



VERITAS WP 3 - Award Criteria & Quality Standards in PhD Education

Second Workshop Schedule

11th – 13th May 2015

Yerevan, Armenia

Outline and Aim

The aim of the workshop is to generate a draft set of quality indicators which can be used in assessing key aspects of doctoral education.

There will be a mix of plenary sessions – involving all participants – and smaller group work during which Armenian Universities will work in the designated groups with partner EU organisations.

Key materials are circulated in advance with this schedule and all participants are asked to read these prior to the workshop: these are the European Standards and guidelines for quality assurance and the draft PhD Award Criteria & Indicators for internal & external assessors.

We look forward to a productive three days.

The Workshop Organisers

John Edwards – Graduate Affairs Manager Bath Spa University
Tim Middleton – Vice Provost Research & Enterprise Bath Spa University
Louise Sperl – Project Manager – World University Service (WUS) –
Austria

Schedule

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Day 1 - 11th May

13.00 **Welcome** - VERITAS management

13.15 - 15.15 - Update on Road Maps from Armenian Partners

- Each Armenian University briefly reports on its progress on developing its road map and award criteria. We will use the lightning talk method here – 5 minutes presentation followed by brief discussion
- Jordi Colomer (Girona) / Sandra Martini (Heidelberg) will update on the development of the project road map

The sequence of lightning talks will be as follows:

Time	Lightning talk presenter
13.15	Yerevan State Medical University
13.25	Yerevan state Academy of Fine Arts
13.35	Yerevan State University
13.45	Yerevan State University of Languages and Social Sciences
13.55	National University of Architecture and Construction
14.05	Armenian State University of Economics
14.15	Gavar State University
14.25	Vanadzor State University
14.35	Northern University
14.45	National Academy of Sciences of RA
14.55	Public Administration Academy of RA

15.05 - 15.40 **Coffee**

15.45 - **ANQA – proposals for innovations in PhD education in Armenia** (15 minute presentation)

Discussion (45 minutes)

16. 45 – **Other VERITAS stakeholders** e.g. Supreme Certifying Commission, Ministry of Education RA – brief reports and other scene setting remarks.

17.15 End of Day 1

Day 2 - 12th May

09.00 - **European Standards and guidelines** - workshop facilitated by WUS.

- This session will introduce delegates to European Standards and Guidelines on Quality Assurance (ESG) in their revised version (draft 2014)
- The session will provide opportunities to reflect and discuss the main challenges and opportunities of implementation of an ESG based approach to quality assurance of PhD work in Armenia.
- Delegates will have read in advance the European Standards and Guidelines on Quality Assurance (ESG) (Draft ESG guidelines - summary.pdf will be circulated with this Schedule)

11.00 - **Coffee**

11.30 **Introduction to QA Award Criteria & Indicators** for internal & external assessors - WUS/ BSU + discussion

- This session introduces delegates to the framework of PhD award criteria developed by WUS Austria in the light of the ESG. These will provide a sound basis for the work of Armenian Universities in developing their award criteria.

- The workshop will also examine indicators of quality engagement that any assessors can use to verify the effective implementation of award criteria in any PhD programme. This work forms the basis of the small groups session that will take up the remainder of the training.
- Delegates will have read in advance the document Draft QA criteria 23042015 (1).docx setting out PhD Award Criteria & Indicators for internal & external assessors (this will be circulated with this Schedule).

12. 30 - 13.15 - **Lunch**

13.15 - 15.15 **Smaller Group Sessions**

In these sessions the Armenian Universities, facilitated by their EU partner, will work on indicators of quality relevant to the generic award criteria introduced by WUS and BSU earlier. It is recognised that there are discipline specific aspects to PhD programmes and any quality assurance indicators will need to address these.

The aim of the small group sessions is to agree project-wide quality indicators that will provide a robust means of quality assurance. We have set aside a lot of time so that we can fully discuss and draft robust quality indicators.

The small groups will work on project wide indicators applicable to any PhD programme plus discipline specific ones relating to the educational objective and competences and curriculum as follows:

Small Group Members	Facilitator	Criteria for which you will identify 2-3 indicators
Yerevan State Medical University Yerevan State University National Academy of Sciences of RA	Heidelberg University + 'drop in' facilitation from WUS	1. Institutional strategies and policies 2. Organization and structure +

ANQA		4. Educational objectives and competences 6. Curriculum
Yerevan state Academy of Fine Arts Yerevan State University of Languages and Social Sciences Public Administration Academy of RA EQ	Bath Spa University + 'drop in' facilitation from WUS	3. Resources and funding 10. Internationalization 11. Evaluation of the program + 4. Educational objectives and competences 6. Curriculum
National University of Architecture and Construction Armenian State University of Economics Gavar State University RA SCC	Royal Institute of Technology + 'drop in' facilitation from WUS	5. Admission policy 9. Student assessment + 4. Educational objectives and competences 6. Curriculum
Vanadzor State University Northern University MoES	University of Girona + 'drop in' facilitation from WUS	7. Mentoring 8. PhD thesis and original research + 4. Educational objectives and competences 6. Curriculum

Where there are significant discipline requirements relating to any of the project-wide indicators these should be noted in your group's feedback. Groups should not, however, seek to specify narrowly discipline specific indicators for every criterion they are discussing – that work can be done in the next phase of the project when each HEI develops its award criteria.

15.15 - 15.45 **Coffee**

15.45 - 16.45 - **Continued small group sessions**

16.45 - End of Day 2

09.00 - 11.00 - **Continued small group sessions**

- Groups will work during this session to finalise their plenary feedback - each group will complete a PowerPoint template that will be used in the plenary feedback session. The workshop leaders will provide these on Day 2.

11.00 - 11.15 **Coffee**

11.15 - 12.30 **Plenary - Quality Indicators: feedback from small group sessions**

11.15 - 12.15 **Group 1** (Heidelberg) Feedback (10 minutes) and discussion (up to 20 minutes) (Plenary room)

12.15 - 12.45 **Group 2** (Royal Institute of Technology) - Feedback (10 minutes) and discussion (up to 20 minutes) (Plenary room)

12.45 - 13.15 **Lunch**

13.15 -15.50 Plenary - Quality Indicators: feedback from small group sessions (continued)

13.15 - 13.45 **Group 3** Feedback (Girona) - Feedback (10 minutes) and discussion (up to 20 minutes) (Plenary room)

13.45 - 14.15 **-Group 4** Feedback (BSU) - Feedback (10 minutes) and discussion (up to 20 minutes) (Plenary room)

14.15 - 14.30 - **Plenary - 1. The emerging Indicators vs. the criteria** - BSU/WUS (15 mins max) (Plenary room)

14.30 - 15.30 **WP 4 planning**

Led by Hans Mattsson, KTH

15.30 - 15.45 Coffee

15.45 - 16.30 **WP 4 planning**

(Continued)

16.30 - 17.00 **Next steps - VERITAS Management**

The VERITAS Song! & End of workshop

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