

INFORMATION NOTE

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION,
SYMPOSIUM 2019
AND
AWARDS CEREMONY

MARCH 12, 2019

The theme for the week is "*Quality in Higher Education: Managing Expectations and Changes*"

The following events will take place:

1. QUALITY ASSURANCE SYMPOSIUM

The focus of the symposium scheduled for **March 12, 2019 at Iberostar hotel** will be on *New Developments, Changes and Challenges in Higher Education Quality Assurance* in various Higher Education disciplines. The speakers, who are drawn from Europe and the USA, have vast experience and expertise in quality standards and requirements for higher education in in quality standards for higher education in disciplines such as: Creative and Performing Arts, Engineering, Medicine and Life Sciences as well as Business and Informatics.

Dr Iring Wasser, Managing Director, ASIIN, will give the keynote address on *Global Trends in Higher Education Quality Assurance and Accreditation: What can we expect in the future?*

Other international speakers from professional quality assurance bodies who will be speaking on the New Developments: Changes and Challenges in Higher Education Quality Assurance include:

- *Dr David Holger*, International Engineering Alliance on the field of **Engineering**.
- *Dr Iring Wasser*, ASIIN, on the field of **Informatics** and **Computer Science**.
- *Dr John (Jack) Boulet*, Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG), on the field of **Medicine and Life Sciences**.
- *Dr Susanne van Els*, MusiQuE, Music Quality Enhancement on the field of **Creative and Performing Arts**.

In terms of human capital development, the speakers are :

- *Ms. Diane Edwards*, President, JAMPRO on *Jamaica's Human Capital: Highest Quality*;
- *Ms Charlotte Fletcher*, The National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom Assurance Group (UK NARIC) on "*The importance of different types of qualifications in the current higher education environment.*"

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2. AWARDS CEREMONY

Following the Symposium, institutions that have recently received registration, institutional and programme accreditation will be presented with their certificates.

3. LAUNCH OF THE REVISED TERTIARY QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (TQF)

Come and hear highlights of the revised contents of the TQF which is mapped against international benchmarks of good practice to facilitate ease of recognition and portability of Jamaican tertiary qualifications. Significant change in the higher education sector locally and globally since 2003 has warranted an updated edition of this Framework.

The revised version of the TQF examines the interface between academic and TVET qualifications frameworks. It is also aligned to the National Qualifications Framework of Jamaica (NQF-J).

The TQF is designed to support the work of key stakeholders – chiefly, institutional administrators, educators, curriculum development specialists and UCJ assessors.

4. LAUNCH OF STANDARDS

New Occupational, Generic and Discipline-specific Standards will be launched in the following areas:

- Bachelor's Degree in Education
- Associate and Bachelor's Degrees in Psychology
- Generic Associate Degree
- Generic Occupational Associate Degree programmes