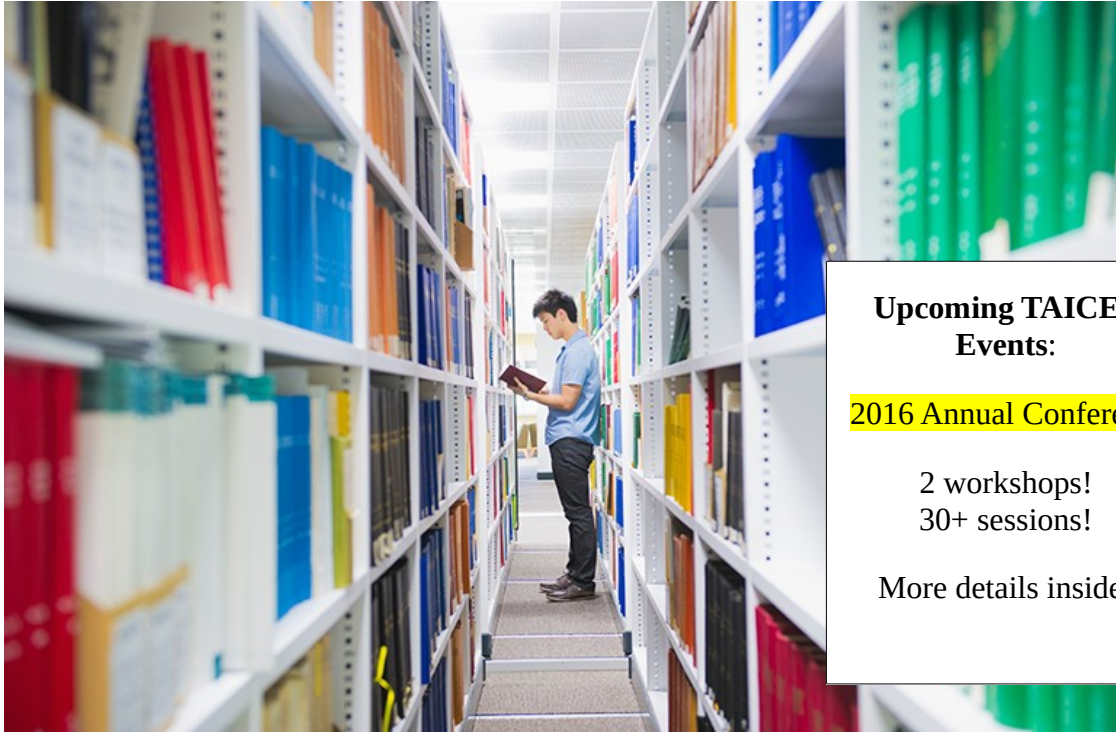




TAICEP TALK

August 2016

Volume 2, Number 4



Upcoming TAICEP Events:

2016 Annual Conference

2 workshops!
30+ sessions!

More details inside!

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Welcome

Welcome to the pre-conference edition of the *TAICEP Talk* Newsletter. We're very excited about the upcoming conference and hope that this edition helps you make the very hard decision about which of the fabulous sessions you will attend.

Following recommendations after last year's meeting, we have also established several networking events so that you will have time to meet new friends, catch up with current friends and colleagues, and even explore the city.

The various TAICEP committees will be hosting a poster fair during the conference reception on Monday evening, so this will be the perfect time to talk with different committee members about the work and how you can assist us all as we work to grow TAICEP. You will hear more information about TAICEP advocacy in the coming months as we collectively work to increase TAICEP's outreach and visibility in and out of the community.

This edition includes more detailed information about the conference and plenary speaker as well as pre-conference workshop and session descriptions. We have also created a complete schedule with all of the events, workshops, and sessions and their locations.

In addition, this edition includes supporting articles corresponding to some of our session topics some of which are in this edition and some of which were in previous editions of the Newsletter. To cap it all off, the *Library* resources and *Notes from the Field* sections also focus on some of our session topics to give you that extra bit of information.

