Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education

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

Key Details			
Higher Education Institution (HEI)	**University of Buraimi**		
IQA Panel (Chair/Co-Chair)	Dr. Josephine Palermo General Manager,Telstra Operations,Australia		
IQA Panel (Members)	Dr. Serge Herzog Director, Institutional Analysis, University of Nevada, Reno, USA		
	Dr. Nicola Huson Head of Masters Programme DaF, German Jordanian University, Jordan		
	Dr. Huda Mohammed Dean, Ibra Nursing Institute, Oman		
	Mariana Ferrao Acting Director of Quality Assurance, A'Sharqiyah University, Oman		
Review Director	Ms Hannah Manogaran Oman Academic Accreditation Authority (OAAA)		
Portfolio Submission	10 January 2016	**Portfolio Meeting**	22 February 2016
Planning Visit	16 March 2016	**Audit Visit**	24-28 April 2016
Report Publication	28 December 2016	**Report Archived**	20 October 2024

Institutional Quality Audit (IQA)

The Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education (OAAAQA) was mandated by the Royal Decree 9/2021, to carry out Institutional Quality Audit (IQA) of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in accordance with the IQA Manual. IQA 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report is made publicly available on the Authority's website (unless designated 'restricted access only') until it is superseded by the publication of Institutional Standards Assessment (ISA) results. 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 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 Authority's 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 Authority's Board decision dated on 07 May 2020 to archive IQA reports after the publication of ISA results, this IQA Report was archived after University of Buraimi's ISA Report was made public.