



The 7th European Quality Assurance Forum

How does quality assurance make a difference?

Tallinn University, Tallinn, Estonia

22-24 November 2012

Final Programme

Thursday 22 November

Pre-conference meetings

16.00 – 16.45 Meeting with key players
Room A046, Astra building

Keynote speakers, parallel plenary speakers, paper and workshop presenters and chairs are invited to attend this pre-conference meeting.

Conference

14.00 – 17.00 Registration
Ground floor foyer, Astra building

17.00 – 17.15 Official Opening
Room A002, Astra building

- Introduction to the Forum, Norma Ryan, Chair, EQAF Steering Committee
- A word of welcome by Tiit Land, Rector, Tallinn University, and Alar Karis, President, Estonian Rectors' Conference

17.15 – 18.30 Plenary Session I: Is quality assurance leading to enhancement?
Room A002, Astra building

Chair: Barbara Michalk, EQAF Steering Committee

Combining the results of research in QA and the experiences of the speaker at grass-root level, the session will discuss the impact quality assurance has had on teaching and learning in terms of quality enhancement in the last two decades and what potential it shows in this respect.

- Keynote speaker: Jethro Newton, Emeritus Professor of Higher Education Policy Studies, University of Chester, UK
- Discussion with the chair and the audience

18.30 – 20.30 Welcome Reception
1st floor foyer, Astra building

Light snacks and drinks will be served.



Friday 23 November

- 09.00 – 17.00 Registration
Ground floor foyer, Astra building
- 09.00 – 10.15 **Plenary Session II: What are the lessons for QA from the recent US discussions on the future of accreditation?**
Room A002, Astra building
- Chair: Fiona Crozier, EQAF Steering Committee
- This session aims to explore what kind of parallels can be drawn between the recent discussions on the future of accreditation in the USA and changing expectations towards quality assurance in Europe. The discussion begun during this plenary will be continued in a 45-minute session in Papers and Workshops – Session I.
- Keynote speaker: Sylvia Manning, President, Higher Learning Commission, USA
 - Discussion with the chair and the audience
 - Practical information on breakout sessions
- 10.15 – 10.45 Coffee Break
Foyer, Astra building (outside the main plenary room)
- 10.45 – 12.30 **Papers and Workshops – Session I**
Astra and Mare buildings
- Participants will have a choice of attending a workshop lasting 90 minutes or two paper sessions lasting 45 minutes each, with a 15-minute break in between to allow the participants to move around.
One 45-minute session will continue the discussion begun during Plenary Session II to allow participants who wish to do so, to contribute to that discussion.
- 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
1st floor foyer, Astra building
- 14.00 – 15.00 **Parallel Plenary Session I: Updates on new developments in quality assurance**
Astra building
- Participants will have a choice of attending one of three parallel sessions which will present various projects or initiatives in QA.
- Recent European policy developments in quality assurance
 - Examining quality culture in higher education institutions
 - External quality assurance and recognition of joint programmes
- 15.00 – 15.30 Coffee Break
Foyer, Astra building (outside the main plenary room)



15.30 – 16.30

Parallel Plenary Session II: Updates on new developments in quality assurance

Astra building

Participants will have a choice of attending one of three parallel sessions which will present various projects or initiatives in QA.

- New international policy developments in quality assurance
- Identifying barriers in promoting European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at institutional level
- Quest for Quality for Students

19.30

Optional Conference Dinner (separate fee)

House of the Brotherhood of Black Heads

Address: Pikk tn 26, Tallinn

Saturday 24 November

09.00 – 13.00

Registration

Ground floor foyer, Astra building

09.30 – 11.15

Papers and Workshops – Session II

Astra and Mare buildings

Participants will have a choice of attending a workshop lasting 90 minutes or two paper sessions lasting 45 minutes each, with a 15-minute break in between to allow the participants to move around.

11.15 – 11.45

Coffee Break

Foyer, Astra building (outside the main plenary room)

11.45 – 13.00

Plenary Session III: Where do we go from here?

Room A002, Astra building

Chair: Alan Päll, EQAF Steering Committee

In this session the main rapporteur will summarise the discussions that took place during the Forum, followed by an interactive discussion with the audience.

- Invitation to next year's EQAF, Bengt-Ove Boström, Vice-Chancellor's Advisor, University of Gothenburg
- Presentation of the Forum conclusions, Bjorn Stensaker, EQAF Steering Committee
- Discussion with the chair and the audience
- Wrap-up and thanks by Norma Ryan, Chair, EQAF Steering Committee

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch and departure of participants

1st floor foyer, Astra building