touching on some other functions of IAAR.

The hyperlinks and appendices to the SER included the following documents referred to by the review panel: 1) National reports and documents, such as Law of RK "On Education"; 2) IAAR regulations and internal documents, such as IAAR organizational structure, IAAR Strategic Plan for 2016-2020; 3) Final Report of ENQA Agency Reviews to IAAR in 2016, and ESG 2015.

The Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR) is a non-profit accreditation agency established in 2011 with the aim of improving the national system for quality assurance in education - one of the leading international accreditation agencies in the accreditation of higher, technical, and additional education. As part of the establishment and modernization of the independent accreditation system in Kazakhstan - the IAAR, developing its activities and constantly improving the methodology of international accreditation, comprehensively promotes qualitative institutional changes both in individual education organizations and in the entire education system of the country, expanding integration into the global educational area and providing access to the foreign market of international education services.

Based on its review of documents in the “IAAR's Self-Evaluation Report”, the review panel finds IAAR is either “fully” or “substantial” compliance with the APQR criteria. The Panel therefore recommends to the APQR Council that IAAR be accepted onto the Register on Dec.20.

New York - Bengaluru Vision Released in India

In a historical move, the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of India, released the New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 *towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through collaboration, mainstreaming and accreditation worldwide* on 24th & 25th September 2019 at the hands of Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ji, Hon'ble Minister of HRD and Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC), Ministry of AYUSH organized by NAAC at New Delhi in presence of Dr. H. R. Nagendra Guruji, Chairman, IUC-YS, Bengaluru & Hon'ble Chancellor, S-VYASA, Bengaluru, Poojya Maa Smt. Hansaji J Yogendra, Director, The Yoga Institute, Prof. S.C. Sharma, Director, NAAC and Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser, NAAC, Convener of the Programme and other Yoga dignitaries of India and around the world. This will be counted as a major landmark in both the national and international history of Yoga higher education quality assurance.



The worldwide release programme happened at different places of the countries. Yoga organizations around the world particularly United States, China, Canada and Italy joined the simultaneous release of document via video conference mode.

Prior to this, The “*Global Yoga Accreditation Summit (GYAS): Beginning of a Conversation towards a Global Ecosystem in Yoga Higher Education through Collaboration, Mainstreaming and Accreditation*” held on 26th April 2019 at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, USA in close collaboration with the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) and the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations was firm on the intent of bringing Yoga stakeholders towards beginning of a conversation on collaboration, mainstreaming and accreditation of Yoga programs within the Higher Education ambit worldwide.

The Eminent Yoga Stalwarts & Academicians around the world participated in the release of New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement and wished via video conference included Prof. Jinxing Zhang, APQN President; Antonietta Rozzi, ASSOYOGA Italia Accreditation, Italy; Sarva Yoga International, India/Italy; Dr. C.

Rajan Narayanan, Life in Yoga Institute & Foundation, USA and Dr. Arun K Garg, Canada India Network Society, Canada.

Apart from this, Indian Yoga Stalwarts including Shri Baba Ramdev ji Yoga guru, founder of Patanjali Ayurved, and Sri Sri Ravi Shankar Gururji, Indian spiritual leader, Founder of the Art of Living Foundation, Bengaluru, welcomed the New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 and sent their wishes on NAAC initiative towards Yoga Higher Education Mainstreaming and Accreditation.



Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ji, Hon'ble Minister of HRD has given special address on Importance of Yoga for human in all aspects and appreciated the NAAC initiative for undertaking Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) Process on Yoga Higher Education. He assured that Yoga Higher Education accreditation framework developed by NAAC will be promoted worldwide. He highlighted that Shri Narendra Modi ji, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has made Yoga as an initiative of globally celebrated Indian brand around the world and expressed need to ensure quality of Yoga through accreditation.

Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC), Ministry of AYUSH, appreciated the visionary efforts made by the team of NAAC and Yoga Experts within India and around the world. He highlighted the New York - Bengaluru Vision Statement 2019 will be counted as a major landmark in both the national and international history of higher education quality assurance. He gave assurance that the Ministry of AYUSH will make all efforts to promote this spirit of this NY-Bengaluru Yoga Vision Statement and taking forward the message around the world.

