apqn
ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK

Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

APQNews

Issue 07 March 2011

this issue

From the President's Desk P.1
APQN 2011 Conference P.2
APQN 2012 Conference P.2
Annual General Meeting 2011 P.3
NAAC & COL Pre-conference Workshop P.3
APQN Board 2011-2013 P.4
Mutual Recognition: Promises and Pitfalls P.5
APQN Conference Support P.5
APQN Updates P.6
GIQAC Grants 2011 P.7
GIQAC Project Updates P.9
Initiatives for Institutional Members P.10
Member News P.11

From the President's Desk...

The first quarter of this year has been a very busy period for the APQN Board and the Secretariat. In January, we conducted the election for the new Board and announced the results. We received the good news about funding for our projects. February was full of preparations for the annual conference and general meeting. March was an exciting period of meeting, sharing and networking at the conference. The new Board took charge and the outgoing Board's contributions were acknowledged gratefully. The 'members only' day of the conference gave the new Board the opportunity to reflect on the Strategic Plan and priorities of APQN for the next two years. Building on the feedback from the members, the new Board has identified a number of action points.

With these developments, there is more work to do in the next quarter. The Board would like to use this newsletter as a platform to share information with the members on the progress it is making in working towards the APQN goals. As a starting point, the details of the ten projects that will be carried out this year have been included. AQPN members who are interested in joining these initiatives are requested to write to the APQN Secretariat. In due course, when the funds are received, the Secretariat will make specific announcements seeking expressions of interest. There are plans to extend our support to institutional members and you will hear more from the Board in the next issue of the newsletter.

Feedback on this issue and contributions for the next issue to be published by mid-July are welcome. I encourage the members of APQN to use this newsletter to share news from their organisations with other QA colleagues.

Antony Stella

Next edition….

Does your organisation have an article that you would like to share with the region? Are there any upcoming quality events that you would like to publicise in the APQNews? APQN welcomes all contributions for the next issue of APQNews and requests that you email them to either:

Mr Fang Le—APQN Administrator (fangle666@gmail.com) or

Ms Christine Ashton—AUQA Administrator (c.ashton@auqa.edu.au) by 30 June 2011.

APQN 2011 Conference

The APQN 2011 Conference and Annual General Meeting was held in Bangalore, India from 2-4 March 2011 and was hosted by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). The main theme of the Conference was ***Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Expectations and Achievements.*** Professor Ranganath, Director of NAAC, opened the conference as Chair of the Organising Committee with Dr Antony Stella, APQN Vice President, welcoming all conference participants. Sir John Daniel, President of Commonwealth of Learning presented the keynote speech.

apqn
Asia-Pacific Quality Network

The conference was attended by more than 400 delegates, including about 70 participants from APQN member agencies and overall 38 countries and territories represented. More than 60 speakers presented papers in parallel sessions and 60 others contributed to the poster presentations on various sub themes including:

- Quality Assurance (QA) and Diversity of Higher Education Systems
- Issues of Quality and Access in Higher Education
- Multiple QA Agencies: Prospects and Problems
- QA Cycles and Building on Successive Cycles
- Ensuring Synergy Between Internal and External QA
- QA of Cross-border Higher Education

2-4 March 2011
LITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER
EXPECT NS AND ACHIEV
Hosted by
essment and Accreditation
angalore, India
apqn
Pacific Quality Network

APQN conferences have a session dedicated to the national QA system of the host country and there were comprehensive presentations on the QA developments in India. The conference also provided the opportunity for NAAC and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency to sign Memorandum of Cooperation.

The first two days of the conference were open to all members and the third day was open for members only. On the 'members only' day, Dr David Woodhouse, President of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), delivered the keynote on Mutual Recognition emphasising the need for continued cooperation in the region. The APQN members discussed the strategic plan and the priorities of the network for the next two years. Workshops were conducted on institutional membership, mutual recognition and benchmarking. The conference closed with very positive feedback on the benefits of sharing good practices in quality assurance for which the conference provided a sound platform.