Committee Updates

Updates from the Conference Planning Committee

The 2016 TAICEP Annual Conference will take place Monday, September 26, through Wednesday, September 28, 2016. With less than a month to go, space is still available to sign-up for this unique opportunity to learn and network with your colleagues. Please click [here](#) to register. A current listing of session topics can be found by visiting our [website](#). The Professional Development and Training Committee has selected a variety of topics that will aid and support the important work being done on a daily basis by credential evaluation professionals around the globe, and the range of topics this year is impressive. In the coming weeks, we'll publish a final version of the overall conference schedule, so please check back for updates.

Please know that limited space is still available for one of our pre-conference workshops scheduled to take place on Monday September 26, “Evaluating International Credentials in 10 Steps.” Please make sure to sign-up today to secure your seat.

For those of you needing to secure housing – unfortunately, due to high demand, our initial block of rooms at the Doubletree have been exhausted. Rooms are still available at the Doubletree at a rate of \$259.00 per night. For additional hotel and housing options, please visit our [website](#).

For those of you who have signed up to be a volunteer at the 2016 Annual Conference, THANK YOU! The Conference Planning Committee is currently building a volunteer assignment schedule. We’ve already assigned a handful of responsibilities, but will be reaching out to others to gauge their interest in introducing a particular session topic. Please know that these assignments will be based on a first come-first assigned basis. Please be sure to respond to our email inquiry as soon as possible to secure your specific workshop session. Members of the Conference Planning Committee will serve as volunteer coordinators and will provide instruction and guidance on your particular responsibilities prior to and throughout your assignment. Please email us at taicepconference@gmail.com if you have any questions.

As was previously announced, the Conference Planning Committee is compiling a list of activities to help you and your colleagues explore downtown Chicago on the evening of September 27. Throughout the conference, we’ll be staffing a hospitality table in the executive lobby of the Gleacher Center to allow you to sign up for the activity that most aligns with your interest. We’ll have additional resources available to help you navigate the Windy City. For those of you arriving to Chicago early or staying late, we’ve also published a list of activities to help you enjoy and engage with all that Chicago has to offer. Please visit our [website](#) for more information.

As the Conference Planning Committee and other within TAICEP work to put the finishing touches on our upcoming conference, we hope the conference will be an opportunity to step back, connect with colleagues, and remind ourselves of why we do this important work.

As always, please don’t hesitate to reach out via email (taicepconference@gmail.com) should you have any questions.

We’re looking forward to seeing you in Chicago.

Jeremy Mixell
2016 Conference Planning Chair

Conference Schedule

The **Schedule at-a-Glance** appears on the next three pages. A more basic version – without the sessions – is available online at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/2016-annual-conference/conference-program/schedule-at-a-glance/>.

Monday, September 26	
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Pre-Conference Registration; Gleacher Center
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Pre-Conference Workshops
Workshop: Evaluating International Credentials in 10 Steps; Gleacher Center Room 203	Workshop: Evaluating Refugee Qualifications; Gleacher Center Room 303
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Conference Registration; Doubletree Magnificent Mile, State Foyer
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Conference Reception; Doubletree Magnificent Mile, LaSalle II
Tuesday, September 27	
7:30 am – 8:45 am	Breakfast; Gleacher Center 621 Dining Room
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Conference Opening
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Plenary Speaker, Alex Usher, “The Shape of Things to Come in International Higher Education”
10:00 – 10:30 am	Morning Networking Break
10:30 am – 12:00 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
Methodology for Credential Evaluation: The Big Picture, Grade Scales and Determining Legitimacy; Gleacher Room 621	TEN!!! Changes in Indian University Grading; Gleacher Room 306
International Student-Athlete Documents for Eligibility; Gleacher Room 304	Evaluating American Credentials: Issues and Challenges; Gleacher Room 308
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch; Gleacher Center 621 Dining Room
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Break
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
The Baha’i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE) – To Recognize or Not to Recognize? Gleacher Room 621	The Transfer Credit/PLAR Boundary; Gleacher Room 306
A Comprehensive Guide to A Level and GCSE Changes in the UK and Globally; Gleacher Room 304	Chinese Degree Certificates: A Review of Then and Now; Gleacher Room 308
2:15 pm – 2:45 pm	Afternoon Networking Break

