

ENQA GENERAL ASSEMBLY Gloucester, 20-21 October 2016

Biographies of the Speakers



Fiona Crozier

Fiona Crozier has worked in higher education for 24 years and joined QAA in 1998. From April 2013 - July 2015, she worked as Director of Quality at University College Cork, Ireland, and returned to QAA in August 2015. Her higher education experience ranges from policy development and the development of review methodologies to aspects of the quality assurance remit of the Bologna Process, including drafting the ESG 2015. She has implemented review methodologies (including the training of reviewers) and has managed multiple reviews.

Ms. Crozier was a member of the ENQA Board from 2008-2013, acting in the capacity of Vice President from 2009-2013. She chaired the INQAAHE review of QQA, Bahrain, in 2014, is a reviewer for the Danish Accreditation Agency and the Finnish Education Evaluation Council and has recently chaired an ENQA Agency Review. Among her agency roles, she is currently a member of the International Advisory Committee for the Swedish QA agency (UKÄ).



Herman de Leeuw

Herman de Leeuw serves as the Executive Secretary of the Groningen Declaration Network. At the start of his career, as bibliographer of oriental and islamic handwritten and printed antiquarian book materials, Herman became acutely aware of the importance of authorisations (*ijâzas*) and authenticity of documents. This carried over in the next step of his career, introducing the need for forensic document examination when dealing with educational credentials. Moving to DUO, the Education Executive Agency of the Netherlands MOE, it dawned on him that while society moves away from document traffic to the sharing of digital data, the essential points remain the same: origin, authenticity, authorisation, and access. Mr. De Leeuw is passionate about putting citizens in control over their data. Besides, he is passionate about mechanical engineering, (collecting) wood working (tools) and cooking. He holds an MA in Arabic studies from Leiden University (1988) and was trained at the Netherlands Police Academy as a document examiner (2006).



Agnė Grajauskienė

Agnė Grajauskienė joined the Secretariat of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) in October 2015. As ENQA's Reviews Manager, Mrs. Grajauskienė is mainly responsible for the ENQA-coordinated external reviews of quality assurance agencies. Besides that, she is also responsible for the training sessions for agency reviewers and for the coordination of an ENQA working group in charge of the internal quality assurance of the agency external review process (ENQA-IQA). She previously worked as Senior Officer for the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (SKVC) in Lithuania. Mrs. Grajauskienė holds a master's degree in legal psychology from Mykolas Romeris University.



Karin Jarplid Linde

Karin Jarplid Linde is Head of Department of Quality Assurance at the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ). She has 15 years of experience in external quality assurance of higher education and has had different positions on a management level at UKÄ. She has had several international engagements in external quality assurance in Europe and represents the UKÄ in various networks, such as ENQA. She has acted as both panel member and secretary in reviews for ENQA membership. Ms. Jarplid Linde has also been engaged in Bologna activities, and she was a member of the National Team of Bologna Experts 2007-2014.



Timur Kanapyanov

Timur Kanapyanov is Head of International Projects and Public Relations at the Independent Agency for Accreditation and Rating (IAAR, Kazakhstan). He received his master's degree in comparative politics from the University of Bucharest, Romania. Mr. Kanapyanov is pursuing his Ph.D. in political science at L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University in Kazakhstan. His major fields of interest are quality assurance of higher education institutions, parliamentary development in new democracies, post-communist and post-Soviet legislative studies, and democratisation. His published articles have appeared in the international journals *Cinq Continents*, *Man in India*, *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, and other Kazakh scientific journals.



José Eduardo López

José Eduardo López is executive director of the Agency for Quality Assurance in the Galician University System (ACSUG, Spain) since 2009. He was a member of ACSUG's Board of Directors from 2001-2005, acting in the capacity of Vice President. He has many years of experience in external quality assurance of higher education and has had different management positions as a General Director of Universities of Galician Government, Vice President of University Coordination Council of Galician, or member of the Galician Council of Universities.

Mr. López was a Latin Philology Professor at the University of A Coruña since 1991. He received his PhD in Classical Philology from University of Santiago de Compostela, where he also has worked as a Professor from 1977-1990. In 1983 he served as a researcher at Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften (Munich).



Orla Lynch

Orla Lynch is the Head of Cyclical Reviews for Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI). She has been involved in the quality assurance of education and training in Ireland for almost twenty years. She was involved in the establishment and implementation of the national framework of qualifications, the development of award systems and standards in a range of fields, and the development of national policy and guidelines for quality assurance, including programme validation, monitoring, and review. Following her appointment to QQI, Ms. Lynch has developed a range of policies for the organisation, headed the institutional review of a range of diverse higher education institutions and coordinated a system-level evaluation of quality assurance review in higher education in Ireland.



Anne Martens

Anne Martens is a policy advisor at the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO), where she is involved with the accreditation of both Dutch and Flemish existing and initial programmes, as well as with the composition of assessment panels. Over the past year, she has also been involved in the preparation of several collaborative agreements between NVAO and international professional accreditors. By discussing the possibilities for a joint process with all stakeholders (e.g. accreditation organisations, higher education institutions), she contributes to NVAO's aims of decreasing the accreditation burden and stimulating internationalisation in higher education.



