



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



AICE Newsletter

October 2016

Message from the Editor:

Greetings from everyone at AICE.

In this month's introduction, I would like to focus briefly on transnational education in the context of online program delivery. Earlier this month, I attended a webinar titled "Transnational Education: Growth at the Expense of Quality" co-hosted by University World News and DrEducation. The scope of the discussion focused on the combination of online learning and global engagement creating the phenomenon of global online learning. As many academic institutions place increased focus on developing online programs, the recognition of online learning, particularly in the global context, requires clarification.

Transnational education as a whole can be a nebulous process for credential evaluators, who need clear answers to sometimes unclear dilemmas as to the location of the teaching, the location of the issuing institution, where that institution was recognized or accredited, and where the records are kept, to name just a few. When faced with the concept of transnational education, these issues become much more difficult to resolve. Of particular interest in the aforementioned webinar was a description of the complete regulatory environment across the globe. For example, it was revealed that India does not recognize foreign distance learning courses, and Nigeria does not recognize degrees obtained online from institutions outside of the country. What is the standard of recognition of such programs in the United States?

As the academic environment continues turning to technology to facilitate increased globalization, the credential evaluation industry will need to set up policies and

regulations on how to determine recognition of courses completed online, and degrees earned based on such coursework. The traditional requirement that a credential-granting institution must have the equivalent of regional academic accreditation may not always apply. Through continuing research on new developments, combined with active discussions with various members of the credential evaluation profession, it is my hope that AICE continues to set the standards in an era of global online learning.

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



AICE Symposium Planning Committee

Preparation is already under way for the next annual AICE symposium, which will take place on April 5-6, 2017 in Minneapolis, MN following AACRAO's annual meeting. The theme for this year's Symposium is "Setting the Standard for Graduate Admissions: Three-year degrees and other admissions challenges."

The Symposium will consist of three consecutive panels of experts to discuss the following themes:

1. Bologna Patterned Three-year Degrees
2. Three-year Bachelor's degree: South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka)
3. Beyond South Asia and Bologna: Three-year degrees from Australia, South Africa, and Israel

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Stay tuned for the next edition of the AICE Standard newsletter for a detailed description of the first module: Bologna Patterned Three-year Degrees. Each subsequent month will feature a detailed description of these modules.

AICE® Forum Highlights

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



Mozambique – Certificate of Award/Achievement from a US Embassy

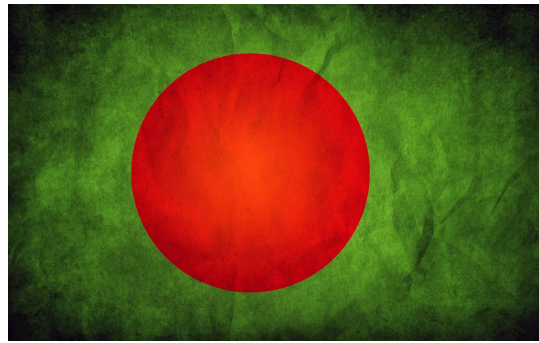
This credential represented English language training, which was deemed equivalent to non-credit foreign language training by the forum

participants.

~Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert

Bangladesh – IBAIS University

The institution is reported in the University Grants Commissions of Bangladesh. According to UGC, "the address of IBAS University will not be shown until the conflict of Board of Trustees is resolved and the ongoing cases in the court are disposed of." It is also accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs in Kansas as well as the European Universities Continuing Education Network and the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) of Australia. The Credential Forum participants agreed that until pending conflict with the Board of Trustees is resolved, and while the institution remains on the list of recognized institutions of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, it will be considered to have the equivalent of regional academic accreditation.



~Mario Caruso



Zambia – University of Zambia and the Chainama College of Health Sciences

The University of Zambia has issued a diploma. The program is a Diploma in Clinical Medical Science offered in association with Chainama College of Health Sciences. According to the University of Zambia, they have made

an agreement to offer the diploma through Chainama College of Health Sciences.

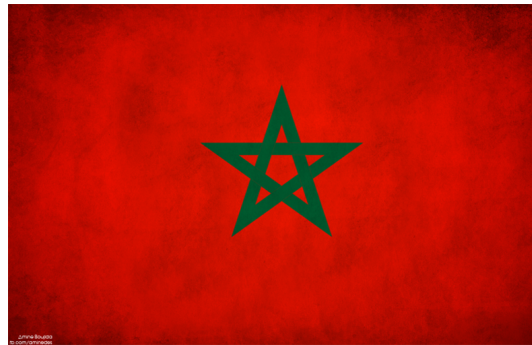
The AICE Credential Forum participants agreed to recognize the Diploma awarded for studies completed for U.S. credit equivalence as the program was completed at a college that is affiliated with the University and the Diploma awarded by the University.

