

# **Quality and Accreditation in European Higher Education: Friends or Enemies?**

## **Track 3 How to get accredited?**

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# Session I

## Fundamental Issues in the Accreditation of Higher Education

Number of participants: 13

Issues (listed according to their popular vote):

1. **Use of accreditation results (7)**
2. **Governance in institutions: Who looks after the process? (5)**
3. **Evaluation of teaching/learning process (5)**
4. **Acceptance of accreditation by institutions (4)**
5. **Requirement level in accreditation criteria (3)**
6. **Who will perform the accreditation? (3)**
7. **Preserving diversity of programmes (3)**
8. **Measurement of increments in knowledge (1)**
9. **Infrastructure (1)**

# Session I

## Fundamental Issues in the Accreditation of Higher Education

- **Use of accreditation results**
  - The absence of regulations on their use creates ambiguity
  - They may be used as a tool for getting financial support
  - They may be used as a tool/input for quality improvement
  - Outputs of accreditation drives only a minimum level of quality
  - Minimum requirements are very important in the implementation of these results

# Session I

## Fundamental Issues in the Accreditation of Higher Education

- **Governance in institutions: Who looks after the process?**
  - Additional staff may be needed for conducting the improvement process
  - Networking & collaboration for experience sharing must be established
  - Mind change in the university staff is needed
  - Reluctance for change must be overcome
  - Strong leadership is needed
  - Carrot or stick! – Incentives must be introduced
  - Problem of lifelong employment (tenureship) is a serious obstacle

# Session I

## Fundamental Issues in the Accreditation of Higher Education

- **Teaching/Learning Process**
  - Need for criteria linked to teaching/learning environment
  - Training university educators on teaching skills
  - Existing appointment and promotion processes of professors ignoring their training abilities
  - How to teach less but learn more?
  - Active learning

# **Session II**

## **Challenging Issues in the Proposed EUR-ACE Standards and Procedures**

**Number of participants: 9**

### **Issues:**

- 1. Preserving and promoting the diversity of programmes**
- 2. Extension of criteria for the 1st cycle programmes to the 2nd cycle programmes**
- 3. Designing/redesigning programmes to assure meeting accreditation criteria**
- 4. Positive aspects of the absence of discipline specific requirements in criteria**
- 5. How to provide flexibility for additional outcomes to support programme specific educational objectives?**