



State Council of Quality (SCQ)

Agenda SCQ Meeting 115

Date: 25.08.2023

Regular Meeting

Time: 09:00

Meeting minutes

Present in the meeting:

Hasnije Ilazi – President

Klemen Miklavic – Vice President

Maja Martinovic - Member

Gezim Tosuni – Member (online)

Jaakko Kauko – Member (online)

Naim Gashi – member ex-officio (online)

Arianit Krasniqi – KAA staff

Minutes

1. Approval of agenda

Agenda was approved with all votes in favor

2. Approval of minutes of SCQ meeting 111, 112, 113, 114

Since meeting 111, SCQ did not have quorum, therefore minutes could not be approved until now. Regarding the presented minutes, SCQ discussed that minutes for meeting 114 need to be proofread once again before they are approved and minutes for meeting 113 must be translated into English. In addition, it was reiterated that that meeting minutes should not have the names of the speakers, unless the speaker declares that he/she wants to have his/her name put in the minutes.

Regarding minutes of SCQ meeting 111, it was discussed whether the previous members of the board who were present in meeting 111 should be given the possibility to see the minutes and comment on them before they are approved. No decision was made on this issue. It was suggested to check the legal provisions if they regulate this issue.

3. Approval of evaluation reports for programme accreditation

University of Prishtina:

- Faculty of Law, study programme Constitutional and Administrative Law LLM 60 ECTS: The expert report recommended 5-year accreditation with a student quota of 35 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with regards to student quota, however it reduced the duration of accreditation from 5 to 3 years based on the fact that one standard area is partially compliant and that the expert team has reduced the number of students to be enrolled compared to the institution's initial request.

AAB college

- Study programme Nursing BSc 180 ECTS. Regarding nursing programmes of two HEIs (AAB and UBT) which were evaluated by the same expert team, SCQ after having analysed the expert reports unanimously concluded that there are some uncertainties that need to be resolved before the final decision on accreditation. Based on this, SCQ

decided to send a letter to the expert team aiming to clarify the uncertainties and better understand the inconsistencies between the narrative report and final conclusions. SCQ agreed to discuss these two points in the continuation of the meeting after receiving the answers from expert team. (*SCQ letter and expert team answer are attached to these minutes as annex 1*).

- Study programme English Language MA 120 ECTS: The expert report recommended 5-year accreditation with a student quota of 200 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.
- Study programme Management BA 180 ECTS: The expert report recommended 3-year accreditation with a student quota of 200 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.

University of Peja

- Study programme General Law LLB 240 ECTS: The expert report recommended 3-year accreditation with a student quota of 100 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.

Universum College

- Study programme Management MA 120 ECTS: The expert report recommended 3-year accreditation with a student quota of 100 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.

UBT College

- Study programme Energy and Management Engineering Bachelor professional 120 ECTS: The expert report recommended not to reaccredit the programme. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.
- Study programme Environmental Energy and Engineering MSc 120 ECTS: The expert report recommended not to reaccredit the programme. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour.

4. Requests

4.1. Riinvest College

- The request was about the programme Computer Sciences BSc which was rejected due to insufficient programme holders. With this request Riinvest has added more programme holders and requested from SCQ to reconsider the application. After reviewing all the materials, SCQ concluded that the programme holders are missing the academic title. Based on this the request was rejected with all votes in favour.

4.2. Faculty of Physical Education and Sport

- The request was to increase the number of students in an accredited programme. SCQ rejected the request based on the grounds that the student quota can only be changed by the evaluation experts. Request was rejected with all votes in favour.

4.3. Heimerer College

- Request was to revise the decision on validation of accreditation for study programme Health Sciences of Diagnostic profile: Laboratory technician BSc. Heimerer has provided evidence that Evalag has approved the student quota of 60. After reviewing all materials SCQ approved the request with 4 votes in favour and 1 abstain.

4.4. Universum College

Universum College has submitted a request to revise the application for accreditation of two study programmes. The application is from 2021. The request was rejected with all votes in favour based on the fact that the application was submitted in 2021 and it is outdated.

4.5. Faculty of Arts

This request was submitted by KAA after noticing a technical mistake on a decision for the faculty of Arts of the University of Prishtina. The request was approved with all votes in favour.