2:45 pm – 3:45 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
People on the Move Need Recognition on the Move; Gleacher Room 621	Education System in Iraq; Gleacher Room 306
Exploring Education in the Southern Cone: Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay; Gleacher Room 304	From Argentina to Zimbabwe: A New Evaluator’s Guide to Credential Evaluation; Gleacher Room 308
3:45 pm – 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
Getting Comfortable with the F Word: Eliminating the Stigma and Embracing the Meaning; Gleacher Room 621	Issues in Ukrainian Credential Evaluation: Overview, Recognition, and Fraud; Gleacher Room 306
CHINATOWN! A Toolkit; Gleacher Room 304	Credentials Evaluation Jeopardy; Gleacher Room 308
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	TAICEP Committee Meeting; Gleacher 621 Dining Room
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Opportunities to Explore Chicago
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	VIP Reception; Location TBD
Wednesday, September 28	
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast and TAICEP Business Meeting; Gleacher 621 Dining Room
8:30 am – 8:45 am	Break
8:45 am – 10:15 am – Concurrent Sessions	
Evaluating Credentials with a Global Mindset: The Discussion Continues; Gleacher Room 621	Chinese Primary and Lower Secondary Credential Evaluation: Challenges, Best Practices, Resources; Gleacher Room 306
Understanding Chinese Credentials; Gleacher Room 304	In-House vs Outsourcing Evaluations; Gleacher Room 308
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 11:30 am – Concurrent Sessions	
Certification of Credential Evaluators – What are the Options? Gleacher Room 621	International Credential Evaluation – Let’s Start from the Beginning; Gleacher Room 306
Increasing Pre-Arrival Support for Internationally Educated Professionals in a Culture of Openness and Transparency; Gleacher 304	Demystifying Technical and Vocational Education: A Thorough Look at BTEC and University Progression; Gleacher Room 308

11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch; Gleacher 621 Dining Room
12:30 pm – 12:45 pm	Break
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
The Twilight Zone of Evaluation: What are the Boundaries of Recognition? Gleacher Room 621	Medical Education in the Caribbean: Accreditation and Quality Issues; Gleacher Room 306
How Confident Are We to Assess Credentials from Syria? Gleacher Room 304	Evaluating Three-Year European University Degrees: Pre- and Post-Bologna; Gleacher Room 308
1:45 pm – 2:00 pm	Break
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
International Credential Evaluation in Educational Institutions; Gleacher Room 621	Introduction to the Russian Secondary Education System; Gleacher Room 306
Hands-On Documentation Features; Gleacher Room 304	Cambridge International Examinations in the USA; Gleacher Room 308
3:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 pm – 4:15 pm – Concurrent Sessions	
Credential Evaluation: Differences in Perspectives of Evaluation Agencies and Educational Institutions; Gleacher Room 621	Looking West: Building a Higher Education Area in Central Asia; Gleacher Room 306
A Unique Virtual Organization – How Swedish Universities Decided to Cooperate; Gleacher Room 304	Session TBD
4:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Break
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Conference Closing; Gleacher 621 Dining Room

Plenary: The Shape of Things to Come in International Higher Education

In the opening plenary, Alex Usher, president of Higher Education Strategy Associates, will discuss six mega-trends -- from changing demographics and new global economic realities to differentiation of higher education institutions and their program offerings --and the implications for the future of credential evaluation.

