# University Quality Assurance and Accreditation

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Strategies for greater compliance with International Education Standards



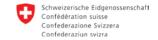




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## Agenda

- 1. Goal
- 2. Programme accreditation
- 3. Institutional accreditation
- 4. Outcomes and benefits
- 5. Q&A

## Introduction of Quality

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary:
  - degree of excellence,
  - superiority in kind,
  - social status,
  - a distinguishing attribute.

### Introduction of Accreditation

- Merriam-Webster Dictionary:
  - to consider or recognize as outstanding.

## Quality and accreditation

» Interlinked but with different meaning

- » Quality can be internally achieved
  - » quality assurance,
  - » quality management

» Accreditation is official recognition of quality through aligning with international standards

## Accreditation in higher education

- » Certification
- » Audit
- » Accreditation is official recognition of quality through aligning with international standards
  - » Programme accreditation
  - » Institutional accreditation
- » Focus is on school and faculties for economics and business

## Accreditation agencies



» European Foundation for Management Development - EFMD

»Based in Brussels, Belgium, with offices in Asia and the Americas

#### » Mission:

EFMD acts as a catalyst to enhance excellence in management education and development globally.

»900 members in 86 countries

## Accreditation agencies



»The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business -AACSB

»Based in Florida USA, with offices in Singapore and Amsterdam

» Mission:

AACSB is to foster engagement, accelerate innovation, and amplify impact in business education.

»1557 members in 97 countries

#### » EFMD

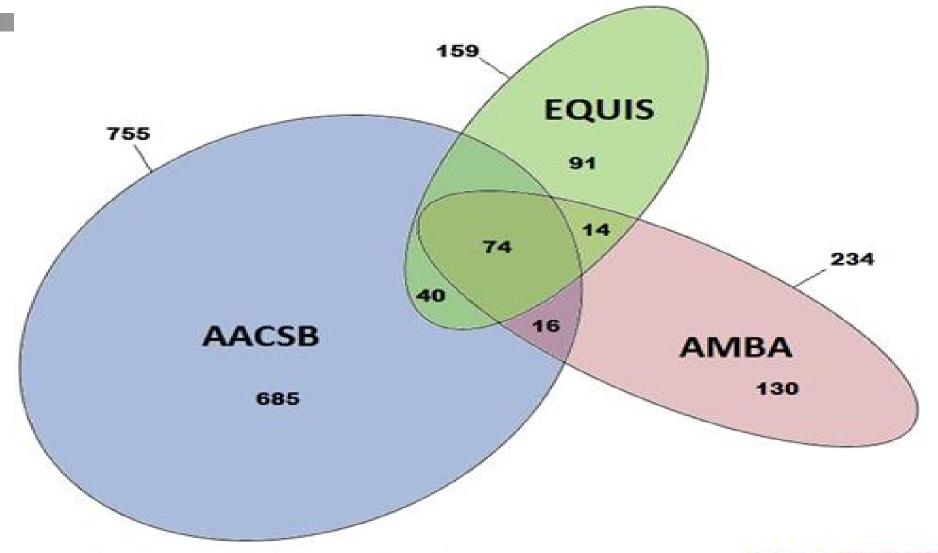
- » EQUIS EFMD Quality Improvement System (institutional)
- » EPAS EFMD Programme Accreditation System
- » CLIP Corporate Learning Improvement Process
- » EOCCS Online Course Certification System