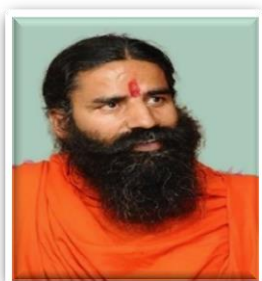


All participated invitees and Global Yoga Stalwarts, QA Academicians via video conference has appreciated the visionary effort by NAAC Core Working Group (CWG) and Dr. Jagannath Patil, Adviser, NAAC for his immense contribution as a convener of CWG under the guidance Dr. H. R. Nagendra Gururji and leadership of Prof. S.C. Sharma, Director, NAAC.

The Eminent Yoga dignitaries, Academicians & Key persons of Higher Education from India included Shri. Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi; Dr. Jayant Yashwant Deopujari, President, Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM), New Delhi; Dr. I.V. Basavaraddi, Director, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga, New Delhi; Dr. S.B. Arora, Former VC(I/C), IGNOU, Director, School of Health Sciences (SOHS) Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi; Shri P.C. Kapoor, Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Dhanwantari Ashram, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala; Dr. S.P. Mishra, Vice- President & CEO, PrCB, Indian Yoga Association, New

Delhi; Shri Ravi Tumuluri, Joint Secretary, Indian Yoga Association, New Delhi; Dr. Richa Chopra, Head – Dept of Contemplative and Behavioural Sciences, Member – Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Sri University & Senior International Yoga Faculty, Art of Living, Bengaluru; Smt. Kamlesh Barwal, Secretary General, Indian Yoga Association (IYA), New Delhi; Dr. Jaideep Arya, Chief Central Coordinator, Patanjali Yog Samiti, Haridwar, Uttarakhand; Dr. K. Subrahmanyam, Adviser, (Former Pro-Chancellor), S-VYASA, Bengaluru; Dr. B.N. Gangadhar, Director, National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bengaluru; Sri. O.P Tiwari, President, Council of Yoga Accreditation International) Secretary General, Director & Spiritual Head, Kaivalyadhama Yoga Institute, Pune; Shri Subodh Tiwari, Executive Director and Trustee, Kaivalyadhama Ashram, Pune; Dr. Dinesh Upadhyay, National Co-coordinator of Indian Medical Cell, Member of Governing Body of CCRYN, Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi; Dr. M.K. Taneja, Indian Institute of Ear Diseases, New Delhi; Ms. Padmini Rathore, The Yoga Institute, Mumbai; Shri Amit Nagpal, Poorvi Pitampur, Delhi; The officials from NAAC who participated in event included Dr. Devender S. Kawday, Deputy Adviser, Dr. Darikhan Kamble, Assistant Adviser, Subedar Major Rajrup Singh, Consultant and Mr. Umesh Kumar. R, JRF, NAAC;

On behalf of Ministry of HRD and Ministry of AYUSH, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ji, and Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji ensured that all efforts will be made to promote the spirit of this NY-Bengaluru Yoga Vision Statement and taking forward the message around the world.



“Yoga is an Achievement of Divine Knowledge. The presence of Humanity in Human will create the new world through Yoga. The great efforts taken by NAAC for promoting Yoga worldwide is matter of pride”.

Shri Baba Ramdev ji
Yoga guru, founder of Patanjali Ayurved
Patanjali Yogpeeth, Bharat Swabhimani Trust



“NAAC has taken this initiative to streamline and standardise all those different schools of Yoga and different thought streams to make it suitable globally for Higher Education, and All Yoga Students & Teachers around the world. It was a need these days that proper standardization and accreditation is necessary so NAAC has taken up this important step towards Yoga Accreditation”

Sri Ravi Shankar Gururji,
Indian spiritual leader, Founder of the Art of Living Foundation, Bengaluru

Following Eminent Yoga Stalwarts & QA Academicians around the world welcomed the Initiative of New York-Bengaluru Statement and send their best

wishes via video conference mode:

"This New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement is very useful in promoting Yoga Higher Education in China as well as in Countries of Asia Pacific region. On behalf of over 200 members of APQN in 42 Countries, we welcome this yoga accreditation vision statement"

Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang

APQN President

Chief Expert of Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center

Professor of Yunnan University, China



"I am glad to participate in the release of the New York – Bengaluru Vision Statement. The official certification of the Universities and International Network with the support of NAAC and Govt. of India will be easier to promote Yoga as an Important culture heritage of all societies and eventually have official recognitions by Government."

Antonietta Rozzi

President, Sarva Yoga International, Italy,

Prime Minister Awardee for Outstanding and Development of
Yoga 2019

"We Support the efforts of the NAAC to bring Yoga in ambit of accreditation in Higher Education"

Dr. C. Rajan Narayanan

Executive Director of Life in Yoga Institute & Foundation, USA



"Delighted to be participating in the release of the New York-Bengaluru vision Statement, The release of this statement will support standards and will also help the promotion of Yoga and quality of Yoga Teaching".