Alex Usher is the owner and president of Higher Education Strategy Associates, which provides in-depth analysis of educational policy issues and is dedicated to providing institutions, governments, and related agencies with strategic advice and research pertaining to a range of higher education issues, including improving quality, strategy, efficiency, and program planning. Mr. Usher is an expert on higher education, both in Canada and around the world. He has extensive experience in higher education policy and issues, and is internationally recognized as an expert on post-secondary education policy. Mr. Usher is routinely sought out by the World Bank, UNESCO, and the European Union for his expertise, and is frequently invited to be a keynote speaker at various events hosted by higher education institutions and organizations, both in Canada and internationally – including as a recent guest speaker invitations for meetings of the Bologna researchers, the European University Association (EUA), and the European Commission (EC). In his internationally-read blog, *One Thought to Start Your Day*, Mr. Usher provides daily reflections on issues, trends, and data on higher education.



Workshop Descriptions

Workshop 1: Evaluating International Credentials in 10 Steps

Presenters:

Ken Warren, President, Educational Perspectives

Jessica Stannard, Policy Advisor, EP-NUFFIC

Are you relatively new to the field of evaluation of foreign credentials? While practicing a step-by-step evaluation methodology, this workshop offers an introduction to the most important aspects of this dynamic field, such as which documents you should require, where you can find accurate, up-to-date information, the importance of accreditation and recognition, and the basic skills of credit and grade conversion. The purpose of each of the ten basic steps will be briefly explained and illustrated with the help of sample documents and other relevant information. As participant, you will benefit from a hands-on approach using cases from daily practice, the chance to share information and experiences with your peers, and the extensive knowledge and expertise of the two presenters.

This workshop is primarily intended for credential evaluators with limited experience in the field, but can be useful to everyone who works with international students and professionals, such as those who work in professional regulation or general purpose credential assessment services.

As participant, you will gain knowledge of:

- the main steps involved in a fair and consistent evaluation methodology of foreign qualifications
- the required documents in the evaluation file
- the information resources available
- the importance and relevance of accreditation and recognition
- performing credit and grade conversions
- the various types of fraudulent documents and what to watch out for

Workshop 2: Evaluating Refugee Qualifications – SOLD OUT

Presenters:

Denise Jillions, Associate Director, Global Talent Bridge, World Education Services, US

Rolf Lofstad, Senior Adviser, Department of Foreign Education, Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT), Norway

Iona Mitchell, Manager of Membership Records, Ontario College of Teachers, Canada

Inge Wieringa, Senior Admissions Officer/Credential Evaluator, Leiden University, Netherlands

Chair/Facilitator: Natasha Sawh, Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials

As wars and conflicts around the globe continue to rise, this international workshop will provide an overview of the types of documentation challenges typically faced by refugees and those in refugee-like settings, and provide in-depth examples of the policies and practices undertaken in three countries and three different types of organizations – universities, professional regulatory bodies, and general purpose credential evaluation services. As a participant, you will benefit from a hands-on approach to developing policies and practices appropriate to your institution or organization using concrete examples, the chance to share information and experiences with your peers, and the broad range of perspectives offered by the presenters.

This workshop is primarily intended for intermediate to senior evaluators who receive applications from refugees and people with unverifiable, partial, or no documentation. It can be useful to all professionals who work with refugees, such as those working in universities and college admission departments, professional regulatory bodies, credential evaluation agencies, immigrant settlement organizations, and those involved in recruitment, student advising and international services.

As participant, you will gain knowledge of:

- the main types of documentation challenges faced by refugees and those in refugee-like settings
- examples of approaches to assessing refugee qualifications in different types of organizations – universities and colleges, professional regulatory bodies, and general assessment services and ENIC-NARICs
- best practices in evaluating qualifications with unverifiable, partial, or missing documentation
- how to develop appropriate policies for your organization to recognize qualifications held by refugees and those in refugee-like settings

Sessions Descriptions

Evaluating Three-year European University Degrees: Pre- and Post-Bologna

Presenters:

Kevin Rolwing, Quality Assurance Director, World Education Services

Linda Tobash, Sr. Director of Policy, Knowledge, and Data, World Education Services



The "Bologna Process"/European Higher Education Area is an on-going and wide-ranging university reform process affecting the European landscape and beyond. In our session, we will discuss current evaluation approaches to three-year Bologna-compliant degrees and contrast these approaches to common practices pre-Bologna. Rationales for different equivalencies will be explored along with research findings on graduate school admission practices and policies and the use of diploma supplements for extracting key student learning outcomes.