ACC, Cambodia to host 2012 Conference

Every year APQN organises its conference in a different country. Previously this event has been hosted in Hong Kong (China), Shanghai (China), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Chiba (Japan), Hanoi (Vietnam), Bangkok (Thailand) and the recent event in Bangalore (India).

The Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC) will host the 2012 APQN Conference. More updates will be available in the next issue of APQNews and from the APQN website.

APQN Annual General Meeting 2011

The APQN Annual General Meeting held on 4 March 2011 was open only to APQN members. The meeting was attended by the following membership breakdown:

- 18 full members with Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute of China by proxy
- 9 intermediate members with the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council of Sri Lanka by proxy
- 1 associate member
- 3 institutional members
- 1 observer.

The outgoing President, Ms Concepcion Pijano and the current Secretary/Treasurer, Prof. Li Yaogang were unable to attend the meeting due to their inability to obtain a visa in time. The Vice President of the 2009-2011 Board, Dr Antony Stella, chaired the meeting.

The agenda covered reports from the office bearers, progress updates on the projects, a presentation of the newly elected board and an open discussion on APQN's strategic plan. The members welcomed the new Board and recorded appreciation and gratitude to the outgoing members of the Board for their contribution to the network.

NAAC and COL Pre-conference Workshop

On the eve of the APQN 2011 Conference, a pre-conference workshop on ***Quality Assurance in Dual Mode Universities*** was organised jointly by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL).

Following the opening remarks by Dr Antony Stella (on behalf of APQN) and Sir John Daniel (President of COL), Prof. HA Ranganath, Director of NAAC presented the outline of the workshop. Facilitator of the workshop, Prof. Ram Takwale set the context for the day's deliberations by highlighting the key issues and concerns in the quality assurance of dual mode universities. In parallel groups the participants discussed the challenges they faced and the best practices they adopted to meet those challenges.

Sir John Daniel's presentation that highlighted the best practices in quality assurance for dual mode universities was well received by the participants. He pointed out the contexts where COL's Review and Improvement Model (COL RIM) will work best as an institutional quality assurance model. Although COL RIM is primarily intended for the institution's own use for improvement and capacity building, it has been used to help meet partial external quality assurance requirements in some instances. The participants were also cautioned about the situations where COL RIM may not be the best option.

The workshop was attended by about 50 delegates comprising nominees of COL, members of the APQN Board and representatives of NAAC. Dr Jagannath Patil and Dr Ganesh Hedge coordinated the activity on behalf of NAAC.

APQN Board 2011-2013

After the recent election held in January 2011 the APQN Board 2011-2013 assumed office in the 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 3 March 2011.

APQN initiated its election process in December 2010. In order to achieve an objective election process the outgoing Board appointed three vote counters (Prof. Colin Peiris - APQN Board member; Mr Pedro Ximenes - Non Board member from a member agency; Mr Fang Le - APQN Administrator) to receive and tally the votes. The Board also constituted a three member subcommittee to serve as the Independent Council (Prof. Somwung Pitiyanuwat, Prof. Nurilya Shakhanova and Prof. Jiang Yanqiao who did not stand in the election) to consider the results received from the vote counters and make final recommendations to the Board regarding the election results.

On the recommendations of the Independent Council, the APQN Board announced that Dr Antony Stella was elected to the position of President as well as Vice President. Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi, Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi, Dr Kauzo Okamoto and Dr Jagannath Patil were elected as members of the Board.

At the AGM held on 3 March in Bangalore, Dr Antony Stella assumed office as the President of APQN. The AGM approved that the elected Board can appoint the Vice President from among its elected members. On 4 March, in the first meeting of the elected Board, Dr Jagannath Patil was appointed to Vice President. A consequential vacancy on the Board was then filled by Ms Zia Batool.