Dr. Arun K Garg

Canada India Network Society, Canada

Release of New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement by Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal ji, Hon'ble Minister of HRD in presence of Members of Indian Yoga Associations and NAAC Experts.



Release of New York-Bengaluru Vision Statement by Shri Shripad Yesso Naik ji, Hon'ble Minister of AYUSH in presence of Members of Indian Yoga Associations, AYUSH Officials and NAAC Experts.



(Written by Prof. S. C. Sharma and Dr. Jagannath Patil)

SieQA 2019: Addressing Quality Assurance in the Context of SDGs

Centre for Quality and Risk Management (QRiM) at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) has successfully hosted Seminar on Internal-External Quality Assurance (SieQA 2019) themed *“Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Challenges to Higher Education Quality Assurance”* on 21st - 22nd October 2019.



SieQA is an annual event organized by the Malaysian Higher Education Institutions Quality Assurance Network (MyQAN) in partnership with Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) to promote excellence in quality assurance (QA). The conduct of SieQA 2019 was also in collaboration with UTMSPACE and Finance Accreditation Association (FAA) which aims to provide opportunity for Higher Education Providers (HEPs) to formulate strategies in addressing the SDGs in QA matters as well as providing exposure for HEPs on requirements of the current QA framework and standards.

Renowned speakers in QA and higher education have shared their knowledge and experiences during the two-day workshops and seminars. A total of 200 participants consists of QA unit representatives from Malaysian public and private higher education providers have actively participated in six workshops which covered topics and issues on Flexible Education, Programme Accreditation, COPPA 2.0 and MQF 2.0 for Quality Enhancement, Leveraging ODL for Sustainable Education and Operationalizing APEL (C).

The highlights of SieQA 2019 includes the welcome remark by Prof. Dry Shamsul Bin Sahibuddin, Pro Vice Chancellor UTM KL, followed by the Opening speech by Dato' Dr. Rahmah Mohamed, the CEO of MQA during the seminar. Three prominent keynote speakers are the honorable Dato' Prof. Ir. Dr. Mohd Saleh Jaafar (Deputy Higher Education Director General of Academic and Development), Prof. Dr. Jianxin Zhang (President of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network) and Prof Dr. Khairiyah Yusoff (Director of UTM CEE). Dato' Prof. Ir. Dr. Mohd Saleh Jaafar presented the theme of *“QMS in Malaysian Public University: How does it Lead to Excellence”*, APQN President Jianxin spoke on the theme of *“Challenges and Actions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for HE Quality Assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region”* and Prof. Khairiyah stressed the theme of *“Embracing Sustainable Development Goals in HE: How to Attain*



Meaningful & Lasting Impact’’. They have awed the audience with their presentation on strategies and challenges in achieving excellence in QA in the context of SDGs.

Prof Dry Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor moderated a forum entitled “*Harmonising Professional Programmes towards MQF 2.0 for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*”, together with the CEO of MQA, Chairman of EAC and Director of MDC as the panelists.



This year, MyQAN is 5 years old. That is a milestone for a simple beginning of a national outfit, in which 63 universities and university colleges in Malaysia formed a registered network of their quality assurance practitioners to come this far. This network has been diligently holding its bi-monthly meeting without fail, where a member-committee is given the opportunity to co-organize while creating a sense of belonging to a shared network on QA.

MyQAN contributes to the sharing of best practices in the QA for higher education that rides on the strength of the committee members’ network with important QA bodies both local and international: MOE, MQA, MPQ, AUNQA, DAAD, and APQN. MyQAN provide various platforms in which new developments can be discussed, and, ultimately, to the improved practices in assuring quality in higher education setting.



(Written by SieQA 2019)

THE MEMBER NEWS

NIAD-QE University Quality Assurance Forum 2019

The NIAD-QE University Quality Assurance Forum 2019 “Quality Assurance of Higher Education in Times of Change” was held at Hitotsubashi Hall on Thursday, July 25, 2019.



Looking ahead to Japan’s next cycle of institutional certified evaluation and accreditation, the forum aimed to provide an opportunity to conceive an ideal state of the country’s quality assurance in higher education. The event started with an in-depth look into the substantially-changing circumstances over higher education and its quality assurance practices in the U.S. and the Asia-Pacific, as well as related situations and challenges in Japan.

