

State Council of Quality (SCQ)

**Agenda SCQ Meeting 137** 

Date: 19.05.2025

International Business College - Mitrovica

Regular Meeting

Time: 10:00

# **SCQ Board Meeting Minutes**

## Present in the meeting:

Hasnije Ilazi – President
Klemen Miklavic – Vice president
Maja Martinovic – Member
Gezim Tosuni – Member
Jaakko Kauko – Member
Mirlinda Batalli – Member
Avni Berisha – Member
Jetmir Haxhibeqiri – Member
Shkurta Bajgora – Member
Naim Gashi – Member ex officio
Arianit Krasniqi – KAA staff
Fjolle Ajeti – KAA Staff
Liridona Ademaj – ORCA Monitoring





### 1. Approval of agenda

The SCQ approved the agenda unanimously.

## 2. Approval of minutes from SCQ 135

The SCQ approved the agenda unanimously.

#### 3. Discussion on Conference

The State Council Board (SCQ) discussed the upcoming conference, including matters related to its organization, the selection of panel members and moderators, and the agenda.

- 4. Revision of expert reports for program accreditation
  - 4.1. UP FIEK; Power Systems, BSc, the experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
  - 4.2.**UP FIEK; Power Systems and Energy Management, MSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. The report was unanimously approved for 3 years instead of 5 as recommended by the experts as this is the program's first accreditation.
  - 4.3. AAB College; Computer Science and Software Engineering, BSc The experts' report was unanimously approved in principle, with a note to return it to the experts for correction of some technical errors.
  - 4.4. **AAB College; Programming and Artificial Intelligence, BP -** The experts' report was unanimously postponed and returned to the expert team due to similarities in content. Additionally, the experts provided suggestions regarding a program they had not evaluated; therefore, the report must be revised.
  - **4.5.UFA Gjakovë; Informatics Engineering, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
  - 4.6.**UBT College; Mechatronics Engineering, BSc** The experts' report was approved, with one abstention.
  - **4.7.UBT College; Mechatronics Engineering, MSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. The report was unanimously approved for 3 years instead of 5.
  - **4.8.UP Agriculture Veterinary Medicine, DMV** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
  - **4.9. UP Agriculture; Pomology and Viticulture, MSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

Avni Berisha left the meeting.

4.10. **UFA Gjakovë; Primary Education, BA -** The experts' report was approved, with two abstentions.

Avni Berisha rejoined the meeting.

- 4.11. UFA Gjakovë; Teaching English as a Foreign Language, MA The experts' report was approved, with one abstention.
- **4.12. UHZ Peja; Food Technology, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the accreditation period changed from 3 years to 5 years, in accordance with the fulfilment of the standard areas.
- **4.13. UHZ Peja; Applied Ecology in Agribusiness, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

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- **4.14. UBT College; Agricultural and Environmental Engineering, BSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.15. UBT College; Food Science and Technology, MSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.16. AAB College; Architecture, BA** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.17. UP Agriculture; Plant Production, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.18. UIB Mitrovicë; Business and Management, (2 specializations)** BSc The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.19. Universum; Psychology, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.20. AAB College; Marketing and Business Management, MA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.21. Evolucion Academy; Institutional** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCO.
- **4.22. AAB College; Graphic Design, MA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.23. AAB College; Graphic Design and Visual Arts, BA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.24. AAB College; Applied Arts in Spatial Design, BA** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.25. UP Mjekësi; Public Health, MSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

Mr. Avni Berisha left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

**4.26. UP FSHMN; Biology, MSc (with 2 specializations: 1. Botany, 2. Zoology) -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the accreditation period changed from 3 years to 5 years, in accordance with the fulfilment of the standard areas.

Mr. Avni Berisha rejoined the meeting.

4.27. **UP Mjekësi; Pharmacy, MPh** – The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. The SCQ approved the quota requested by the institution, not the one recommended by the experts.

Mr. Jetmir Haxhibegiri left the meeting.

Ms. Mirlinda Batalli left the meeting.

- **4.28. UBT College; Public Health and Medical Sciences, BSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- 4.29. **UBT College; Paramedical Science, MSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

Ms. Mirlinda Batalli rejoined the meeting.

**4.30. UBT College; Medical Biochemistry, BSc** - The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

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- **4.31. UBT College; Applied Chemistry, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- 4.32. **Rezonanca; Pharmacy, MSc** The report was unanimously voted to be returned to the experts, with a request to clarify the number of students and to suggest an exact figure.
- **4.33.** Rezonanca; Health Care Management and Health Economics, MSc The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.34. USHA Ferizaj; Business Management and Entrepreneurship, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.35. UBT College; Stomatology, Dr. Dent** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.36. Universum College; Business and Management, BA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the accreditation period changed from 3 years to 5 years, in accordance with the fulfilment of the standard areas.
- **4.37. AAB** College; Aesthetics and Cosmetology, BSc The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.38. AAB College; Dentistry, Dr. Dent** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.39.** Universum Ferizaj; Business and Management, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.40. UBT Ferizaj; Management, Business and Economics, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

Mr. Gezim Tosuni left the meeting.