### **»AACSB**

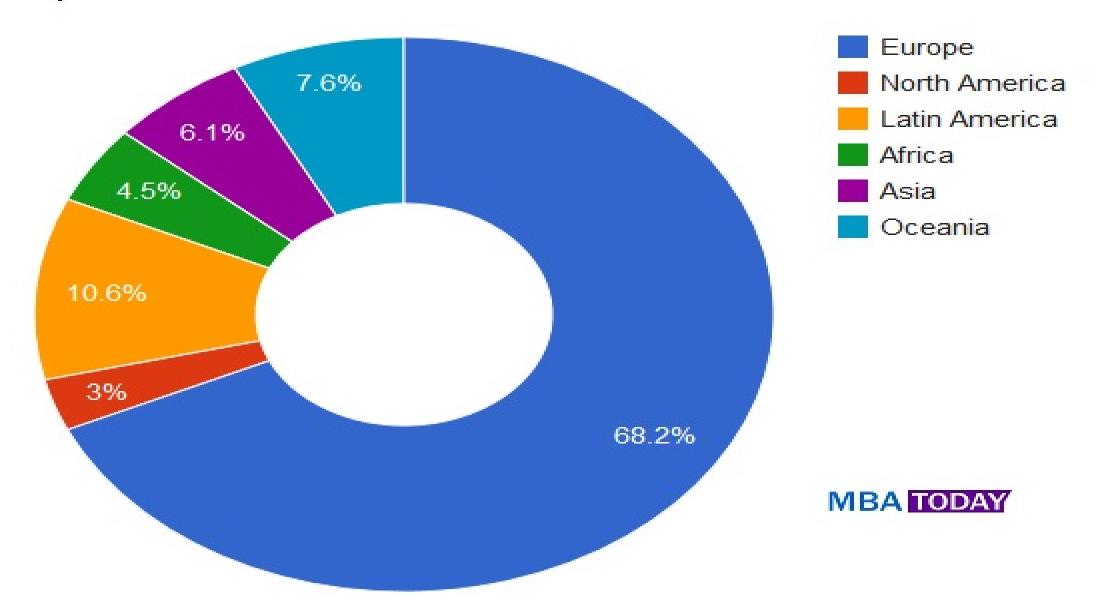
- » Institutional accreditation
  - » Business
  - » Accounting

- »Association of MBAs AMBA
  - » Programme (MBA, DBA and Master's Degree)

## Triple crown (77 as of Jan 2017) <u>15K</u>



#### Triple-accredited business schools



#### **Business education**

### Trouble in the middle

Is time running out for business schools that aren't quite elite?

Oct 15th 2011









»Not elitism (only!)

- »But quality
  - » High
  - » Internationally recognized
  - » Competitive advantage

## The Typical Accreditation "Process"

Internal "Review" Self-Evaluation Report Site Visit & "Audit"

## Programme accreditation

#### »EFMD – EPAS

- 1. Institutional and wider context
- 2. Programme design
- 3. Programme delivery and operations
- 4. Programme outcomes
- 5. Quality assurance processes

#### **INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT**

- Mission & strategic objectives
- International positioning incl. Compliance with European HE Area standards (if applicable)
- Internal Governance & management

- Physical learning environment & information infrastructure
- Adequacy of faculty for the programme (qualifications, size, subject profile, internationalisation)
- Faculty's intellectulat contribution to teaching & teaching ethos towards academic depth & rigour
- Faculty links to corporate world

#### **PROGRAMME DESIGN**

- Programme objectives
- Target market & intended gradualte profile
- Marketing & promotion
- Intended learning outcomes (ILOs)
- Programme rationale, coveragem, content and international focus
- Balance of academic & managerial dimension
- Delivery modes
- Assessment methods

#### **PROGRAMME DELIVERY & OPEATIONS**

- Student entry requirements & selection
- Quality of student intake
- International student mix
- Quality of pedagogy & learning materials
- Personal development
- International work/study opportunities
- Corporate interactions
- Coverage of ERS
- Preparation as international managers

#### **PROGRAMME OUTCOMES**

- Objectivity & rigour of assessment process
- Standards of student work (exams, theses)
- Progression & pass rates
- Quality of graduales & jobs obtained
- Graduate career paths
- Alumni support & involvement
- Programme reputation

#### **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- Institutional quality assurance system
- Programme design & approval processes

- Internal & external review processes
- Inclusion of stakeholder perspectives
- Student feedback processes

- Monitoring of teaching quality
- Monitoring of assessment regime

## Institutional accreditation

»AACSB – Business

»15 standards (2013)

- » Engagement
- » Innovation
- »Impact

## AACSB Accreditation: 15 Standards

## » Strategic Management and Innovation

- 1. Mission, Impact and Innovation
- 2. Intellectual Contributions and Alignment with the mission
- 3. Financial Strategies and Allocation of Resources

## » Participants: Students, Faculty and Professional Staff

- 4. Student Admissions, Progression, and Career Development
- 5. Faculty Sufficiency and Deployment
- 6. Faculty Management and Support
- 7. Professional Staff Sufficiency and Deployment

## AACSB Accreditation: 15 Standards

## » Learning and Teaching

- 8. Curricula Management and Assurance of Learning
- 9. Curriculum Content
- 10. Student Faculty Interactions
- 11. Degree Program Educational Level, Structure & Equivalence
- 12. Teaching Effectiveness

## » Academic and Professional Engagement

- 13. Student Academic and Professional Engagement
- 14.Executive Education
- 15. Faculty Qualifications and Engagement

## Tips&tricks

Yes – they do exist!!! ⓒ

## Ruls of the Game (1)

- » Dedication and commitment...
- » Assemble the Team...
- »Seminars, trainings and learning...
- » Communicate, externally and internally...
- » Explain the specific context...
- »Keep to the point...
- »Check the data...