The elected Board made the following co-options to the Board: Prof. Colin Peiris, Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council of Sri Lanka; Dr Jan Cameron, New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit, and Mr Vicheanon Khieu, Accreditation Committee of Cambodia.

One more co-option is yet to be finalised and in filling that position the Board will consider the balance of regional representation and specific skills required for an efficient Board.

The following eminent professionals are now on the APQN Board for a two year term, bringing to their position a wide set of skills and experiences that APQN can draw from.

Dr Antony Stella
President (Elected)
Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA)
Australia

Dr Jagannath Patil
Vice President (Appointed)
National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)
India

Prof. Li Yaogang
Secretary/Treasurer (Ex officio)
Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute (SEEI)
China

Prof. Angela Hou Yung-chi
Board member (Elected)
Higher Education Evaluation & Accreditation Council of Taiwan (HEEACT), Chinese Taipei

Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi
Board member (Elected)
Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA)
Malaysia

Dr Kazuo Okamoto
Board member (Elected)
National Institution for Academic Degrees and University Evaluation (NIAD-UE), Japan

Prof. Colin Peiris
Board member (Co-opted)
Quality Assurance and Accreditation Council (QAAC)
Sri Lanka

Mr Vicheanon Khieu
Board member (Co-opted)
Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC)
Cambodia

Dr Jan Cameron
Board member (Co-opted)
New Zealand Universities Academic Audit Unit (NZUAAU)
New Zealand

Ms Zia Batool
Board member (Appointed)
Higher Education Commission (HEC)
Pakistan

Mutual Recognition: Promises and Pitfalls

Dr David Woodhouse, President of INQAAHE, opened the members only day with a presentation on mutual recognition (MR) by quality assurance agencies of each other's decisions and judgments. Many people and organisations have seen great potential benefit in MR, and hence have spent a good deal of time on trying to achieve it. This presentation traced some of the history of MR, described the few successes, speculated on why they have not often been replicated, and reflected on the purposes and potential beneficiaries of MR.

Examples of MR within one country show that MR is not necessarily smooth and easy, even where the different agencies are all working within the same culture, though they do offer ideas on how to make it work. They also show that MR is but one example of collaboration between QA agencies. It can lead to broader cooperation, or, conversely, broader cooperation can assist in providing the mutual confidence necessary for MR. The quality networks, such as INQAAHE and APQN can assist in providing a context and mechanism for such broader co-operation.

One vital factor that must be included in the consideration is the role of governments: two agencies can reach agreement, but government regulation might render the agreement ineffective. With increasing mobility of students, institutions, graduates and employers across national boundaries, and with most quality agencies being either nationally or sub-nationally based, consideration of the possibilities, difficulties, advantages and drawbacks of mutual recognition of the activities of quality agencies is important both regionally and globally.

Support for participation in the APQN 2011 Conference and AGM

The APQN Conference and the Annual General Meeting is a major event that provides an opportunity for members to update themselves on the latest trends in quality assurance and liaise with their colleagues in the region. To strengthen networking opportunities APQN usually provides some funding support to selected members from developing countries to assist in the traveling, accommodation and registration costs. This year, to spread the funding support to more members, the APQN Board decided that the monetary value of this support would not exceed USD $1250 per participant and that the funds would come from the APQN 2011 GIQAC budget for 'Liaison and Communication among APQN Members and Regional Networks'.

APQN opened the Expression of Interest for support on 9 February 2011 to all APQN members and had received 16 applications when acceptance of submissions closed. Dr Antony Stella (Chair of the Finance Committee) and Prof. Colin Peiris (APQN Board Member of the Finance Committee), reviewed the applications and made recommendations to the APQN Board. Other Finance Committee members, Ms Concepcion Pijano (President) and Prof. Li Yaogang (Secretary/Treasurer), were not involved in the decision making, to eliminate any conflict of interest, as they had submitted their own applications for support to attend the conference. The Board approved ten candidates and had one candidate on the waiting list. Six of the approved candidates, Ms Concepcion Pijano, Prof. Li Yaogang, Prof. Zhang Jianxin, Dr Bilegsaikhan Ganchimeg, Ms Zia Batool and Mr Fang Le were unable to obtain their visas in time, and therefore could not participate in the APQN 2011 Conference and AGM. As a result, APQN funding support was availed by the following five candidates, including the one who was on the waiting list.

