



Not-For-Profit Private Institutions: QIP Models

Sabah A. Jassim

University of Buckingham - UK

- ***Why QIP?***

Quality Assurance :=

PROCESS, PROCESS, AND PROCESS

Prof. Ramzi Mahmood

- ***Why discuss different QIP Models?***

Share & Learn from GOOD PRACTICES

STATE Vs PRIVATE Institutions

- **State universities are created and funded by the state with it comes control and loss of independent.**
- **Private universities are either**
 - **For Profit**
 - **NOT- For-Profit (NFP) – A charity but Charge fees**
- **Technically All UK *state* universities are private but contracted by the state to provide training for UG/PG degrees**
- **All US Ivy league universities are NFPs**

Financing of Iraqi HE and Quality Implications

- HE in Iraq is dominated by state funded Institutions but the private sector is growing fast and mostly are **For-Profit**.
- State universities are “centrally” funded and are meant to be subject to QA process. (**But the process is at early stages**).
- In state universities: budget allocation is > 50% for salaries, next biggest % is on infrastructure, but fund allocation for research is minimal. (**How long the state can play this role?**)
- Private universities are meant to be regulated but little is known about their finances or QA process. **Is this healthy?**

Provision of QA in private NFP UK Universities

- In the past, private universities **were not obliged** to adhere to the state QA process.
- However, NFP universities (e.g. Buckingham) volunteered to be scrutinised by the UK QAA periodically.
- The introduction of Tier 4 student visa system (sponsored only by “Highly Trusted Universities” is forcing the For-Profit private universities to submit to QAA scrutiny.
- A full QAA institutional review is conducted every 5 years, but at in between QAA responds to public concerns.

The UK QAA – Guides and Codes of Practices

- Until the mid Nineties (when the binary divide was removed) UK universities had an internal cross-sector scrutiny.
- The QAA was established in the mid-Nineties because of change of state funding of HE.
- QAA codes of practices have evolved significantly since then. Changes reflect the evolution of HE as a result of advances in Technology and changes to funding schemes.
(Hence: **Ramzi Mahmood's Theory is proven correct//**)
- Recently, QAA has gone through new intensive review and new process is in consultation state.

Evolution of QA in NFP universities

- *NFP universities **MUST ASPIRE** to have distinguished degrees and compete with **Russel Group Universities**.*
- *Need to submit to QAA scrutiny and be seen to be “**more Royal than the ROYALS**”*
- *Quality Assurance is assessed by **semi-autonomous agencies** (QAA in the UK, AACU in the US).*
- *Success is heavily dependent on:*
 - *Dedicated staff who believe in QAA – **Work ETHICS***
 - *Teaching and Learning strategy are **STUDENT CENTERED***
 - *Leaders & Champions (**Training & Staff development process**)*

How to develop a relevant QIP?

➤ Frequent monitoring & review of programs and modules in light of rapid changing of technology and job market .

A fixed item on school Boards & Senate meetings.

➤ Benchmarking of programs with Learned Societies, other universities, and Consulting External bodies.

e.g. in Computing follow the BCS Benchmark.

➤ Student performance and progression trends.

➤ Student feedback and participation of students.

➤ Feedback by EE's and Academic advisory boards.

➤ In short:

MONITORING + REVIEWS + BENCHMARKING = QIP

QIP – Focus Issues

- Annual Programs and modules Review (**Internal Univ.**)
- Graduate Employability (**External Stats + Alumni Info.**)
- Stakeholder Satisfaction (**Consultation with Industrial advisors, University of the year + # KTP grants**)
- Ratio of 1st class and 2:1 graduates (**Aim for 50%+**)
- National Student satisfaction (**Top of the NSS**)
- Research-led teaching (**EE review of Final year projects,**)

Thank you
Any Questions?