Dicraft
Al-Hussein Fund for Excellence, Jordan in association with the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the United Kingdom

Project for the enhancement of the quality of business administration programs in higher education in Jordan

Proposal for the recognition of achievement by the participating universities

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, (QAA) on behalf of the reviewers, is pleased to present to the Scientific Consultative Committee of the Hussein Fund for Excellence (HFE) the outcomes of the project undertaken in 2003 and wishes to make recommendations for the awards.

Declaration

The subject review method used in the project is that published by the QAA in the Subject Review Handbook, September 2000-December 2001, supplemented by a policy statement by the Board of the HFE in 2002. The project featured the additional employment of programme specifications to improve the articulation of outcomes-related objectives in the academic programmes reviewed. The method was applied consistently and fairly in line with the published description. The principles and professionalism associated with peer review were respected at all times. The reviewers endorse the process and the outcomes as recorded in the attached table. Reviewers are required to make judgements on, and agree a grade for, each of the six aspects of provision on a scale of 1 to 4, 4 being the highest. In assigning grades, reviewers judge both the extent to which the student learning experience and student achievement in each of the aspects of provision contribute to attaining the objectives set by the subject provider, and whether the objectives set and the level of attainment of those objectives allow the aims set by the subject provider to be met. The outcomes were confirmed at a meeting of the review coordinators, the general manager of the HFE, the consultant for the review programme and the adviser on behalf of the QAA, held in London on Monday 29 December 2003.
Graded profiles

The attached table presents the overall outcomes of the review programme. All seven academic programmes presented by the participating universities are approved. The highest awarded grade profile is 22, with four of the six aspects graded 4, making a full contribution to the attainment of the stated objectives, the aims were met, and two graded 3. The lowest grade profile awarded comprises four aspects graded 2, making an acceptable contribution to the achievement of the stated objectives and two aspects graded 4, with an aggregate of 16 out of 24. In two universities four of the six aspects were graded as 4. All participating universities achieved grade 4 for Student Support and Guidance, which represents the strongest aspect. Curriculum Design, Content and Organisation, Student Progression and Achievement and Quality Management and Enhancement were, across the sample, the least successful aspects.

Achievement

Two of the participants achieve not less than grades of 3 and aggregates of 21 points or higher and ranked 1 and 2 respectively. A further participant achieves 21 total points but is graded 2 in one aspect and is therefore placed in the lower category. All demonstrate a high level of commitment to continuing improvement. It is recommended that these two providers are recognised by the Hussein Fund for Excellence as providing high quality of higher education in business administration:

- Applied Science University
- University of Jordan

The other universities should be also congratulated for the tangible efforts made to address quality and academic standards in their Business administration programs. They should be given encouragement to improve further:

- Al Zaytoonah University
- Hashemite University
- Philadelphia University
- Yarmouk University

One University is graded 2 in four aspects and graded 4 in the other two aspects. It is recommended that the University is invited to prepare and submit an improvement plan, with a view to checking the progress on the implementation and impact of its improvements not later than the end of 2004.

- Zarka University

Recommendation for special awards

One university stands out for the internationally acceptable quality of the programs. It is presented to the Committee for it to consider granting an award. **The University of Jordan** has achieved the highest grades. It has demonstrated a commitment to continuing improvement in the quality of its program and achieved a total of 22 out of 24 points in the six graded aspects.
Arthur Brown  
*Adviser to the Hussein Fund for Excellence on behalf of the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education in the United Kingdom*

*3 January 2004-01-03*

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<th>TLA</th>
<th>SPA</th>
<th>SSG</th>
<th>LR</th>
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