- **4.41.** Universum Ferizaj; Fashion Design, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.42. UBT Prizren; Design, BP** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.43. AAB College; Physical Culture and Sports, MA** The report was unanimously voted to be returned to the experts, with a request to clarify the evaluation of the standard on research in relation to the recommendations provided.
- **4.44. AAB College; Physical Culture and Sports, BA** The report was unanimously voted to be returned to the experts, with a request to clarify the evaluation of the standard on research in relation to the recommendations provided.
- **4.45. UBT College; Health and Physical Activity, MSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCO.
- **UBT College; Sports Science and Movement, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. The SCQ approved the quota required by the institution instead of the one recommended by the experts.
- **4.46. UBT College; Psychology, MSc -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.47.** Pjeter Budi College; Customs and Forwarding, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.48.** USHA Ferizaj; Management and Innovation in Tourism, MSc The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

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- **4.49. UBT College; Radiology Technician, BSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the note that the suggestion to fulfil the recommendations within the first year should not be included in the decision.
- **4.50. AAB College; Health Management, MSc** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the note that the suggestion to fulfil the recommendations within the first year should not be included in the decision.
- **4.51. AAB College; Radiology Technician, BP** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the note that the suggestion to fulfil the recommendations within the first year should not be included in the decision.
- **4.52. UBT College; Real Estate and Infrastructure Management, BA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.53.** Evolucion Academy; Fashion Design, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.54.** Evolucion Academy; Fashion Design, MA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.55.** Evolucion Academy; Communication Design, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.56.** Evolucion Academy; Styling and Fashion Communication, BA The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- **4.57. UHZ Peja; Performing Arts, BA** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ, with the accreditation period changed from 3 years to 5 years, in accordance with the fulfilment of the standard areas.
- 4.58. **UHZ Peja; Performing Arts, MA -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

### 5. Requests

Ms. Hasnija Ilazi left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

Ms. Shkurte Bajgora left the meeting.

**5.1. UP Faculty of Philosophy** - The Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Prishtina submitted a notification regarding the replacement of the program holder for the Political Philosophy, MA program, following the revocation of the former holder's academic title. The SCQ unanimously decided that no action can be taken until it officially receives the final decisions of the University Senate. Additionally, as the submission was a notification and not a formal request, the faculty must submit an official request for consideration.

Ms. Hasnija Ilazi rejoined the meeting.

Ms. Shkurte Bajgora rejoined the meeting.

**5.2.** University of Prizren - The University 'Ukshin Hoti' Prizren submitted a request for the replacement of a program holder in the BA program German Language and Literature, 180 ECTS, accredited until September 30, 2029. The request followed the early termination of the employment contract of one of the current program holders, as decided by the Senate. After reviewing the request and supporting documentation, the SCQ unanimously approved the proposed replacement.

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- **5.3. UP Faculty of Civil Engineering** The University of Prishtina, Faculty of Civil Engineering, submitted a request to adjust the official name of the *Environmental Engineering*, *BSc*, *180 ECTS* program in the Albanian language. The program was reaccredited for the period 2019–2022; however, the Albanian name was recorded incorrectly as *Inxhinieria e Mjedisit*, *BSc*, *180 ECTS* instead of the correct version *Inxhinieria e Ambientit*, *BSc*, *180 ECTS*. The correction was requested to align the program name with previous accreditation decisions and official documents, and to avoid difficulties in diploma certification by MESTI. The SCQ reviewed and unanimously approved the request.
- **5.4. Heimerer College** Heimerer College submitted a notification regarding the resignation of one of the program holders of the MSc program *Medical Laboratory Sciences*. The resignation took effect on April 30, 2025. The college informed that the program holder will continue to serve as a collaborator but not in the role of program holder. In accordance with KAA's Monitoring Procedures, the college committed to proposing a replacement within the required 90-day period and will submit the name of the new program holder by the end of July 2025. The SCQ took note of the notification.
- **5.5. Biznesi College** Biznesi College submitted a request for partial reconsideration of the SCQ decision Ref. No. 451/25 dated 22 April 2025, regarding the re-accreditation of the Law, LLB, 240 ECTS program. The college requested that the approved quota of 50 students per academic year be reconsidered and increased to 120, as originally proposed in their application. The college argued that the justification for the requested quota was provided during the expert team meeting and is reflected in the final expert report (pages 4 and 21), with no stated deficiencies regarding staff or capacity. The college claims that the reduction to 50 quotas was not explicitly justified in the expert report or SCQ decision. After reviewing the request and supporting documentation, the SCQ rejected the request and decided to stand by its original decision.

