

Business as unusual – Private Higher Education in Europe: Fact-Finding, Experiences, Pathways

**7 – 8 May 2009, Vienna
Programme**

Venue: Conference Room P 2, 2nd floor, staircase 3, Freyung 3, 1010 Vienna

Thursday, 7 May 2009

12.30 – 14.00 Registration

14.00 – 14.15 Welcome Address Friedrich Faulhammer
Director General for Higher Education, Federal Ministry of Science and Research

14.15 – 14.45 Keynote Address **Private Higher Education as a Public Concern**
Ada Pellert
President, Berlin University for Professional Studies

14.45 – 15.15 Fact Finding I **The QA Framework
Results of the Questionnaire QA Agencies (ÖAR)**
Elisabeth Fiorioli
Managing Director ÖAR – Austrian Accreditation Council

15.15 – 15.45 Fact Finding II **Key features of the Private Higher Education Sector
Results of the Questionnaire PHEI (NVAO)**
Karl Dittrich
Chairman NVAO - Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders

15.45 – 16.15 Coffee Break

16.15 – 17.00 Analysis of the Findings from an International Research Perspective **Europe from Outside Europe: A View of QA for Private Higher Education**
Daniel Levy
Director, Program for Research on Private Higher Education, University at Albany, State University New York

17.00 – 18.30 Spotlight I Institutional Perspective **Private Universities - An Underestimated Chance for Higher Education?**
Marianne Betz
President ÖPUK – Austrian Private Universities' Conference

Lacking Status, Tradition and Prestige – What makes Private Higher Education Institutions attractive?
Anna Bakker
Director Paepon – Organization for Qualitative Privately Funded Education in the Netherlands

Facilitated discussion

Commentator: Guy Haug (Council Member ÖAR – Austrian Accreditation Council)

19.00 Dinner
at the wine tavern “10er Marie” (see Info sheet “Social Programme”)

Friday, 8 May 2009

9.30 – 12.00 **Spotlight II**
QA Perspective:
National Approaches

Austria
Accreditation between Gatekeeping and Quality Enhancement
Hannelore Weck-Hannemann
President ÖAR – Austrian Accreditation Council

Albania
Balkan Region: The Turbo-Style Experience
Dhurata Bozo
Director AAAL - Albanian Accreditation Agency for Higher Education

Netherlands
New Players in a New Game: New Rules to Learn!
Karl Dittrich
Chairman NVAO - Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders

Poland
Could State Accreditation reduce “Lemon” Markets in the Private Higher Education Sector?
Mieczysław Socha
Secretary General PKA – The State Accreditation Committee Poland

Facilitated discussion

Commentator: Helmut Konrad (University of Graz, Former President ÖAR – Austrian Accreditation Council)

12.00 – 13.00 **Lunch Buffet**

13.00 – 14.30 **Stakeholder Dialogue:**
Students & Employers

Student Statement I
Cristina Callejo
Universidad Pontificia de Comillas

Student Statement II: Students: Consumers in an Education Market?
Serge Stijnen
HINFON Maastricht

Employer Statement: Past Experiences and Future Prospects for Private Higher Education Institutions from an Employer’s Perspective
Michael Landertshammer
Head of Department for Education Policy WKÖ, The Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

Facilitated discussion

Commentator: Leendert Klaassen (Executive Board Member NVAO - Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders)

14.30 – 15.00 **Coffee Break**

15.00 – 16.00 **Lessons Learned**

Pathways towards Common Principles of QA for Private Higher Education Institutions
Rolf Heusser
Director OAQ - Centre of Accreditation and Quality Assurance of the Swiss Universities