



The Role of Students in the QA System in Kazakhstan: IAAR Experience

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IAAR International Recognition

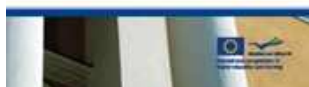


Full membership of IAAR in ENQA in 2016





Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance
in the European Higher Education Area



ESG 2005

ESG
2015



Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance
in the European Higher Education Area

ESG 2015

1.3 Student-centred learning, teaching and assessment

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Independent agency for
accreditation and rating

Student Involvement and Challenges



- From the first site visits:
 - 1 student in Experts Panel
 - 1 student in IAAR Accreditation Council
- Main challenges in Kazakhstan:
 - Lack of active student unions for cooperation (For example, as ESU)
 - There is some activities of Republican student movement "Students Alliance of Kazakhstan"
 - Lack of consistent workshops for students





Forms of students' involvement in QA:

- 1) Training Seminars for Students
- 2) Selection and inclusion of students into the Experts Panel
- 3) Student participation in the collegial bodies of the IAAR
- 4) Poll for student feedback
- 5) Involvement of the students to elaboration of the Standards and other normative documents

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Training Seminars for Students

- **At seminars students learn:**
 - A procedure of independent accreditation
 - IAAR Standards on institutional and programme accreditation
 - The role of the student in the Expert Panel
 - Methods for conducting interviews, assessing the material and technical base, forming the final report.



Students in Expert Panel

The selection criteria are as follows:

- IAAR training seminar;
- knowledge of the legal framework in higher education;
- knowledge of the main provisions of the Bologna Process;
- non-affiliation with the educational organization.

The student expert should possess the following qualities:

- to be a university student of senior courses / MA / PhD student;
- to have knowledge of the program being evaluated;
- to have analytical skills;
- to have communication skills;
- to take an active part in the life of HEI;

✓ **Prior to the visit:**

- to get acquainted with the self-assessment report;

✓ **During the visit:**

- to conduct a conversation with the faculty and students;
- to attend various types of classes (according to the Visiting Program);
- to survey educational premises (in agreement with the Chairman of the EEP);
- to request additional information necessary for the analysis of the students' satisfaction;
- to participate in the preparation of the review report (formulate recommendations);

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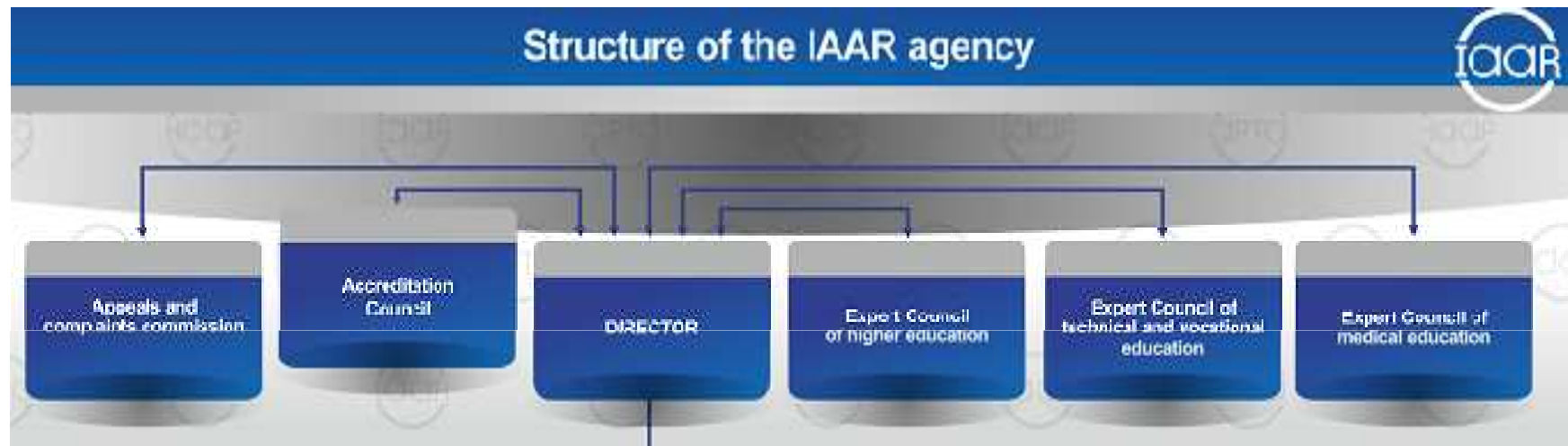
✓ **A student expert may evaluate in the following areas:**

- infrastructure of the HEI;
- accessibility of information about the faculty, externship bases, educational process;
- conditions created for students' mobility;
- exchange and expression of students' opinions;
- the availability of support services;
- support for students in employment;
- encouraging students to self-development.



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Students in Collegial Bodies of the IAAR



- **Accreditation Council (takes official decision on accreditation):**
 - **1 student representative – PhD student, active member of the students association of the HEI**
 - **He/she has same writes as other Council members**



- ✓ **Accreditation Council members were recommended by:**
- The National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic Kazakhstan "Atameken";
 - Kazakhstan HEI Association;
 - National Medical Association of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
 - The Bologna Process and Academic Mobility Center;
 - student organizations.

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Other Forms of the Students Involvement

- **Feedback system for Internal QA System**
- **An anonymous survey of students of accrediting programmes during the site-visit**
- **In the future:**
 - **Elaboration of the Quality Standards**
 - **Involving to the QA Projects**

ENQA Review Panel Recommendations

- The number of the students in the Panel increased: now students attracted to each cluster of homogeneous programs
- The number of the students representative in the Council increased up to 3 students





Conclusion



All this testifies that the role of the student in the procedures of external QA in Kazakhstan are increasing.

There is need for further development of the Republican student movement "Students Alliance of Kazakhstan".

In our opinion Alliance should become a full-fledged partner to:

- **Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan**
- **Kazakhstan HEI Association**
- **Kazakh QA Agencies**

Thank you for your attention!