Following the opening address by Hideki Fukuda, President of NIAD-QE, and the introduction presentation by Shinichi Yamamoto, Dean of the Research Department, two internationally-recognized speakers gave keynote speeches.

Dr. Jagannath Patil, Advisor of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Immediate Past President of APQN and Past President of INQAAHE, pointed that due to increase of international mobility, the emergence of MOOCs and micro-credentials, and the growing presence of university rankings, world’s higher education is gaining complexity. Hence, the role of the quality assurance organizations and their network has become important than ever before. Referring to the philosophy of Bengaluru statement 2016, he explained the virtue of information sharing, which creates greater trust and collaboration among quality assurance organizations. Furthermore, he introduced the Asia-Pacific Quality Register (APQR) as a practical measure against the threat of accreditation mills.



Dr. Judith Eaton, President of Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), spotlighted on various global changes emerging in higher education, e.g. diversity of student backgrounds, social requests for verification of higher education outcomes, threats to academic freedom and free speech,

diversification of higher education institutions and quality assurance of digitized education, multilateral student exchanges, and university rankings. Thereupon, she emphasized that these changes must be well recognized when we conceive ideal quality assurance and evaluation responsible to trust and demands from general society. Also, she introduced recent trends in the U.S. that the pressure on reforming the accreditation system and the federal government's involvement in higher education are increasing. Dr. Eaton explained that the fundamental idea of these are all for the benefit of students while the higher education community is seeking to respond towards the changes.



Thereafter, Syun Tutiya, Special Appointed Professor of the Research Department at NIAD-QE, moderated a panel discussion. Firstly, three Japanese panelists gave presentations on current situations and challenges in Japan from the viewpoint of a policymaker, a leader of a quality assurance organization, and a researcher.

Ms. Aki Ishibashi, Director of Office for International Cooperation on Cultural Heritages, Cultural Resources Utilization Division, Agency for Cultural Affairs, who was involved in quality assurance policy-making within the Japanese government, made a presentation "Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Japan". Dr. Taketoshi Okuno, President of Japan Association for Quality of University Education, gave a lecture titled "Evaluations for Public Universities in Japan -To face autonomous bodies and local communities-". Dr. Junko Hamanaka, professor of School of Education, Waseda University, delivered a presentation "An Expectation for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation".

In the latter half of panel discussion, referring to questions from the audience, the panelists and two keynote speakers actively exchanged their views to conceive ideal state of Japan's quality assurance of higher education.

With closing remarks by Toshikazu Hasegawa, Vice-President of NIAD-QE, the forum was successfully concluded.

On the following day, NIAD-QE held an open seminar. After a presentation by Professor Tutiya overviewing the quality assurance practice in Japan, the two keynote speakers from the forum gave ensued topics on quality assurance systems in India and the U.S to deepen participants' understanding.

Presentation materials from the University Quality Assurance Forum are available at <https://www.niad.ac.jp/event/event2019/uqaf2019.htm>

(Written by International Affairs Division, NIAD-QE)

First HED Webinar under the Aegis of APQN Held in Russia

The Accreditation in Education company (Russia) conducted the webinar under the aegis of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) on July 02, 2019. The theme of the webinar was *"Internationalization of higher education"*. Cooperation with quality assurance networks and agencies. Acquaintance with HEIs of Russia and other CIS countries. Development of inter-university partnership."



WEBINAR

«Internationalization of higher education.
Cooperation with quality assurance networks and agencies.
Acquaintance with HEIs of Russia and other CIS countries.
Development of inter-university partnership»

02.07.2019
09.00 – 13.30 (MSK)
Working language: English, Russian

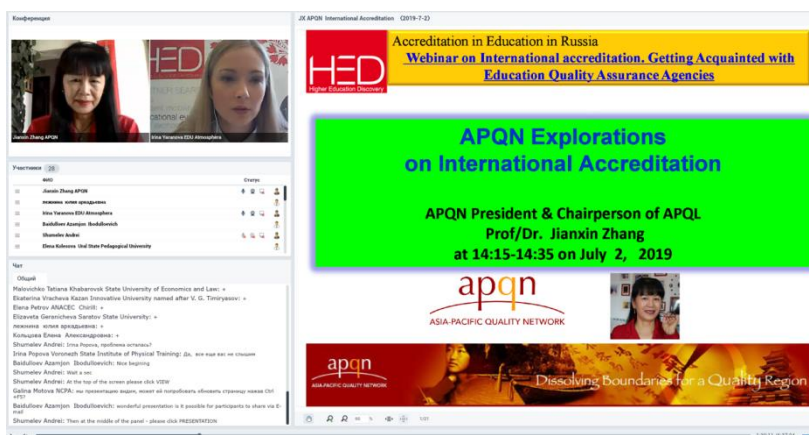
Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN) is one of international organizations that comprises over 40 countries with extremely diverse cultures, economies and political systems. APQN is aimed at overcoming these differences and uniting countries to achieve the common goal - to develop the potential of the region. APQN today is one of the most active and ambitious international organizations in the sphere of quality assurance.