## Ruls of the Game (2)

- »Build up the Base Room materials gradually...
- » Watch the language and the message you are conveying...
- »Include the Corporate and Alumni community...
- » Have the students and administrative staff on board...
- »Do not be afraid to own up to your shortcomings...
- » Promote, promote, promote...
- » Don't get comfortable...

## Why?

- »Cultivates meaningful interactions between students and a qualified faculty
- » Produces graduates who have achieved specified learning goals
- » Ensures currency of curricula and importance of quality teaching
- » Makes a statement to external communities about your commitment to quality and continuous improvement
- » Prepare students not for today, but for tomorrow!!!

## The real value is... (1)

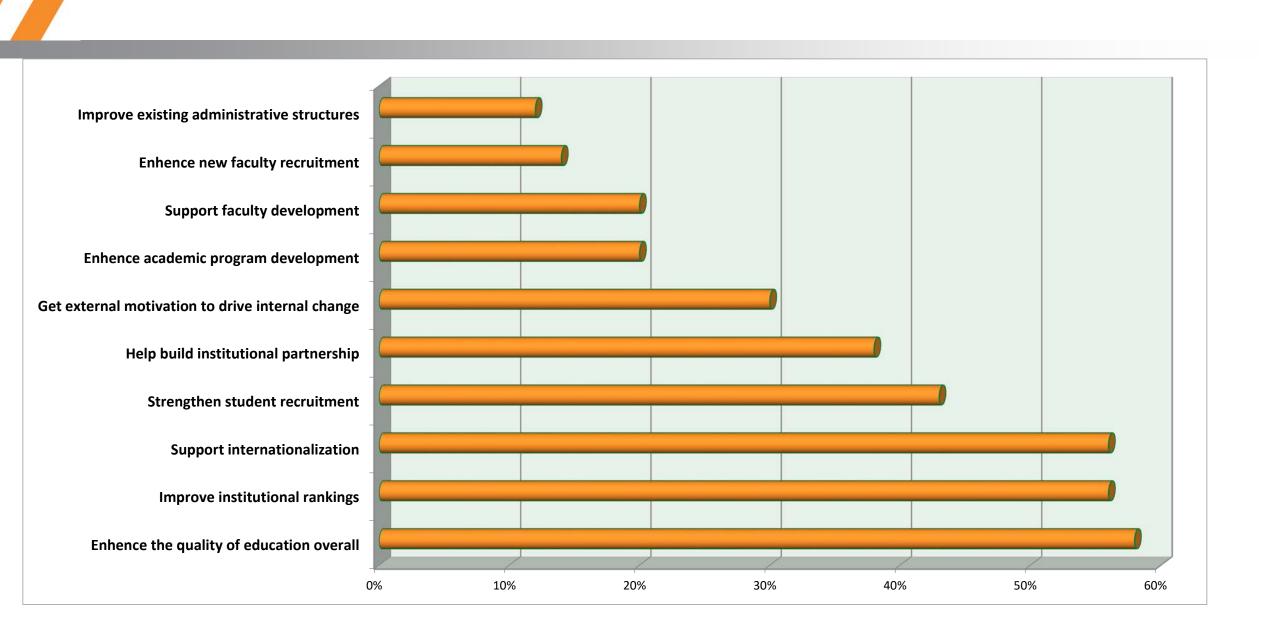
» Education in accredited schools is ranked as good to outstanding value

»Graduates from accredited schools would recommend their graduate program to others

» All highly ranked schools globally are accredited

## The real value is... (2)

- »Alumni from accredited schools say their education has contributed to improvements in their competitiveness, proactiveness, innovativeness and creativity
- » Alumni from accredited schools say their education increased their earning power and are satisfied with their current earnings
- »In majority of cases 5 years after graduation the majority were senior-level or higher in their organization



## Schools should be

- »Co-creators of knowledge (not only the formal one)
- »Innovators

- » Enablers of global prosperity
- » Leaders to more balanced global society!!!



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