Methodology for Credentials Evaluation: The Big Picture, Grade Scales and Determining Legitimacy

Presenter:

Drew Feder, President, Credential Consultants, Inc.

In this session, we will explore the availability of data and existing methods for evaluating international credentials. We will encourage discourse about best practices related to grade scales as well as institutional and program legitimacy. After proposing specific approaches for general evaluation, grade scale conversion and determination of recognition / legitimacy, the session will be opened up for discussion.

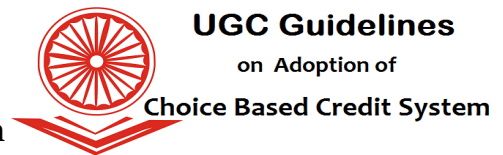
See the related article later in this edition.

TEN!!!! Changes in Indian University Grading

Presenter:

Timothy Kell, Senior Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE), Inc.

TEN!!!! Either you're watching a televised dancing competition, or trying to make sense of the ever more common Indian 10-point grading system. Check in to see what's happening with some of the newest changes in Indian education. Bring your own opinions for discussion on how to evaluate and make sense of the "Choice Based Credit System" and "Cumulative Grade Point Average" reforms.



International Student-Athlete Documents for Eligibility

Presenter:

Garrett Seelinger, Manager of Eligibility Services International, NAIA

In this session you will learn about academic issues that are specific to international student-athletes, including credentials that are more common among international student-athletes and how these records apply to athletic eligibility. Topics to be covered include:

- What prospective student-athletes and coaches need to know about evaluations during recruitment
- Differences between NCAA / NAIA / NJCAA rules that affect international students
- Problem areas for international student-athletes

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

Evaluating American Credentials: Issues and Challenges

Presenter:

Jessica Stannard, Policy Officer, EP-Nuffic

For credential evaluators working in countries outside of the United States, determining whether a US school or institution is accredited can be a challenge. By analyzing the results of a recent stakeholder survey, participants will gain insight into different policies and opinions that exist among US educators regarding what they consider to be acceptable accreditation. The session will provide an overview of US accreditation as understood by Americans at higher education institutions, accrediting bodies, and state boards. Evaluators working in the US will gain a better understanding of the issues and challenges confronting credential evaluators in other countries. For evaluators outside the US who review American credentials, the session will provide some best practices and guidance for developing fair and consistent policies.

International Credential Evaluation – Let’s Start from the Beginning

Presenters:

Christopher Adams, Assistant Director International Admissions, Indiana University

Andrew Goss, Senior Credential Evaluator, Indiana University

The increasingly dispersed transnational flow of students, coupled with the rapid evolution of education systems worldwide makes the work of our international credential evaluators both exciting and challenging. For many institutions whose strategic enrollment management goals include sustained or increased enrollment of international students, the role of international credential evaluators has never been more important. Our team of International Credential Evaluators at Indiana University – Bloomington reviews academic credentials for students at all education levels across the campus and throughout the state of Indiana. This session aims to provide those professionals new to the field with a brief overview of the core concepts of international credential evaluation, and with the tools and resources necessary to maintain consistency in terms of student equity and fairness across an increasingly diverse student population.

The Transfer Credit/PLAR Boundary

Presenter:

Marjorie Budnikas, Assistant Registrar, Articulation, Audit and Graduation, Thompson Rivers University



Many institutions and evaluation services grapple with how to recognize various forms of prior learning, including where to draw the line between transfer credit and prior learning assessment and recognition (PLAR). That line varies considerably from organization to organization and even within an organization. During this session we will examine several of the questions that come up regarding the recognition of prior learning. These questions will be discussed in a lively, interactive session that presents one institution's experience and invites participants to share their knowledge and views.

