Greetings from everyone at AICE.

It has been half of one year since the first edition of the AICE Standard. I hope the readership has found my commentary and the contents useful. Contributing to the newsletter has, for me, been a rewarding professional development opportunity. With that, I’d like to reflect on engaging in professional development in the credential evaluation profession.

As new credential evaluators, navigating the profession of international education can be a daunting task. There are a myriad of professional conferences, websites, listservs, and local, regional, and national membership organizations, to name a few. Most rely on member contribution for their existence. An evaluator’s professional development path may therefore take many different directions. I have been privileged to have the opportunity to present at conferences, publish my work, and serve on committees of professional organizations. However, I would be remiss if these opportunities came to me on their own. I have learned early on that if you want something, you have to take action to get it.

The diversity of organizations and entities seeking professional involvement is significant. While calls for proposals, invitations to training programs, and applications for volunteer positions arrive in your inbox, this is not the limit to what is available. Much can be gained from developing a network of other professionals and seeking their advice. Even in the absence of a professional network, reaching out directly to leaders with an introduction is a strategy I employed, and advocate to others.

Of course, the above is not the easiest task for the credential evaluator. However, the rewards are worth the effort. Being recognized as an expert and a leader by others requires your expertise and leadership to be shown. As such, I urge everyone to take the first step,
and get involved with the next available invitation that appeals to you. It is an important way to become known not as an “employee” but as a “professional.”

Sincerely,
Aleks Morawski
Director of Evaluation Services
Foreign Credits Inc.

AICE Symposium Planning Committee Invitation

Preparation is already under way for the next annual AICE symposium, which will take place April 4-5 in Minneapolis, MN following AACRAO’s annual meeting. The Symposium Planning Committee is currently recruiting volunteers to assist with putting together this important event. This is a great opportunity to get involved in planning and organizing activities, communicating and networking with your peers, sharpening your organizational skills and engaging in meaningful discussions on credential evaluation topics.

Joining AICE’s Symposium Planning Committee is a wonderful opportunity for professional development. It can be rewarding, both personally and professionally, and can be a lot of fun along the way. All Committee members will get a Certificate of Appreciation from AICE and will qualify for discounted registration rates to the Symposium.

Please consider joining us in this important process: make your voice heard, and make the event your own! Contact Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert at jasmin@acei-global.org to volunteer for AICE’s Symposium Planning Committee.

AICE® Forum Highlights

This section includes highlights from the monthly AICE® Forum in June 2016. Although this is meant to serve as a synopsis of the discussion, additional details can be obtained by contacting the Members listed by each topic.
Caribbean Community – Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC)

How are CAPE qualifications treated among US higher education institutions? - Most institutions recommend post-secondary transfer credit for each exam with sufficient grades, usually 4 or higher. Similar in nature to British A-level examinations.

~Aleks Morawski

Mexico - Universidad Internacional Iberoamericana, sponsored by the Fundacion Universitaria Iberoamericana (FUNIBER)

This is a country where program accreditation supersedes institutional recognition, then it does not matter if the institution itself is recognized as long as the program is accredited. The program in this case is clearly accredited. The critical thing here also is the date the program became accredited and the corresponding dates of studies.

To access information regarding RVOE of HEI's in Mexico, click here. (When on this site best to search by using capital letters only and do not use accent marks.)

~Carolyn Christie, Beth Cotter, Barbara Glave
United Kingdom - AQA Examinations & Oxford University Press

AQA & Oxford University Press (a dept. of the University of Oxford) have formed the new Oxford International AQA Examinations Qualifications. A new suite of International A-levels and GCSEs in English, Maths and Science will be offered solely for the overseas international schools market. UK-NARIC has evaluated these new AQA qualifications and deemed them comparable to A-levels and GCSEs accredited by the UK examinations regulator, Ofqual. www.oxfordawaexams.org.uk

Oxford International AQA Exams have launched their international GCSEs, AS and A-levels in the Middle East ready for first teaching in September 2016. The international AS and A-levels will be offered initially in the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, English Language, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics.

AS/A-levels will be modular, with the AS contributing the A-level and also available as standalone qualifications.

Assessment of International AS & A-levels:

AS-levels will be graded on an A-E scale
A-level will be graded on an A*-E scale

Assessment of International GCSEs:

9 – 1 grading system

~Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert

Publications

AACRAO has a new publication: The AACRAO International Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals. Beth Cotter and Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert (Endorsed Members of AICE) contributed to this publication (sections on Outsourcing Foreign Credential Evaluations: History and Implementation and Diploma Mills and Fake Degree). You may order this publication online or by post. Click Here.
Professional Development and Events

It’s not too early to start thinking about the 2017 AICE Symposium, April 5-6, 2017 in Minneapolis, MN. This year’s theme is “Setting the Standard for Graduate Admissions: Three-year degrees and other admissions dilemmas” Stay tuned for more information.

Blogs

ACEI hosts “Academic Exchange,” a blog on education-related topics: Visit Blog!
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MEMBERSHIP

Interested in becoming a member of AICE? Please visit our website at www.aice-eval.org and learn about our membership categories and contact us at info@aice-eval.org with any questions you may have.