

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO ECCE GENERAL COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2022

INTRODUCTION

The activities of the ECCE are now more or less back to normal following the easing of the pandemic.

We are still conducting executive meetings mostly virtually but accreditation events have reverted to face to face wherever possible.

The accreditation review with ENQA finally took place in early June at a London venue and I would like to thank everybody involved in the process which went very well.

The outcome of accreditation will be considered by the ENQA board at their meeting in Stockholm at the end of October.

ENQA

Although the outcome of our ENQA application for membership is not known at present, we can disclose that the ENQA review team found the ECCE overall compliant with the ENQA standards, with all standards fully compliant except three which were partially compliant.

There were commendations and recommendations outlined in the report and we are already addressing the recommendations in order to improve our activities.

The report is not yet published but when ENQA releases it, we will send a copy of the full report to all council members.

QAAC

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) has had a reaccreditation visit in October and the outcome should be known at our November meeting.

There is an ongoing appeal with one institution. The outcome should be reached by our November meeting.

We have been notified that the course leader at the RCU Escorial Maria-Cristina has resigned and we are awaiting confirmation from the institution.

We also understand that McTimoney College of Chiropractic is establishing a new campus in Madrid.

The Chair of QAAC together with our Quality Assurance Consultant are preparing proposals for further Thematic Analysis.

EXECUTIVE

We received a letter (dated 21/11/21) from all accredited institutions in the UK. This letter asked a number of questions about the relevance and value of ECCE accreditation and I think we have responded to all those queries, indeed one of the commendations from the recent ENQA accreditation report mentions the value for students graduating from ECCE accredited institutions as they seek work upon graduation.

The letter also suggested more collaboration with the UK General Chiropractic Council (GCC) to avoid unnecessary overlap. To that end, we have met with Penny Bance from the GCC and the Chair of QAAC is leading this development.

Our treasurer Inga Gossow has indicated that she wants to resign her post and suggested that we take this opportunity to move our company registration from Germany to Switzerland. There has always been a struggle with the German authorities as they have very little understanding of chiropractic. The Swiss Chiropractic Association has been very helpful in our discussions and two of their members are willing to take on the work should we proceed.

As stated, the ENQA review suggested a number of recommendations and we are now working on a change to the Constitution and changes to our committee structure and memberships, including the General Council. Our appeals committee for example will have to contain more independent members who are not members of the General Council. Until we have rewritten the terms of reference, I would suggest the General Council agree, in the interim, to appoint the proposed members of the committee.

Many of the upcoming changes will be included in a new strategic plan which the Vice President is currently preparing and which will be presented to Council for approval at the 2023 General Council meeting.

We have also been able to assist with a new development in Germany. A private university in collaboration with the German Chiropractic Association is proposing to start a course compatible with the ECCE standards in 2023.

CONCLUSION

It has been a very busy year for the ECCE with many exciting developments. It is now vital that we respond to all the ENQA recommendations and clearly that we achieve full membership.

The new strategic plan will need to be ambitious and inspiring to ensure a great future for the ECCE.



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President