eca — The European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education

ECA MEMBER'S SEMINAR

Malta, 3 June 2024

Draft Programme

HOST

MFHEA, Malta Further and Higher Education Authority

LOCATION

Malta

SEMINAR VENUE

Urban Valley Resort & Spa
Triq Wied Ghollieqa, Kappara SGN4437 Malta
https://urbanvalleyresort.com

PRE-EVENT PROGRAMME

SUNDAY, 2 June 2024

18.30	**ECA Board Meeting with dinner**

ECA MEMBER'S SEMINAR

MONDAY, 3 June 2024

10.00 – 10.15	**Registration of the participants**
10:15 – 10.30	**Welcome address:** dr. Eva Fernandez de Labastida, Chair of ECA dr Cuschieri Rose Anne, Chief Executive Officer of the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority

![eca logo] The European Consortium for
Accreditation in Higher Education

SESSION 1: Lecture and discussion.

10.30 – 12.00	*The Silent Takeover: AI's Dramatic Role in Redefining Academic Norms*
	Prof. Alexei Dingli, Faculty of ICT at the University of Malta
	In an age where Artificial Intelligence (AI) weaves into every aspect of our lives, its influence in higher education ushers a transformative age. The talk delves into AI's unseen yet profound impact on academic frameworks. It explores how AI is not just a tool but a catalyst for redefining educational models, challenging traditional pedagogies, and reshaping the learning and teaching landscape. It scrutinizes the balance between preserving academic integrity and embracing innovative methodologies in the face of AI's inevitable advance. Participants will gain insights into how AI moulds student experiences, enhances personalized learning, and demands new skills from educators. This discussion goes beyond the surface, exploring the subtle implications of AI in academia, its potential in external quality assurance, and the critical need to preserve foundational academic values amidst rapid change.

Chair: Giacomo Anesse, MFHEA

12.00 – 12.15	**Break**

SESSION 2: Lecture and discussion.

12.15 – 13.15	*Application of a supervised AI algorithm in the assessment of the quality of higher education: results and implications*
	Núria Mancho-Fora, PhD, Data Analyst at AQU Catalunya
	In recent years, AI has had a significant impact on various professional sectors, yet its application in external quality assurance remains largely unexplored. As our institution progresses from program to institutional accreditation, we aimed to investigate the viability of employing AI algorithms to predict at-risk programs. The vast array of indicators available for quality assessment in higher education can be overwhelming, potentially leading to Key Performance Indicator (KPI) overload and hindering organizational progress. This study has allowed us not only to identify at-risk programs but also to reassess our current assessment indicators.

Chair:
Klemen Šubic, Board member of ECA

13.15 – 14.00   **LIGHT LUNCH**

SESSION 3: Working groups.

14.00 – 15.30   **Working Groups Meeting**

Chairs:
Eva Fernandez de Labastida, Chair of ECA
Ronny Heintze, Board member of ECA

SESSION 4: General Assembly.

15.30 – 16.15   **General Assembly**

Chair:
Eva Fernandez de Labastida, Chair of ECA

SESSION 5: Wrap up and discussion.

16.15 – 16.30   **Wrap-up**

Chair:
Eva Fernandez de Labastida, Chair of ECA

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

17.00

The classic walking tour will take you on a journey through the heart of the city of Valletta, visiting the main sites and landmarks. Some of the highlights include New City Gate, The Parliament Building, The Auberges, Upper Barrakka Gardens, The main churches, Republic Square, St. George's Square. This tour will allow you to immerse yourself in the rich history and architecture of the city, providing a well-rounded introduction to the most significant sights and attractions.

DINNER

19.00   Cockney's Valletta Restaurant, Triq Marsamxett, Valletta