Oman Academic Accreditation Authority

Institutional Quality Audit (IQA) – Summary of an Archived Report

Key Details		
Higher Education Institution (HEI)	**Middle East College of Information Technology (MECIT)**	
IQA Panel (Chair/Co-Chair)	**Dr Phil Cardew**, Pro Vice Chancellor, London South Bank University, UK	
IQA Panel (Members)	**Dr Ahmed Al Kindi**, Head of Information Technology, Department Higher College of Technology, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman	
	Dr Rabie'e Al Rashdy, Chief Nursing Officer, Armed Forces Medical Services, Royal Army of Oman, Sultanate of Oman	
	Dr Rick Voorhees, Principal, Voorhees Group LLC, Colorado, USA	
	Dr David Palfreyman, Associate Professor, Zayed University, UAE	
Review Director	**Tess Goodliffe**, Oman Academic Accreditation Authority	
Portfolio Submission	14 August 2010	**Portfolio Meeting** 20 September 2010
Planning Visit	16 October 2010	**Audit Visit** 7-9 November 2010
Report Publication	29 May 2011	**Report Archived** 10 June 2020

Institutional Quality Audit (IQA)

As per Royal Decree 54/2010, Oman Academic Accreditation Authority (OAAA) carries out Institutional Quality Audit (IQA) of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as the first stage of the Institutional Accreditation process and in accordance with the IQA Manual. Each HEI only undergoes IQA once, after the graduation of their first cohort of students. This External Quality Assurance (EQA) activity is designed to provide constructive feedback to the HEI to assist with its ongoing improvement efforts and results in a report. The IQA report is made publicly available on the OAAA website (unless designated 'restricted access only') until such time as it is superseded by the publication of results, following the second stage of the process, Institutional Standards Assessment (ISA). The IQA report is then archived.

IQA Process

The IQA process commences with the HEI undertaking a self-study of internal systems, measured against the HEI's Mission and Vision, as summarised in a Quality Audit Portfolio. This document is submitted with supporting evidence to OAAA and the Panel conducts a Portfolio Meeting (international members by telephone) to consider the contents. A Planning Visit takes place thereafter to clarify logistic matters, request additional information and make arrangements for the Audit Visit. Prior to this, the Panel invites Public Submissions from individuals who may wish to comment on the quality of an HEI's activities. During the Audit Visit, the first day of which ('Day Zero') is generally conducted outside the HEI while the remaining days take place at the HEI's premises, the Panel interviews many people, including members of the HEI's governing authorities, staff and students, in addition to internal and external stakeholders. The Panel also visits selected venues and examines additional evidence.

IQA Report

IQA reports (developed through six draft versions, v1 to v6) comment on the appropriateness and effectiveness of systems put in place by an HEI to achieve their specified Mission and Vision and contain a summary of the Panel's findings, together with formal outcomes, or 'CARs': **Commendations** where good practices have been confirmed, **Affirmations** where the HEI's ongoing quality improvement efforts merit support, and **Recommendations** where there are significant opportunities for improvement not yet being adequately addressed. The report aims to provide a balanced set of observations but does not comment on every system in place within the HEI. No information provided after the last day of an Audit Visit is taken into consideration in the IQA report, unless submitted by the HEI in response to the fifth version (v5) of the report. The HEI is invited to comment on v5 before a sixth version (v6) of the report is approved by the OAAA Board; the HEI is then given the formal opportunity to appeal before the final report is made public. IQA reports designated 'restricted access only' are not made public.

Specific Notes Pertaining to the HEI Listed Above

The HEI listed in the table above underwent the IQA process as specified above. Based on an OAAA Board decision dated 7 May 2020 to archive IQA reports after the publication of ISA result, this IQA Report was archived after the MEC ISA results were made public.