

Juan Andrés Legarreta Fernández
Director
San Prudencio 8, 01005 Vitoria-Gasteiz

Dublin, 26 September 2014

Subject: Full membership of Unibasq in ENQA

Dear Juan Andrés Legarreta Fernández,

I am pleased to inform you that, at its meeting of 15 September 2014, the Board of ENQA agreed to grant Unibasq Full membership of ENQA for five years from that date.

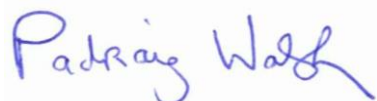
On the basis of its scrutiny of the final review report, the Board agreed that Unibasq met the necessary requirements for being granted ENQA Membership.

Though the ENQA Board concluded that Unibasq is in substantial compliance with the European Standards and Guidelines, the Board would like to receive a follow-up report on the recommendations in the panel report (as outlined in the attached annex) within two years of its decision, i.e. by September 2016.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or the ENQA Secretariat.

Please accept my congratulations to Unibasq for the positive review outcome and I look forward to a fruitful future cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Padraig Walsh
President of ENQA

Annex: Areas for development

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As outlined by the review panel, Unibasq is recommended to take appropriate action, so far as it is empowered to do so, on the following issues:

- Unibasq should re-evaluate whether the assessment of students could be evaluated more systematically within the different evaluation schemes.
- Unibasq should focus its mandatory evaluation schemes more on the compliance of the internal quality assurance of higher education institutions with Part I of the ESG.
- Unibasq should consider how stakeholders' involvement could be further increased in the development of procedures, next to their representation in the Advisory Board.
- Unibasq should reconsider its procedures in order to introduce the full review model in a broader range of evaluation schemes.
- Unibasq should continue to monitor that the self-evaluation reports are of a self-critical nature.
- Unibasq should initiate a review of the DOCENTIA procedures in order to reduce the administrative burden of this evaluation scheme in cooperation with other Spanish agencies.
- Unibasq should integrate the key findings leading to conclusions more explicitly in its reports.
- Unibasq should consider to broaden the intended readership of its reports.
- Unibasq should use the general findings of its external quality assurance processes more as a basis for system-wide analyses on the Basque University System.
- Unibasq should try to diversify its income in order to become less dependent from the Basque Government funding.
- Unibasq should make its medium term ambitions and the direction it wants to head to more explicit.
- Unibasq should stimulate programmes and institutions more to analyse their strengths and weaknesses in the presented self-evaluation reports.
- Unibasq should reconsider whether site visits could be useful in other steps of the AUDIT and DOCENTIA schemes and in other quality procedures.
- Unibasq should clarify the procedures for comments on the preliminary reports and establish formal appeal procedures.
- Unibasq should receive resources in order to play an active role within ENQA.