The Accreditation in Education company implements the EDU Atmosphere project on Higher Education Discovery (HED) media platform for the development of international education partnership HEDCLUB.com. EDU Atmosphere project is intended to promote Russian higher school in the global education area.

The webinar brought together the representatives from Russia, China, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan: over 30 representatives of the professional community and 13 experts as speakers.

The Key speakers of the webinar: Jianxin Zhang, President of the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN), Chief Expert of Yunnan Higher

Education Evaluation Center (YHEEC), Professor of Yunnan University, China; Galina Motova, APQN Vice President, Deputy Director of the National Centre for Public Accreditation, Editor-in-Chief of the Accreditation in Education journal, Russia;



Accreditation in Education in Russia
Webinar on International accreditation. Getting Acquainted with Education Quality Assurance Agencies

APQN Explorations
on International Accreditation

APQN President & Chairperson of APQL
Prof/Dr. Jianxin Zhang
at 14:15-14:35 on July 2, 2019

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Ekaterina Shigapova, director of the Accreditation in Education company, Russia; Nurgul Kydyrmyna, Chief Specialist of the Information and Analytical Project of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR), Kazakhstan; Elena Petrov, Vice President at the National Agency of Quality Assurance in Education and Research (ANACEC), Moldova; and Lioudmila Batourina, International Partnership Consultant at the Brazilian Association of Private Universities (ABMES), Brazil.

After the welcoming speech of the organizers, President Jianxin Zhang talked about international accreditation, based on APQN-IQAHE joint survey last year on the status of both internal and external HE quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific Region by means of questionnaires and interviews, which aimed at exploring status and trends of HE quality assurance in Asia-Pacific region. Later on, she focused on APQN's Exploration to Global Accreditation for the HEIs. The Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL) on Internationalization and the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs).

Galina Motova highlighted International accreditation as a tool for enhancing HEIs' competitiveness, internationalization and export potential. Nurgul Kydyrmyna presented the Quality assurance in the Republic of Kazakhstan and the experience of the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR). Elena Petrov demonstrated characteristics and features of the external Quality Assurance system in Moldova. Lioudmila Batourina showcased the system of higher education in Brazil with the emphasis on Accreditation and Evaluation processes.

Ekaterina Shigapova introduced the recruitment and consulting center EDU Atmosphere aimed at providing practical assistance to educational institutions in developing their export potential. The representatives of the Russian and CIS universities presented HEI's international activities and the potential for cooperation.

The webinar organizer Accreditation in Education company welcomes APQN members to join EDU Atmosphere aimed to assist educational organizations from various countries in finding partners and associates for the implementation of educational, academic projects and initiatives.

The date for the next webinar is October 1, 2019. You are welcomed!

(Written by Andrei Shumelev from HED)

Second HED Webinar under the Aegis of APQN Held in Russia

The Second HED Webinar under the Aegis of APQN Held in Russia took place on October 10, 2019.

The webinar brought together representatives from Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey: approximately 100 representatives of the professional community and 12 experts as speakers.



The webinar organizer Accreditation in Education company welcomes APQN members to join Edu Atmosphere aimed to assist educational organizations from various countries in finding partners and associates for the implementation of educational, academic projects and initiatives.

Upcoming webinars schedule on acquaintance with Russian HEIs:

- November 5, 2019
- December 4, 2019
- February 4, 2020
- March 3, 2020
- April 7, 2020
- May 28, 2020

Please choose the convenient webinar date to present your organization during the webinar.

Feel free to nominate the speaker and confirm participation as a listener by contacting Andrei Shumelev at news@hedclub.com, Mob: +7(937) 111-50-40.

You are welcomed!