# 6. Appeals

Appeals Committee decision on UBT College's appeal - The SCQ reviewed the decision of the Appeals Commission regarding the appeal submitted by UBT College against SCQ Decision Ref. No. 89/25, dated 31.01.2025, concerning the refusal of accreditation/reaccreditation of several study programs. The Appeals Commission partially approved the appeal and returned the SCQ decision for reconsideration and final decision-making regarding the following two programs:

Computer Science (Professional Bachelor), 180 ECTS

General Medicine (Dr. Med), 360 ECTS

For the other programs included in the appeal (Modern Music Production and Digital Management (MA), Public Health and Management (MSc), Design (BA), and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (PhD)), the Appeals Commission rejected the appeal as unfounded.

The SCQ decided to postpone discussion on the two returned programs and instructed the KAA administration to verify whether UBT College has submitted any additional documents to the Appeals Committee and to provide the decision taken for these study programs.

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- **6.1.** University of Mitrovica The university resubmitted the same appeal due to a procedural error identified in the legal advice section of the Appeals Commission's decision, where it was incorrectly stated that the dissatisfied party may appeal to the Appeals Commission, instead of initiating an administrative dispute before the competent court. The SCQ unanimously requested that the Appeals Commission correct this error in accordance with the applicable legal provisions.
- 6.2. Universum College Universum College submitted a complaint against SCQ Decision Ref. No. 328/25 dated 02.04.2025, concerning the rejection of the accreditation of the study program Nursing Professional Bachelor, 180 ECTS (A). The SCQ had rejected the program on the grounds that the proposed academic staff lacked scientific publications indexed in international journals. The college argued that this requirement applies only to scientific (BA/BSc) programs and not to professional programs, and that the program meets all staff qualification requirements for professional programs as defined in the Accreditation Manual. The SCQ decided to forward the appeal to the Appeals Committee for review and decision.
- 6.3. Iliria College Iliria College submitted an appeal against SCQ Decision Ref. No. 279/25 dated 20.03.2025, claiming procedural violations and failure to fully implement a prior court judgment regarding its institutional reaccreditation process. The SCQ decided to forward the appeal to the Appeals Committee for review.
- **6.4. Rezonanca College** Rezonanca College submitted an appeal regarding the SCQ's rejection of their request to add a new program holder to the *BSc in Laboratory Biochemistry* program. The college argued that the candidate meets all qualifications and that SCQ's decision reflects inconsistent application of standards, citing prior cases where similar additions were approved. The SCQ decided to forward the appeal to the Appeals Committee for review.
- 7. Revision of applications for experts One expert application was reviewed and unanimously approved by the SCQ.
- 8. **Hiria College response to Draft report** This point had already been addressed during the Appeals discussion.
- 9. **Minutes from MESTI Education Inspectorate** The Education Inspectorate submitted the minutes of an inspection conducted at Riinvest College on 29.10.2024, following a complaint regarding the verification of a bachelor's diploma. The inspection addressed a discrepancy between the accredited program name (Computer Science Software Engineering, BSc.) and Software Design as recorded in an SCQ decision, which the KAA indicated may have resulted from a technical error. The SCQ decided to postpone discussion of this point and instructed the KAA administration to gather all relevant documents to verify whether this was indeed a technical mistake.

### 10. Post accreditation reports

10.1. UBT College Nursing, BSc - The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

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**10.2**. **UMIB Law, LLB -** The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. The SCQ requested the Division for Post-Accreditation to modify the report template so that experts provide three separate percentages: for fulfilled recommendations, ongoing recommendations, and not fulfilled recommendations.

Ms. Mirlinda Batalli left the meeting due to conflict of interest.

**10.3**. **UP Law Advanced European Studies, LLM** - The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ. In addition, the SCQ requested the institution to submit a clarification regarding the withdrawal of the current program holder and the nomination of a new program holder.

## 11. Discussion on expert panels

Four study programs had been postponed during the previous meeting, two of which were due to the involvement of an expert who had been approved only as a student expert but was engaged in the evaluation as a full expert. The SCQ unanimously decided to appoint a new expert to review these reports and provide an independent evaluation. Additionally, the SCQ requested that the KAA Director takes appropriate measures regarding the error that occurred.

As for the other two reports, they had not been submitted to the SCQ for approval due to a misunderstanding among KAA staff. After the relevant email was provided and the situation clarified, the SCQ proceeded to review the reports.

Ms. Mirlinda Batalli rejoined the meeting.

**UBT College; Civil Engineering and Infrastructure, MSc** – This report was unanimously postponed and returned to the experts, with a request to clarify the basis for the proposed number of students across the relevant standards, with particular attention to the aspect of student mentoring.

UKZ Gjilan; Economic Analysis and Development Policy, MSc - The experts' report was unanimously approved by the SCQ.

**12.** Discussion on draft regulation for amendment of Regulation on Accreditation - A number of points were identified that need to be added to the Regulation on Accreditation. The SCQ decided to postpone discussion on this item in order to review the list of proposed additions and address the matter in the next meeting.

13. Other

Minutes prepared by:

Fjollë Ajeti

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