

NVAO-ECA Seminar “Employability and Quality Assurance” and ECA Meetings

Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 December 2014

Venue: NVAO offices, Parkstraat 28, The Hague, The Netherlands

Employability and quality assurance is a topic of continued interest throughout Europe. It features prominently in the latest European Commission’s progress report on quality assurance (QA). Whilst employability is relevant for all types of higher education institutions (HEIs), it is especially important for those institutions and study programmes that are dedicated to professional education.

On 9th December 2014 NVAO and ECA will organise a seminar where the results of a recent study by CHEPS (the Center for Higher Education Policy Studies, University of Twente) will be presented. This international comparative study was commissioned by NVAO and focuses on the employability of professional bachelors’ study programmes. The seminar will also pay attention to the agenda on employability and QA as proposed by the European Commission. In parallel sessions and in a panel of stakeholders good practices will be presented and recommendations discussed.

The seminar will be relevant for representatives of HEIs, QA agencies, employers, governments, and students who want to be informed on the development of employability-related practices in HEIs and the use of effective criteria and procedures in QA.

Tuesday 9 December

09.00 – 10.45 h ECA Board meeting

NVAO-ECA Seminar “Employability and Quality Assurance”

Chair: Lucien Bollaert, Executive Board Member of NVAO and Board Member of ECA

- 10.30 – 11.00 Registration
- 11.00 – 11.15 Welcome addresses
- *Ann Demeulemeester, Vice-Chair of NVAO*
 - *Lucien Bollaert*
 - *Rafael van Grieken, Director of ANECA (Spain) and Chair of ECA*
- 11.15 – 11.40 Employability and quality assurance: the view of the European Commission
Margaret Waters, Deputy Head of Unit – Higher Education and Erasmus, European Commission
- 11.40 – 12.25 Presentation of CHEPS study “Employability of professional bachelors from an international perspective”
- *Don Westerheijden and Renze Kolster, CHEPS, University of Twente*
- 12.25 – 12.30 Introduction to the themes of the afternoon parallel sessions
- *Lucien Bollaert*
- 12.30 – 13.30 Lunch
- 13.30 – 14.30 Themes (parallel sessions)
- Professional competences
 - *Presentation by Colm O’Doherty, Institute of Technology Tralee (Ireland)*
 - *Chaired by Ann Demeulemeester*
 - Involvement of professional field
 - *Presentation by Mieke Beckers, Odisee (Belgium)*
 - *Presentation by Alfons Noe, Fachhochschule Südwestfalen – Soest (Germany)*
 - *Chaired by René-Paul Martin, CTI (France) and Vice-Chair of ECA*
 - The position of employability in external quality assurance
 - *Presentation by David Metz and Kirstine Westh Larsen, The Danish Accreditation Institution*
 - *Presentation by Paul van Roon, employers representative, Board Member of NVAO*
 - *Chaired by Jürgen Petersen, ZEvA (Germany) and Board Member of ECA*
- 14.30 – 14.50 Break
- 14.50 – 15.45 Panel discussion
- *Johan Cloet, European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE)*
 - *Margaret Waters, European Commission*
 - *Tijana Isoski, European Students’ Union (ESU)*
 - *Paul van Roon, employers representative, Board Member of NVAO*
 - *Moderated by Rafael van Grieken*
- 15.45 – 16.00 Conclusions and farewell
- *Lucien Bollaert*
 - *Rafael van Grieken*
 - *Ann Demeulemeester*

16.00 – 17.00

Reception

18.30 h

ECA members meet in the lobby of Park Hotel to go to the restaurant

19.00 – 21.30

ECA dinner at restaurant La Passione, Noordeinde 196, 2514 GS, The Hague



ECA Meetings

Wednesday 10 December

09.00 – 09.30 h

Update on CeQulnt project

09.30 – 10.30

General Meeting

10.30 – 10.45

Break

10.45 – 13.00

Working Group meetings

- Working Group 1
- Working Group 2
- Working Group 4

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch