



Association of International
Credential Evaluators, Inc.®
Setting the standard for credentials evaluation



AICE Newsletter

May 2016

Message from the Editor:

Greetings from everyone at AICE.

In the Spring of each year, many international educators anticipate attending the upcoming NAFSA annual conference, which takes place over the week of Memorial Day in the United States. NAFSA is the largest professional development event for international educators in the US, and many AICE members will be attending, presenting sessions, and training, as outlined in the Professional Development section later in this issue. However, many of us do not have the opportunity to attend a national conference. With that, I'd like to take the opportunity to highlight the many other ways to engage with our profession locally, regionally, and electronically.

Many US cities have local international educator networks which meet on a regular basis during the academic year. I attend one in Chicago on a regular basis, and find it worthwhile and meaningful. However, if your city does not have such a network, focus on your institution – your colleagues in admissions, study abroad, or ISSS, and even the EFL program or academic departments. Collegial collaboration can not only serve to grow your professional network, but most likely will make your job on campus easier.

Beyond the local level, there are NAFSA regional conferences in the fall, and state-wide conferences in the spring. Of course, there are many other, perhaps more specialized organizations which provide professional development opportunities for international educators, such as AACRAO, NAGAP, OACAC, etc. Instead of describing each, I'd like to close by highlighting 'armchair' professional development (borrowing this term from recruiters). The AICE Credential Forum is a monthly opportunity for Endorsed and Affiliate members and guests to discuss credential evaluation issues such as those described in the highlights below. Beyond AICE, there are numerous electronic message boards, webinars, and online venues to connect. In the spirit of networking, I invite everyone to ask a colleague or contact an AICE member, or myself, for our suggestions of the above.

Finally, I welcome your submissions and suggestions to make this newsletter a resource as well as a professional development tool.

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

AICE® Forum Highlights

This section includes highlights from the monthly AICE® Forum in April, 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.



India – Jamia Peer Mohammed University

The status of regional academic accreditation of the above institution is questioned. The institution defines itself as a “Distance Learning” institution, and confirms its programs as being non-UGC (University Grants Commission) programs, but to being widely used in the public and

private sector in India, as well as in multi-national companies for professional training.

AICE Consensus:

Even though the institution offers a sophisticated online verification system of its credentials, the member consensus is that, by lacking University Grants Commission approval, this institution lacks the equivalent of regional academic accreditation in India.

~ Beth Cotter

Ukraine – Inter-regional Academy of Personnel Management



The Ukrainian system of higher education was one of the more transparent of the former Soviet republics. However, recent changes in online resources and as well as continuing turmoil with Russia make accessing some information more difficult. It was confirmed by several sources that the institution in question had its recognition rescinded in 2006. However, the credentials in question were issued in 2006. As such, it is not clear if the qualifications are coming from an unaccredited institution. Several requests were made for documents stamped or sealed by the ministry of education, as they are expected to be. However, the applicant was unable to produce them, instead supplying documents which match the state format, but only have seals of the institution.

AICE Consensus:

It was determined that the institution lacks regional academic accreditation in Ukraine at the time the credentials were awarded.

~Aleks Morawski



Canada – Ontario: Transfer Credit from Colleges to Universities

ONCAT: Ontario Council on Articulation and Transfer (ONCAT) was announced by the provincial Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities in 2011. An area of focus is occupational transfer versus traditional transfer, not unlike transfer

from an Associate of Applied Science at a community college in the US. In Ontario, transferring credit between public colleges and public universities has been difficult, typically resulting in general education as the only transferable coursework. Since 2011, ONCAT was created as a provincial transfer framework and clear pathways for transferring students were created.

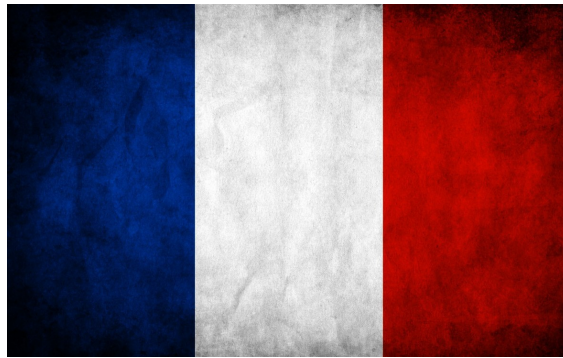
AICE Consensus:

Forum participants agree that ONCAT is a valuable tool for evaluators in determining credit equivalencies.

~ Barbara Glave

University Mergers – France

News was shared of the merger of two elite universities in Paris – Sorbonne and Pierre and Marie Curie, as of January 1, 2018. France’s higher education system has gone through periods of centralization and decentralization, but remains a public system at its core. Consolidation of universities serves to make the country’s higher education more competitive in the global context by making program offerings more easily accessible to students and evaluators alike.



~ Jasmin Said-Kuehnert



Peru – Non-university Intermediate Post-Secondary Credentials

Sample documents from Peru were shared to demonstrate when a credential confirms the award of a degree/diploma, or just that of completion of a course of study. In the case of the sample Peruvian documents, the credential bearing the

Ministry of Education’s name and government seal as well as citation “in the name of the nation,” confirms the award of the actual Titulo/Diploma. This example echoes the importance of understanding the context of the terminology on academic credentials. The term “egresado”, which could indicate program completion in some Spanish-speaking countries, only means “exited” and does not indicate the issuance of an official title/credential.

~ Barbara Glave

Professional Development and Events

2017 AICE Symposium, April 5-6, 2017, Minneapolis, MN

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

NAFSA Annual Conference, May 29 – June 3, 2016, Denver, CO

<http://www.eventscribe.com/2016/nafsa/index.asp>

Sessions:

- "Diploma and Accreditation Mills" Wednesday, June 1, 10:00 AM (Jasmin Saidi Kuehnert, ACEI and Drew Feder, Credential Consultants Inc.)
- "Breaking in and Establishing Yourself in International Education Before a Master's Degree" Wednesday, June 1, 10:00 AM (Sonya Brauchle, Foreign Credits Inc.)
- "Fighting Back Against Misconduct in the Academic Stage" Wednesday June 1, 11:45 AM (Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert – ACEI and Education Testing Services [ETS])
- "Analysis and Discussion; How Translation May Impact Credential Evaluation" Thursday, June 2 2:00 PM (Barbara Glave, SDR Educational Consultants, Inc., Drew Feder, Credential Consultants Inc.)

Workshops:

- International Credential Evaluation: Understanding the Essentials" Monday, May 30, 8:00 AM (Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc.)
- "International Credential Evaluation: Post-Secondary-Level Credentials" Monday, May 30, 1 PM (Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc.)
- "International Credential Evaluation: Secondary-Level Credentials" Tuesday May 31, 8:00 AM (Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc.)

NAFSA Annual Conference Attendees

To connect with fellow AICE members attending the conference, do not hesitate to contact them directly:

- Sonya Brauchle, Foreign Credits, Inc. sbrauchle@foreigncredits.com
 - Carolyn Christie, Foreign Credential Evaluations, Inc. carolyn_christie@fceatlanta.com
 - Drew Feder, Credential Consultants, Inc. drew@credentialconsultants.com
 - Barbara Glave, SDR Educational Consultants, Inc. barbara@sdreducation.org
 - Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert, ACEI, Inc. jasmin@acei-global.org
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ACEI Webinar

The Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc. (ACEI), an Endorsed Member of AICE, is hosting the following FREE webinars:

Webinar: Solve Your International Credentialing Problems, Anytime, with GRADE

June 10, 2016, 10:00 AM PDT – 11:00 AM PDT

Hosted by: Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc.

Presenter: Drew Feder, Credential Consultants

For more information, please contact: ymoreno@acei-global.org

Blog

ACEI hosts "Academic Exchange," a blog on education-related topics:

<http://www.academicexchange.wordpress.com>

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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.

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