A Comprehensive Guide to A Level and GCSE Changes in the UK and Globally

Presenters:

Rebecca Spanos, Progression and Recognition Manager, Pearson

Emily Tse, Director of Evaluations, IERF

Since 2013 there have been significant changes in the UK curriculum – for both A levels (Advanced Level examinations) and GCSEs. With the implementation taking place in phases by subject area, universities will begin seeing a vast array of old and new qualifications that may make up an international student's application. This session will help participants understand the changes so they can make informed decisions on international applicants regarding their suitability for and placement in undergraduate degree programs.

Chinese Degrees and Certificates: Then and Now

Presenter:

Jordan Bone, Credentials Analyst Coordinator, Foundation for International Services



This presentation will cover required information and expected formats of Chinese Degree Certificates and Graduation Certificates from the end of the Cultural Revolution to the changes taking place in 2016. Emphasis will be placed on identifying the document formats in detail, noting the mandated changes in the last few decades and the recent mandates allowing for independent formatting by institutions. Issues of confusion and document literacy will be touched on in a review of the functional parts of the documents, and details that help in determining fraudulent documentation will be addressed. Some additional review of exceptional formatting practices will also be covered. This presentation will be for professionals who have some familiarity with Chinese credentials and an interest in a broad overview of documents from the last few decades. This will be of particular interest to anyone who does not use degree verification with CHESSIC or CDGDC for all Chinese credentials and still relies on evaluation staff to determine the need for verification of credentials.

Education System in Iraq

Presenter:

Andreas Arsalan, Senior Credential Evaluator/Expert, Swedish Council for Higher Education

The difficulty in obtaining documents (specifically from the areas not controlled by the government) and the high rate of document fraud surrounding Iraqi documents make it necessary for admissions officers and foreign transcript evaluators to be knowledgeable and vigilant when reviewing academic documents from Iraq. Based on study visits to Iraq in 2000 and 2006, and contact with higher education institutions there, Andreas Arsalan will present information on the basics of the educational system, new developments in higher education, documentation practices, and approaches to obtaining verification of documents from official sources.

People On the Move Need Recognition On the Move

Presenters:

Rolf Lofstad, Senior Adviser, NOKUT

Amy Ullrich, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Europe is experiencing an unprecedented influx of migrants. This session will provide facts and figures on migration: countries of origin, receiving countries, numbers of migrants and their educational level. We will also discuss the perceived authenticity of educational documents from Syria. Recognition is widely accepted as an important tool for integration, which is vitally important to avoid disruptive social differences. However, few countries have taken Article VII (Recognition of qualifications held by refugees, displaced persons and persons in a refugee-like situation) of the Lisbon Recognition Convention sufficiently seriously to have the tools in place to respond quickly to profound changes. We will look into the various European responses when handling recognition/assessment in this special situation. We will discuss the various initiatives and their perceived effectiveness with a special focus on the European Qualification Passport for Refugees and the very special case of “Kiron Open Higher Education”.

Exploring Education in the Southern Cone: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay

Presenter:

Catherine Eccher, Senior Evaluator, Educational Perspectives, nfp.

This will be an intermediate-level presentation on the education systems of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. In this session we will explore the region's education systems, concentrating on general academic study as well as technical and vocational education. We will review common features of documentation from various levels of education and discuss verification resources and best practices.



From Argentina to Zimbabwe: A New Evaluator's Guide to Credential Evaluation

Presenters:

Amy Kawa, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Alison Zaharias, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Jason LeGear, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Three new evaluators, three very different backgrounds, all going through training together as new employees of ECE. How did we get here? How have we been trained? How have we tackled the sometimes steep learning curve of being a new evaluator, and how can you improve or expand the training experience for your new evaluators? This session is particularly tailored for newcomers to the field and for people interested in information about training new evaluators, from new evaluators.