~Yuriko Bassett

Morocco – Degree Equivalence

A student (born on July 30, 1990) has submitted the following:

- Diplôme de Technicien Spécialisé, issued in July 2011 by the Institut Spécialise de Technologie Applique Hay Riad Rabat
- Diplôme Européen d'Études Supérieures Assistant de Gestion en Ressources Humaines, issued in September 2012 by the European Federation of Schools (EFS)



With assistance from a special guest, Mr. Michel Bedard, from the Quebec Ministry of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusion, it was determined that the Diplôme de Technicien Spécialisé is equivalent to a French Brevet de Technicien Supérieur (BTS), which is equivalent to two years of undergraduate coursework in the United States.

Documents issued by European Federation of Schools (EFS) cannot be assimilated to the Moroccan higher education system, as they are delivered in Switzerland. This institution is not listed as a recognized higher educational institution in Switzerland, nor is it a recognized private higher education institution in Morocco.

~Kisha Cranston



Puerto Rico – Secondary School Recognition

Secondary recognition in Puerto Rico has typically been based upon recognition by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Secondary Schools,

as Puerto Rico is a US territory. Foreign Credits researched the status of an institution which is recognized by Consejo de Educación de Puerto Rico (CEPR). According to 2011 law, CEPR “has the essential purpose of licensing private institutions of basic education and private and public post-secondary institutions. It also has an essential purpose of accrediting private and public institutions of basic education upon request.” Forum participants agreed this suffices for the equivalence of regional academic accreditation.

~Aleks Morawski

Publications

▪ AACRAO has a new publication: **The AACRAO International Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals**. Beth Cotter and Jasmin Saidi contributed to this publication (section on Diploma Mills and Outsourcing International Credential Evaluations with a Historic Perspective). You may order this publication online or by post.

▪ A number of AICE members are contributing authors for the **NAFSA Online Guide on Education Systems Around the World**, including the following members:

Alan Saidi – *Republic of Korea*

Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert – *Hong Kong, Iran, Senegal, United Kingdom*

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 years theme is **"Setting the Standard for Graduate Admissions: Three-year degrees and other admissions dilemmas"** Stay tuned for more information!

A promotional poster for the AICE Minneapolis Symposium. The background is a grayscale image of the Minneapolis skyline. The text is in various colors (blue, white, black) and fonts. The AICE logo is in the top right corner. The main title 'SAVE THE DATE' is in large blue letters. Below it is 'AICE Minneapolis Symposium' in blue. The theme 'Setting the Standard for Graduate Admissions: Three-year degrees and other admissions dilemmas' is in smaller blue text. The dates 'April 5 – 6, 2017' are in large black letters, followed by 'Downtown Minneapolis, MN' and 'Come for AACRAO, stay for AICE!' in black. The AICE logo is in the top right corner. Below the logo, it says 'Collaborate with evaluators as we discuss standards for graduate admissions' in blue. Then 'REGISTRATION INCLUDES:' in blue, followed by a list of activities: 'Opening Reception', 'Presentations', 'Panel Discussions', and 'Networking' in black. At the bottom, it says 'LEARN MORE AT: WWW.AICE-EVAL.ORG' in blue. The word 'MINNEAPOLIS' is written in large white letters across the bottom of the poster.

SAVE THE DATE
AICE Minneapolis Symposium
Setting the Standard for Graduate Admissions: Three-year degrees and other admissions dilemmas

April 5 – 6, 2017
Downtown Minneapolis, MN
Come for AACRAO, stay for AICE!

LEARN MORE AT: WWW.AICE-EVAL.ORG

AICE

Collaborate with evaluators as we discuss standards for graduate admissions

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:
• Opening Reception •
Presentations • Panel Discussions •
• Networking •

MINNEAPOLIS

Conference Presentations:

- NAFSA Region V, Milwaukee, WI

“Beyond Conferences – Armchair Networking for the International Education Professional”

October 27, 2016, 8:15 – 9:30 AM

Presenter: Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc., Katerina Roskina, China Credential Services, Maria Morawski, ECE

- NAFSA Region II, Santa Fe, NM

“Online Tools in International Credential Evaluation”

November 2, 2016, 3:45 – 5:00 PM

Presenter: Aleks Morawski, Foreign Credits Inc., Martha Vandevender, ECE

- NAFSA Region XII, Palm Springs, CA

“Syria: Education in Crisis and Providing Pathways for Refugees”

November 3, 2016 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Presenters: Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert, President & CEO [ACEI](#), and Zepur Solakian, President CGACC

- NAFSA Region VII & III Biregional, New Orleans, LA

Seminar: “Benchmark Credentials for Undergraduate Admissions”

November 6-10, 2016

Presenters: Elle Shroyer, Beth Cotter, Drew Feder, Barbara Glave, Freda Clement-Willis

- NAFSA Region VI, Indianapolis, IN

“Tips and Tricks: Winning the Game of Credential Evaluation”

November 7, 2016

Presenters: Kyle Meltzer, Foreign Credits Inc., Katerina Roskina, China Credential Services, Karen Krug, ECE

Blogs

ACEI hosts **“Academic Exchange,”** a blog on education-related topics:

[Visit Blog!](#)

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Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute

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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