



Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education

Institutional Quality Audit (IQA) – Summary of a Restricted Report

Key Details			
Higher Education Institution (HEI)	Sultan Qaboos Military College		
IQA Panel (Chair/Co-Chair)	Dr Khalid Al Mashaiki		
IQA Panel (Members)	Prof Mohamed Limam		
	Dr Khalid Al Shaaibi		
	Dr Ali Hamdan Al Balushi		
	Dr Ahmed Al Mamari		
Review Director	Dr Saleem Al Habsi		
Portfolio Submission	18 December 2022	Portfolio Meeting	7 February 2023
Planning Visit	7 March 2023	Audit Visit	7-11 May 2023

Institutional Quality Audit (IQA)

The Oman Academic Accreditation Authority (OAAA) was established by Royal Decree No 54/2010. The name of the authority was amended to Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education (OAAAQA) by Royal Decree No 9/2021. Among its responsibilities is accrediting higher education institutions. This Institutional Quality Audit (IQA) was carried out in accordance with the [IQA Manual](#), 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 The IQA report is made publicly available on the OAAAQA website (unless designated 'restricted access only') until superseded by the publication of results, following the second stage of the process, Institutional Standards Assessment (ISA).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 OAAAQA and the Panel conducts a Portfolio Meeting (international members by telephone or through one of video conferencing platforms) 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 OAAAQA 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. The resulting Report, however, is confidential to the HEI and access is restricted to a limited number of stakeholders.