

Note from the President

Bern, 11 December 2019

Dear colleagues,

ENQA's new Board held its first meeting on 28 November 2019. Decisions from that meeting have been summarised below, but please note that official minutes from Board meetings, once approved, are available on the ENQA website in the [Members' Area](#).

1. Board work plan 2020

During its November meeting, the new Board discussed the forthcoming year's work plan and decided areas of responsibility. The composition of the [Review Committees](#) has thus been modified as follows:

Committee A

Christina Rozsnyai
Antonio Serrano Gonzalez
Padraig Walsh

Committee B

François Pernot
Daniela Cristina Ghițulică
Asnate Kazoka

Committee C

Douglas Blackstock
Øystein Lund
Caty Duykaerts

Committee D

Anne Flierman
Ruben Topchyan
Doris Herrmann

Alternate members:

François Pernot

Øystein Lund

Daniela Cristina Ghițulică

Christina Rozsnyai

Board members will continue their work drafting ENQA's Strategic Plan 2021-2025, taking into consideration feedback collected from participants of the General Assembly in Yerevan. The new Strategic Plan will be adopted in April 2020 at the General Assembly meeting during the Members' Forum.

2. Membership decision

In November, the ENQA Board reconfirmed the membership of the Quality Assurance Agency for the University System in Castilla y León (ACSUCYL, Spain). The review reports and other materials relating to the reviews are on the [Review Reports and Decisions](#) page of the ENQA website.

3. Feedback from the General Assembly

Thank you for everyone who contributed to the survey following the ENQA General Assembly in October 2019. The ENQA Board and Secretariat have analysed the feedback and will take your ideas into account during preparation of the next events and other activities. The key elements of the feedback analysis will also be shared with the host of the event, as well as with the future hosts. A summary of the main points and steps to be considered in the future are presented in this Note.

The feedback from the ENQA General Assembly was varied but overall positive. Participants found the organisation of the event and the venue itself to be excellent, although a preference was shown for

events held in higher education institutions. This will be kept in mind for future Members' Forums and General Assemblies when looking for a venue, whenever possible. As in previous years, posters were rated as the best item on the programme, although there were a few voices to the contrary. ENQA will continue to have poster sessions during its General Assemblies whenever possible and will work with the poster presenters to make sure their posters are clear and concise to improve the experience for all participants.

While some participants thought Armenia is far away – and that the programme is too short compared to the distance travelled – they greatly enjoyed the hospitality of the hosts. While the Board acknowledges that some participants had to travel far for the General Assembly, it also notes that ENQA is a membership association spanning across the entire European Higher Education Area, and its event locations reflect this geographic diversity. On the same note, participants mentioned that they appreciated the possibility to network with colleagues during this event, but also learn more about a system that many of them were unfamiliar with before. Hosting events in other countries allows for this diversity and a broader sharing of experience.

A few other notes from the feedback will be taken into consideration by ENQA for future events. Firstly, not all materials will be printed for all participants; just a few copies will be printed for those who wanted a copy but were unable to print themselves. Secondly, in the future, a session for new participants will be provided at the start of each General Assembly or Members Forum, when possible, to make sure that new attendees can understand the content and “break the ice” with the other members in attendance. Thirdly, the schedule with the statutory GA meeting on Thursday afternoon (as opposed to Friday morning) was generally appreciated; this will be considered for future meetings. Finally, a more diverse programme with breakout sessions and/or more external speakers and audience participation will be considered for future events.

4. ENQA meetings and events

ENQA members and affiliates are kindly reminded of the invitation to nominate themselves as hosts for the Members' Forums and General Assemblies taking place in 2021 and 2022. Agencies are asked to indicate in their nomination which event they would prefer to host and eventually if they would be available to host even if not given their preference. The call for hosts remains open until 17 January 2020, and the decision determining the locations for the 2021 and 2022 events will be taken by the Board in February 2020. Further information may be found [here](#).

If you were unable to attend the ENQA webinar “How to prepare a good self-assessment report for an ENQA Agency Review – Value of the process for the agency's development”, please note that a recording of the webinar is available on the [event page](#).

While the dates for some meetings and events are still to be determined, please find an updated calendar below and on the [events webpage](#) for those activities which have been already confirmed:

20 February 2020	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
4-6 March 2020	The Hague	ENQA Leadership Programme – Seminar 3
29 April 2020	Istanbul	ENQA Board meeting
29-30 April 2020	Istanbul	ENQA Members' Forum
18 June 2020	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
23-25 June 2020	Rome	EHEA Ministerial Conference
17 September 2020	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting
October 2020	Brussels	ENQA Board meeting (in conjunction with the ENQA General Assembly)

22-23 October 2020	Brussels	ENQA General Assembly and the 20th anniversary celebration
12-14 November 2020	Helsinki	European Quality Assurance Forum

As 2019 nears its close, I wish you a safe and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in 2020. You may look forward to the next Note from the President following the April 2020 Board meeting.

Yours sincerely,



Christoph Grolimund
President of ENQA