Mr Vicheanon Khieu	Accreditation Committee of Cambodia
Dr Nurilya Shakhanova	National Accreditation Center, Kazakhstan
Dr Kushum Shakya	University Grants Commission, Nepal
Dr Lê Mỹ Phong	General Department of Educational Testing and Accreditation, Vietnam
Mrs Fepulea'i Sinapi Moli	Samoa Qualifications Authority, Samoa

Finance Committee 2011-2013

The Finance Committee advises the Board on financial and risk-related matters, reviews the end-of-year accounts, budget related matters, revises and updates the finance manual and considers strategies and proposals for external funding. It consists of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary/Treasurer, one member of APQN on the Board and one member of APQN not on the Board but appointed by the Board. The Vice President chairs the Committee.

uality Ne
TY A URANC
K TIONS
ssess

The APQN Board is pleased to welcome Mr Rob Fearnside, Deputy Executive Director of Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) to this committee as the non Board member. Dr Kauzo Okamoto, Member of the APQN Board has accepted the Board's invitation to join the Finance Committee.

APQN has a Finance Manual, an internal document that guides the working of the Finance Committee. In a step towards enhancing transparency, the Finance Committee is reviewing the Finance Manual to produce a public version of the document which will be made available to the members through the APQN website.

GIQAC Review Mission

The 2011 Annual Implementation Support and Review Mission of the Global Initiative for Quality Assurance Capacity (GIQAC) activities of APQN was held on 5 March 2011. It was conducted by Ms Zeynep Varoglu, Program Specialist, Division of Higher Education, UNESCO, on the implementation of the GIQAC activities for 2010. Dr Antony Stella, President of APQN and Dr Jagannath Patil, Vice President of APQN participated in the review mission.

The mission discussed the Results Framework that APQN had prepared to demonstrate how well it had achieved the targets of the GIQAC projects. The mission did not address financial management issues.

APQN has received the draft review report for comments. The draft report acknowledges that APQN continues to demonstrate that it has a clear sense of both the purpose and the development objectives of the grant. The review finds APQN's performance to be 'highly satisfactory' in areas such as Overall Project Objectives, Implementation Arrangements and Intermediate Indicators of the Results Framework. The rating is 'satisfactory' in General Record Keeping & Reporting and Procurement. The report acknowledges that APQN has made significant progress in ensuring financial security and sustainability through reducing costs, increasing membership fee income and seeking co-operation from funding bodies.

The OBSERVATORY
on borderless higher education

Hyatt Regency Vancouver, British Colombia, Canada, 25-27 May, 2011

The theme for the 2011 Global Forum, ***'Leveling the International Playing Field'***, will delve into a variety of critical topics that are transforming borderless higher education. These include: Global Regionalism; Private Partnerships; Student Mobility; Open & Distance Learning ; International Quality Assurance; and The Transnational Student Experience.
For more information, please visit

GIQAC Grants 2011

APQN has been a beneficiary of the Global Initiative for Quality Assurance Capacity (GIQAC) grants for the past few years and has maintained a strong program of information sharing and capacity building supported through staff exchanges and knowledge sharing activities. APQN has planned to use the 2011 funding of USD$130 000 for a number of projects. Brief information about the projects is given below.

1. APQN Website: Expansion and Maintenance

The website and its services including the databases within it are considered to be the backbone of APQN's capacity building efforts. APQN's goal is to greatly expand its Virtual Library.