(Written by Andrei Shumelev from HED)

COMING-UP EVENT

Welcome to 2020 AAC and AGM

APQN Academic Conference (AAC) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) are annual highlight events to discuss and advance quality assurance in higher education in Asia-Pacific. The Board of APQN is delighted to announce that the next AAC and AGM will be hosted by EDUVALUE, Singapore (hereinafter referred to as "EDUVALUE") and held at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and Singapore Management University (SMU), Singapore on April 16 – 19 (Thu. - Sun.), 2020.

The target audience for the AAC and AGM are primarily those associated with quality assurance in the Asia-Pacific region. It includes APQN Members and Observers, the Board, the Committees and the various Project Groups. In addition, other higher education institutions (HEIs), quality assurance agencies (QAAs), and organizations working in the field of quality assurance in any part of the world are welcomed to attend AAC events which are only open to all registered delegates with the exception of the AGM which are only for APQN members only. For more information, please visit www.eduvalueglobal.com/apqn



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ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

APQN ACADEMIC CONFERENCE 2020
in SINGAPORE

*Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0
in the Asia-Pacific Region*

DAY 1

DATE
April 16TH - April 19TH 2020
Thursday - Sunday

Photo credits: SMU

Singapore Management University (SMU)
Mochtar Riady Auditorium

DAY 2

Photo credits: eventfesta

Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA)
Lee Foundation Theatre

REGISTER HERE

or bit.ly/apqn2020
EARLY-BIRD CLOSING ON
31 JANUARY 2020

ORGANIZED BY: **apqn**
ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

HOSTED BY: **EDUVALUE**

HELD IN: **SG**
Singapore
Passion Made Possible

SUPPORTED BY: **SG**
SINGAPORE EDUCATION
& CONVENTION BOARD

The Main theme of 2020 AAC is “Quality Assurance for Higher Education 4.0 in the Asia-Pacific Region”. The 5 sub-themes are as followings:

- 1) Digitalization of Quality Assurance
- 2) Innovations in HE Accreditation in Era of Disruptive Technologies
- 3) Internationalization of Quality Assurance
- 4) Quality Assurance of Outcome-Based Teaching and Learning
- 5) The Role of the Governments in Higher Education 4.0

You are invited to submit papers relating to topics from the list above, or one of your own choices. Please indicate the number or title of your selected topic.

The tentative Program is as following:

Time	Agenda
Day 1 (April 16, Thursday, 2020)	
13:00 -	Registration
16:00-19:30	1 st Board Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting and APQR Council Meetings (Board Directors only)
Day 2 (April 17, Friday, 2020): Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, Lee Foundation Theater	
08:00-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:30	Opening Session
10:30-12:30	Keynote Speech – 1
	<i>Plenary Session – 1</i>
13:30-18:00	<i>Plenary Session – 2</i>
	<i>Plenary Session – 3:</i>
	<i>Plenary Session – 4: Workshop on Asia-Pacific Quality Label (APQL)</i>
18:00-20:00	Welcome Dinner
	APQN Quality Award Ceremony
Day 3 (April 18, Sat, 2020): Singapore Management University, Mochtar Riady Auditorium	
8:30-11.35	<i>Parallel Session 1: Workshop on Digital Certificate</i>
	<i>Parallel Session 2:</i>
	<i>Parallel Session 3:</i>
	<i>Parallel Session 4:</i>
	<i>Parallel Session 5:</i>
	<i>Parallel Session 6:</i>
11:40-12:40	Showcase presentations by education solutions providers, if any
13:30-15:30	Keynote Speech – 2
	<i>Plenary Session – 5</i>
15:30-16:30	Closing Session including the Signing of Agreements and MoUs
16:30-17:00	Registration for AGM (APQN Members only)
17:00-18:00	Annual General Meeting (APQN Members only)
18:00-19:30	2 nd Board Meeting (Board Directors only)
Day 4 (April 19, Sun, 2020)	
08:30-13:00	City tour

Please Register at: <https://www.eduvalueglobal.com/apqn>

We are looking forward to meeting you in Singapore!



Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

APQNews (Issue 20, 2019)

Call for Contribution for the Next Issue

APQNews is a half-year periodical newsletter on updating APQN development within the Asia-Pacific Quality Network (APQN). It also gives members an opportunity to share QA activities within their organization. All members are invited to contribute articles for the next issue of APQNews.

A great way to get involved with the APQN community is to share your thoughts and ideas. Do you have something you would like to share with your APQN colleagues? Are there any upcoming quality events that you would like to release in APQNews? APQN welcomes all contributions for the next issue of APQNews! Please kindly e-mail them to Chief Editor and APQN Administrator at: 948661302@qq.com & apqnsecretariat@163.com.

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