

this purpose. The final draft is expected to be ready by June 2019.

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## **Official Establishment of the Higher Education Quality Evaluation System of Macao - Tertiary Education Services Office (GAES)**

The Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) started establishing the framework of the higher education quality evaluation system in 2012. In light of the recognition of the evaluation outcomes, Macao has not yet established any evaluation bodies; instead, higher education institutions (HEIs) are to select appropriate external quality assurance agencies (EQAAs) that meet the Macao Government's requirements and according to their institutional development, characteristics and need to conduct evaluation exercises. To ensure consistency and fairness in the course of evaluations, the Government of the Macao SAR commissioned professional organizations to compile evaluation guidelines for Macao higher education, namely "Guidelines on Institutional Accreditation", "Guidelines on Institutional Quality Audit", "Guidelines on Program Accreditation", "Guidelines on Program Review", as well as "Guidelines for External Quality Assurance Agencies" exclusively for EQAAs.

Meanwhile, in order to facilitate the establishment of the quality evaluation system and to better understand trends of development in international higher education quality assurance, the Tertiary Education Services Office in 2012 became a member of both INQAAHE and APQN. The Office has also become an official member of CIQG affiliated to CHEA in 2015 for the purposes of strengthening ties with international organizations.

After years of effort, Administrative Regulation No. 17/2018 on the Higher Education Quality Evaluation System and the Higher Education Regime (Law No. 10/2017) have simultaneously taken effect from 8th August 2018. All HEIs in Macao and higher education programs offered in Macao are subject to the quality evaluation system in order to protect the quality of Macao higher education, enhance its development, and to raise the academic, pedagogical and research levels of HEIs.

In brief, the quality evaluation system of Macao is as follows:

1. Higher education quality evaluation consists of the institutional level and the program level, with 7 years as one cycle in general.
2. Under the institutional level, there are Institutional Accreditation (IA) and Institutional Quality Audit (IQA). IA aims to evaluate institutional administration and management, and academic planning development. HEIs in Macao have discretion about whether to conduct IA to be granted status to self-regulate and offer new programs, so as to enhance the autonomy and flexibility of HEIs in institutional operation and program delivery. For IQA, this type of evaluation periodically reviews the operation of HEIs in Macao to identify their good practices and areas for improvement, and to achieve continuous enhancement.
3. Under the program level, there are Program Accreditation (PA) and Program Review (PR). Through PA, new programs offered by HEIs or existing programs with substantial changes are assessed on whether they meet the stated program objectives and the intended learning outcomes, while PR periodically evaluates the quality of higher education programs offered by HEIs in Macao and identifies the areas for improvement in these programs to pursue excellence.
4. Prior to the conduct of evaluation exercises, HEIs should submit evaluation proposals to the SAR Government, which include information on the proposed EQAA. HEIs and EQAAs should conduct evaluation exercises according to the approved proposals and evaluation Guidelines.
5. Under the quality evaluation system, a quality evaluation panel (QEP) is to be formed by quality evaluation experts and scholars. The QEP primarily provides the Government of the Macao SAR with professional advice on quality assurance.

One of the characteristics of the Higher Education Quality Evaluation System of Macao is that HEIs can select appropriate EQAAs that meet the Macao Government's requirements to conduct evaluation exercises; therefore EQAAs play a very important role in the evaluation system. In the future, the SAR Government will continue to strengthen its ties with EQAAs to facilitate the smooth implementation of the quality evaluation system.

By the enactment of the Higher Education regime and related regulations on 8 August 2018, offering greater flexibility in curriculum design in higher education, and encouraging quality enhancement in programs, we

welcome a better future and vision for higher education in Macao.

For details about the quality evaluation system of Macao, please visit:

<https://www.gaes.gov.mo/institutions/qualityassurance>

## **Korean Accreditation Board of Nursing Education (KABONE) - Nursing Education Program in 2018**

### **Evaluation and accreditation of Nursing Education Programs**

As an accreditation authority, KABONE accredited 15 programs (14 bachelor's degree courses, 1 diploma course) through certification in the first half of 2018.

On 5 September 2018, KABONE held a certificate ceremony for certified nursing colleges, and hosted a meeting to guide the quality management of nursing education and provide feedback on the certification process.

*Certified Nursing College Fellows with KABONE President Kim Hee Soon in the Certification Ceremony*



### **Monitoring of the evaluation and accreditation of the Nursing Education Program**

The universities or colleges that obtained accreditation of their nursing education programs are obliged to maintain the quality of their education throughout the period of accreditation (22, Accreditation of the Nursing Education Program Regulation). Therefore, we confirmed the quality and the consistency of nursing education through continuous monitoring, and through a self-evaluation paper submitted by the university or college within six months from the date of the certification period of 2 years. The first half of the 2018 evaluation and accreditation of the nursing education programs involved 17 nursing colleges. A total of 17 nursing colleges obtained a 'maintenance of certification'.

### **Follow-Up Evaluation of Nursing Education Accreditation Programs**

For nursing education programs that are conditionally accredited or new courses, we have confirmed the quality and the consistency of nursing education through follow up monitoring and evaluation. In the

first half of 2018, 26 nursing colleges underwent evaluation and accreditation of their nursing education programs, and all of them were granted 'accreditation retained'.

### **Complementary Evaluation of Academic Course Conversion from 3-year nursing Diploma Course to 4-year bachelor degree course**

Since 2011, KABONE has maintained its assessment under commissioned designation authority of 4-year nursing courses for colleges in accordance with Article 50, Paragraph 3 of the Higher Education Act. In the first half of 2018, three colleges were granted 'academic course conversion', and will operate 4-year bachelor degree courses from 2019.

### **Evaluation and Designation of Nurse Aid Education and Training Agencies**

KABONE designated 197 nurse aid education and training agencies after thorough evaluation in the first half of 2018. This year, 15 programs that have been implemented in high schools were included. It is expected that about 155 institutions will participate in the designation and evaluation in the second half of this year.

*One-day Workshop on the Evaluation and Designation of Nurse Aid Education and Training Agencies*



## **FAST NUCES (Pakistan) Quality Enhancement Cell achieves W Category in HEC Rating for QECs**

FAST NUCES Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) obtained a score of 96 out of 100 points (category W) in the Higher Education Commission's (HEC) Annual Rating of QECs for year 2016-17. This substantial increase in the points scored



has been achieved through rigorous focus at all levels in the campuses on the quality parameters prescribed in HEC scorecards for QEC ranking, e.g., self-assessment processes, active contribution of QEC on various scholarly platforms, active participation in HEC meetings, regular follow up on corrective actions against accreditation visits, contribution in HEC national workshops as resource person, capacity