2. Expansion of the Database

APQN intends to expand the existing database of reviewers and consultants in collaboration with INQAAHE and Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

3. The Moderated Online Discussion Forum

An important element in the expansion of APQN's website is to provide a platform for professional discussion and exchange of ideas among members. Building on its past successes with the implementation of online forums since April 2008, APQN intends to consolidate the discussions by developing a formal plan, including the preparation of modules and training materials. The consolidated forums will be open to members of other regional networks.

4. Internship Program

Building on the successful implementation of the 2008-2010 Internship Programs, other hosts and participant agencies will continue training staff from emerging quality assurance agencies to become acquainted with running a quality assurance agency. Participants will be exposed to QA procedures and good practices through interaction, hands-on activities and meetings with the host agency. Representatives from five countries will be invited to join the intensive 10-day training and exchange program.

5. Mutual Recognition Project

One of the purposes of APQN is 'to facilitate links between quality assurance agencies and acceptance of each other's decisions and judgments'. Using the GIQAC additional funding available for a short period, during September-November 2010, APQN has made a beginning in the discussion on MR. Four APQN members, AUQA (Australia), MQA (Malaysia), NAAC (India) and NZUAA (New Zealand) worked on mapping out the policies, practices and outcomes of their QA processes and discussed the guidelines for the observations of each other's QA exercise. In 2011, the project aims to build on the discussions of 2010 and organise observation visits among the project members. As the visits happen the outcomes will be discussed and fine-tuned for the next visit. After every observation visit, a teleconference will be organised to share experiences. A mid-term meeting will be convened after three or four observations. After all the observation visits are conducted a final meeting will be held to finalise the report and the next stages.

6. Workshop on Good Practices Quality Assurance

This workshop will be conducted in cooperation with INQAAHE which administers a database of good practices in quality assurance (GPQA). Only members of the networks will be invited to attend the workshop. All attendees will be required to submit in writing at least two potential good practices, prior to the event. Practices which are found by the participants to be transferable to other QA bodies will be presented in plenary to ensure an immediate sharing in the larger group. These practices will then be submitted for review to INQAAHE and if approved will be uploaded in their website.

GIQAC Grants 2011

7. Round Table Discussion for the 2008 Batch of Interns

A workshop will be designed to draw on the experience of the first set of GIQAC interns (Batch 2008) and will track the progress they have made in the last two years. The workshop will give them the opportunity to reflect on the lessons they have learned and applied in their home countries as a result of the internship program. The discussions will revolve on the capacity gained and seek to capture the good practices they have implemented in their home countries. A publication on the lessons of experience gained through the internship program will be the output of this workshop.

8. Capacity Building for the Pacific Nations

A regional workshop for the Pacific nations is being planned to build capacity in quality assurance and promote qualification recognition between countries in the region. During the workshop, the Pacific nations will discuss their own unique set of issues and explore collaborative solutions to address their QA needs. The workshop will focus on how to overcome resource limitations through collaboration and cooperation. Two international experts will be invited to facilitate the discussions and utilize the study on Regional and Multi-state Solutions for Small States commissioned by UNESCO in 2009.

9. Peer Review of QA Agencies

The project aims to add value to the work of the QA agencies by introducing a more rigorous process for quality assurance of their activities. APQN will offer its members a review of the QA agency’s practices against APQN membership criteria, the Chiba principles and the INQAAHE Guidelines of Good Practice. A light touch approach would be applied where members will not be required to prepare a separate self evaluation report. Instead, the review will be based on existing information and materials available with the QA agency. The review will be done by a small team of reviewers and the report will be used for enhancement purposes and will add to the credibility and accountability of the member agency. The reviewers will be either full or intermediate members of APQN. Their direct costs will be covered by the GIQAC grant but there will be no fee in line with a reciprocal peer review approach.