Irene Melchor

Irene Melchor works at ACPUA, the Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education (Spain) as a Quality Assurance Technician, a position which encompasses various activities with particular focus on supporting the agency's communications, partnerships, and international relations. In this context, she has led strategic projects such as the agency's internationalisation plan, "Towards ENQA", and the design of a Student Engagement Plan. Ms. Melchor also coordinates quality assurance activities and participates in strategic foresight projects. Further, she has experience as a higher education quality assurance reviewer and as an international expert in Spain and other countries and has participated in projects such as the Colombia Adult Training Education Project of the Campus of International Excellence of the Ebro Valley (Spain).



Zita Mohd Fahmi

Zita Mohd Fahmi has over 30 years of experience in the Malaysian public service sector. She was among the pioneer officers in the early operation of the National Accreditation Board when it was established in 1997. From the position of Secretary to the Board, she was appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer responsible for quality assurance in 2007 and also served as the Secretary to the Council of MQA. Over years of service, Zita has been actively involved in establishing, reviewing, maintaining and strengthening mechanisms and processes relating to quality assurance in higher education specifically the Malaysian Qualifications Framework.

Professor Mohd Fahmi is extensively involved in international quality assurance affairs, as she is currently the Secretary for ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN) and a Special Advisor for the Association of Quality Assurance Agencies of the Islamic World (IQA), and she was previously with APQN as a Board member.



Martin Prchal

Martin Prchal is vice-principal at the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, the Netherlands, with responsibilities for curriculum development, quality assurance, and international relations. Trained as a musician of Czech origin, he holds teaching and performance diplomas (violoncello) and an MA in musicology. In his previous position as Chief Executive of the European Association of Conservatoires (AEC), Martin developed substantial expertise on EU project management through his involvement in several music projects in various EU programmes and on the implications of the Bologna Process on higher music education in Europe. Martin has served as a reviewer for QA agencies in various countries and has been a member of the boards for the Swiss agency OAQ (now AAQ) and the Flemish agency VLUHR KZ. Currently he is chair of the board of MusiQuE.



Tamar Sanikidze

Tamar Sanikidze holds a master's degree in public administration, a BA in English language and literature, and has background in financial management. Since 1998 Ms. Sanikidze has held different executive positions in private, non-governmental, international, and public institutions. Since 2009 she has been actively involved in the field of education. She provided lecturing and consultation services to different higher education institutions. Ms. Sanikidze held a top management position at the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs. In 2012-2013, she acted as the First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia and later, from 2013-2016, served as Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. Since July 2016, she is director of the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement (NCEQE) in Georgia.



Antonio Serrano

Antonio Serrano is director of the Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education (ACPUA, Spain) since 2011. Law Professor at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) since 1991, he served as a research scholar at the Max-Planck-Institut in Frankfurt/Main (Germany) and has been a visiting professor at the universities of Rome 3 (Italy), “Federico II” Naples (Italy), Macau (China), UC Berkeley (USA) and EHESS, Paris (France). He has been PhD. program in law director and associate dean at the UAB School of Law.



Andreas Snildal

Andreas Snildal, Advisor in the Department of Quality Assurance at the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT), received his PhD. in history from the University of Oslo, where he also has worked as a researcher and lecturer. Among his research interests are university history, and Dr. Snildal participated in the completing of the nine-volume history of the University of Oslo in 2011. Since 2015, Dr. Snildal has worked in NOKUT’s Department of Quality Assurance, where he mainly has been working on evaluation and quality enhancement projects. Dr. Snildal is currently leading NOKUT’s advisory program in teacher education.



Aurelija Valeikienė

Aurelija Valeikienė has worked as the Deputy Director at the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (SKVC), Lithuania, since 2004. In this capacity, she oversees activities of foreign qualifications recognition and external quality assurance. Mrs. Valeikienė served as a member of ENQA Board and is an expert for ENQA Agency Reviews and is a member of several working groups. She also served as Honorary Treasury and was elected President of the Network of Central and East European Accreditation in Higher Education Agencies (CEENQA). Mrs. Valeikienė was the Lithuanian delegate to the pan-European working group on structural reforms (encompassing quality assurance, qualifications frameworks, recognition of qualifications, transparency instruments) at the Bologna Secretariat and currently serves in the advisory group to support Belarus in the roadmap to the EHEA.



Mahfia Watkinson

A specialist in quality assurance and enhancement, Mahfia Watkinson has over a decade’s worth of experience working in the UK higher and further education sector. She specialises in the development and implementation of systems and strategies that support outstanding teaching, learning and assessment; her particular fields of expertise are curriculum performance and data quality. She is also a qualified teacher.

Now a Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) Officer with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), she is part of the TEF Core Team and is working with the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) on the operational delivery of the Year Two TEF.