4.6. Dukagjini College

This request was repeated from the previous meeting because the party has submitted additional documents to support the request. SCQ rejected the request because there is no evidence that Dukagjini college underwent institutional accreditation. In the period pertaining the request.

5. Decision of Appeals Committee:

- **University of Peja – Law LLB:** The study programme was already approved based on a previous request. Therefore the recommendation of the appeals committee does not have any effect.

- AAB College – German Language (BA Professional): The recommendation of the appeals committee was approved by SCQ with all votes in favor
- UP FSHMN - *Spatial Planning and Regional Development MSC, 120 ETCS, with specializations; 1. Spatial Planning and 2. Regional Development (ESAC)*: The recommendation of the appeals committee was rejected by three SCQ because it was concluded that the AC has operated outside its mandate by interfering in the content of the matter.
- UP FAV *Food Science MSc, 120 ECTS*: Recommendation was rejected because the delays on providing the contract for the programme holder was caused by the institution itself.
- Dardania College – RE publication of the report: Recommendation of the appeals committee to remove the report from KAA website was approved by the SCQ.

6. Court verdict regarding Heimerer College

Heimerer college has submitted an appeal at the KAA office in 2019 which was not addressed by the appeals committee at the time. The reason why this appeal was not addressed is because the appeals committee had resigned. Now the Court Verdict is for the KAA/SCQ to: a) examine the plaintiff's complaint submitted to the defendant under protocol number 466/19H dated 21.03.2019, and b) take a decision and hand it over to the plaintiff, in accordance with the procedure established by law.

SCQ authorises the appeals committee to review the appeal in line with the court's request.

7. Recommendation of Education Inspectorate

Education Inspectorate of the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and innovation has conducted an inspection at Universum College. The purpose of inspection was to check students' enrollment and students transfer in the academic year 2022/2023 in all programmes and in all levels of study.

In the list of recommendations, there is one recommendation for KAA/SCQ:

- *KAA/SCQ must clarify in the decision 972/22 dated 22.07.2022 by adding information about which branch of Universum College has the programme Business and Management BA accredited.*

SCQ authorises KAA to provide the education inspectorate with the requested information.

8. The case of Astrit Hulaj

Mr. Hulaj is one of 6 programme holders in the study programme Computer Sciences and Engineering BSc in UBT College. In *e-akreditimi* he is declared as fulltime in UBT since 2020. In 2018 he was declared as fulltime in University of Prishtina. According to Tax Administration he has two primary salaries (one from the college and one from treasury) and also a secondary payment from the treasury.

Based on these facts, SCQ decided to remove mr. Hulaj from the list of programme holders.

9. Information and Question from IBCM

IBCM has sent a letter to SCQ informing that it has changed the status from Private college to Public College. Regarding the question, SCQ authorised KAA to inform IBCM that SCQ is developing a new policy on validation of international accreditations.

At this point the first part of the meeting ended to continue on August 25th 2023.

Second part of the meeting:

In the second part of the SCQ meeting 115 there were two items of the agenda to be discussed: Nursing programmes and the revision of accreditation standards.

SCQ discussed about the answer of the expert team to the SCQ questions and after reviewing once again the evaluation reports in the light of the correspondence with the expert team SCQ decided the following:

AAB College, study programme Nursing BSc 180 ECTS: The expert report recommended 3-year accreditation with a student quota of 250 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour and also authorised KAA to

organize a follow-up procedure at the end of the first year of studies to check the implementation of recommendations and fulfilment of standards.

UBT College, study programme Nursing BSc 180 ECTS: The expert report recommended 1-year accreditation with a student quota of 100 per academic year. SCQ approved the report with all votes in favour and also authorised KAA to organize a follow-up procedure at the end of the first year of studies to check the implementation of recommendations and fulfilment of standards.

Regarding these two programmes, SCQ also decided the correspondence between SCQ and expert team to be published on KAA website together with the evaluation reports and also to be part of the accreditation decision.

10. Revision of accreditation standards

SCQ agreed that the existing draft of standards for institutional accreditation and for accreditation of bachelor and master programmes to be published for public discussion and authorised KAA to collect comments from stakeholders until September 14th 2023.

11. Other

Minute keeper
Arianit Krasniqi

Prof. Asoc. Dr. Hasnije Ilazi,
President State Council of Quality