10. Liaison and Communication Among APQN Members and Regional Networks

The APQN conference is a major event that provides a platform for the members to meet and share good practices. Financial support for travel and accommodation would be a valuable contribution to the APQN members. APQN also sees great value for the regional networks to cooperate and to communicate at the strategic levels to align their projects to avoid duplication. Funds under this area will be used to facilitate these networking opportunities.

The Board is involved in the preparatory work for these projects. Expression of Interest to benefit from these projects will be announced when the GIQAC funds are received. To monitor the projects, the Board has established a GIQAC Management Committee. Directors of the APQN Board Dr Jan Cameron and Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi will join the three office bearers to form this committee. More project updates will be provided on the APQN website and in the next issue of APQNews.

GIQAC Project Updates

The GIQAC funds for 2011 are yet to be received. But the allocation of USD$130 000 has been confirmed. Some projects that were initiated in 2010 and are progressing to the next phase in 2011 have seen some developments. Others will be initiated soon.

Mutual Recognition

The APQN 2011 Conference provided the opportunity for the Mutual Recognition Project Group to hold its second meeting in Bangalore, India. The project team comprising of Dr Jan Cameron from the NZUAAU, Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi from MQA, Dr Antony Stella from AUQA and Dr Shyamasundar from NAAC discussed the comparison of quality assurance frameworks across the four participating agencies.

The Conference also provided opportunity for discussion with staff of other agencies in the region, in particular about the relative priority given to institutional assessment versus program assessment as the focus for the project. Dr Jan Cameron and Prof. Zita Fahmi facilitated a workshop on mutual recognition for the APQN members. While a number of workshop participants espoused the view that program assessment is more critical for qualification portability, many also recognised that confidence in program quality is predicated on institutional recognition and that institutional assessment should therefore come first.

QUALITY ASSU
EXPECTAT
ona
apqn
Asia-Pacific Quality Network

Project members have planned the next steps in the project, which involve each project member observing the institutional audit of one or two of the other agencies. The objective is to determine whether the audit/assessment process observed provides confidence that the observer agency can accept the integrity of the conclusions reached by the observed agency. The first observation visits will be in June when NAAC will observe an NZUAAU audit during mid-June and MQA will observe an AUQA audit around the same time.

Liaison and Communication Among APQN Members and Regional Networks

From the GIQAC funds for 2011, support has been extended to two activities during the first quarter of the year 2011.

1. Partial support for participation in the 2011 Conference for five QA professionals from eligible countries. Details are provided on page 5.
2. Travel costs for the nominees to attend the Training of Trainers Workshop organised by IIEP and UNESCO during 17-19 March 2011.

UNESCO invited each QA network to nominate up to three participants for the training of trainers workshop. UNESCO provided DSA at Standard UN Rates for up to 3 days. APQN provided its nominees with financial support for their travel from the APQN 2011 GIQAC budget. APQN Finance Committee recommended the following allocation of support with the participants funding other costs: Prof. Colin Peiris: USD$1000.00, Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi: USD$1000.00, Dr Jagannath Patil: USD$800.00. Details are provided on page 10.

Capacity Building for the Pacific Nations

APQN is working with the Secretariat of the Pacific Board for Educational Assessment (SPBEA) to organize a workshop for the pacific countries.

Training the Trainers Workshop

The International Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (IIEP) and UNESCO's Section for Higher Education jointly organised a Training of Trainers Workshop on ***Designing a Distance Education Course on External Quality Assurance*** during 17-19 March 2011. The Workshop was held at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris.

The Workshop was run by Ms Michaela Martin and colleagues from IIEP who had prepared five training modules on external quality assurance. The workshop aimed at strengthening the capacities of the participants to organise a distance education course on external quality assurance.

APQN was represented by Dr Jagannath Patil (National Assessment and Accreditation Council, India), Vice President of APQN and Prof. Zita Mohd Fahmi (Malaysian Qualifications Agency, Malaysia), Member of the APQN Board. Both of them have contributed to the APQN project on the development of training materials for quality assurance personnel led by Prof. Colin Peiris (Quality Assurance Council, Sri Lanka).

Participants included some 20 representatives from seven international and regional quality assurance networks besides APQN such as the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), the Arab Network for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ANQAHE), the Caribbean Area Network for Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education (CANQATE), the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and the European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education (ECA), and the Ibero-American Network for Higher Education Accreditation (RIACES).

The event afforded an opportunity to quality assurance professionals to share knowledge on how to contextualise and prepare a regionally relevant course on quality assurance. Workshop participants discussed the different steps, options, and useful tools involved in organising a distance training course. APQN proposes to use the IIEP materials to enrich its own training programs and online forums.

Initiatives to Support Institutional Members

APQN introduced a new membership category- Institutional membership – in 2008. Higher education institutions with standing in relevant QA agencies in the Asia-Pacific region are eligible. Currently APQN has 28 institutional members from 10 countries.

To address the needs of these members APQN is considering a number of initiatives including:

Country/ territory	Institutional Membership	Country/ territory	Institutional Membership
Bangladesh	2	Malaysia	1
Cambodia	1	Mongolia	3
Fiji	1	Pakistan	13
Iran	1	Sri Lanka	1
Macau, China	1	Vietnam	4

- Internships for institutional QA representatives with a QA agency in another country,
- Support to attend APQN related conferences, workshops and training programs, and
- Online Forums on topics related to QA.

A working group is developing an action plan with targets and timelines. More information will be made available soon. Institutional members who are interested in contributing to the work of this group can contact Ms Zia Batool at zbatool@hec.gov.pk.

Institutions interested in membership can contact Mr Fang Le, APQN Administrator at fangle666@gmail.com.

Quality Assurance of Transnational Higher Education: The Experiences of Australia and India

The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA), the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) and the Australian Education International (AEI) are pleased to announce the launch of the joint publication, ***Quality Assurance of Transnational Higher Education: The Experiences of Australia and India.***

The book has been written/authored by eminent academics and policy makers of Australia and India, and edited by Dr Antony Stella from AUQA and Professor Sudhanshu Bhushan from NUEPA.

Quality Assurance of Transnational Higher Education
The Experiences of Australia and India
Editors
Antony Stella
Sudhanshu Bhushan

It covers areas specific to the trends, emerging challenges and opportunities related to quality assurance of higher education when education crosses national borders. Study of this area will be of benefit to both Australia and India since both countries have become exporters as well as importers of varying degrees and the quality assurance arrangements in the countries are undergoing changes with specific attention to monitoring transnational education.

The Secretary of the Ministry for Human Resource Development, Smt. Vibha Puri Das, inaugurated the publication at Teen Murthi Nehru Museum and Library, New Delhi, on 26 February 2011 followed by a panel discussion on Transnational Education presenting the views from Australia and India. The book was introduced in Australia on 13 April 2011 when a delegation of Indian policy makers and administrators visited Australia. Further activities are being planned to disseminate the lessons of experience in both countries.

Forum on Capacity Building of External Quality Assurance Agencies

The Chinese Association for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CAQAA) organized a forum on ***Capacity Building of External Quality Assurance Agencies*** during 24-26 March, 2011in Tengchong County, Yunnan Province of China. Forty one representatives from 13 external quality assurance agencies attended the forum, including the National Higher Education Evaluation Center of China, Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute and Yunnan Higher Education Evaluation Center, all members of (APQN).

Prof. Li Yaogang, Secretary/Treasurer of APQN was invited to deliver the keynote speech on the capacity building activities of APQN. His speech has triggered further interest in the network with a number of representatives requesting information regarding membership.

apqn
ASIA-PACIFIC QUALITY NETWORK
Dissolving Boundaries for a Quality Region

Newsletter Design
Ms Christine Ashton
AUQA Administrator

Newsletter Support
Mr Fang Le
APQN Administrator