Getting Comfortable with the F Word: Eliminating the Stigma and Embracing the Meaning

Presenter:

Bernard Ramos, Director of Evaluations, Educational Perspectives, nfp.

This presentation is designed for newcomers and intermediate-level evaluation professionals to understand the nuances of a failing grade in selected countries. As there is a variety of interpretations of various grading scales around the world, the grade of 'Failure' can have multiple meanings that can have an impact on evaluation outcomes. The presentation will provide an in-depth discussion of the different types of failed grades and multiple case studies and will bring in several points of view that can help guide the direction of an evaluation.

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

Issues in Ukrainian Credential Evaluation: Overview, Recognition, and Fraud

Presenters:

Tatiana McKenna, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators, (ECE) Inc.

Mary Dumke, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators, (ECE) Inc.

Even if your resources on Ukraine are only a few years old, they may be out of date. The current political and economic situation in Ukraine has incited many changes that affect the educational system. The de-Sovietization laws of 2015 have resulted in name changes to 76 cities and towns and 785 villages, making it difficult to find current contact information for many schools. The climate of upheaval has spurred the mass exodus of the Ukrainian population to many countries of the world including the USA. Many US educational institutions are experiencing an increase in Ukrainian prospective students. This session for the 2016 TAICEP Annual Conference will provide a historical overview of Ukrainian education to help credential evaluators who may be seeing more of these documents.

Topics that will be covered include a time line of educational structure with document samples that span the Soviet system through the Law on Higher Education (2002) and what evaluators can expect to see as 2014 Innovations are implemented to follow European Bologna standards. We'll provide plenty of language resources and links to help determine institutional recognition. The presentation will include a great guide to Authenticity and Fraud Issues incorporating examples of security features and verification databases. Samples of confirmed fraudulent documents will help evaluators catch red flags on Ukrainian documentation that may warrant further authentication. This session will be a fantastic introduction for new evaluators or a great update for those with experience with Ukrainian credentials.

See the related article later in this edition!

CHINATOWN! A Toolkit

Presenters:

Annetta Stroud, Senior Evaluator, AACRAO

Julia Funaki, Associate Director, AACRAO International Education Services

This session will provide a toolkit of go-to resources for the evaluation of Chinese credentials. A brief overview of the education model, followed by a glossary of common educational terms in the Chinese language to reference when looking at various credential examples will be presented. Example benchmark credentials will be analyzed and key features identified to help you read in the indigenous language. Samples will include Graduation and Degree Certificates from regular HEIs, adult programs, and self-study, as well as Degree Certificate formats.

Credentials Evaluation Jeopardy

Presenter:

Kate Freeman, Senior Credential Analyst Consultant, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company

Based on the television game show Jeopardy, this session asks participants to match the question to the answer on topics related to credentials evaluation such as grading scales, translation, and credential types. Credential evaluators at all skill and experience levels will enjoy learning new information in a fun and interactive format.

Credentials Evaluation Jeopardy is based on the popular game show where contestants give the questions to the answers. This version focuses on credentials and educational systems. The goal is to impart information to credentials evaluators at all levels of proficiency while having a good time. Prizes will be awarded!

Chinese Primary and Lower Secondary Credential Evaluation: Challenges, Best Practices, Resources

Presenters:

Katerina Roskina, Owner and Senior Evaluator, China Credential Services

Sally Drea, Director of Admissions, Edgewood Campus School

Credential evaluation at the primary and lower secondary levels is not nearly as common as high school and university credential evaluation. However, as more and more primary and middle schools across the US are opening their doors to international students, it is becoming a necessity when admitting young students from China (and other countries) into those institutions. This session will include a review of Chinese primary and lower secondary education, documentation types and content, resources listing information about academic programs at those levels, and recommendations pertaining to credit/unit and grade conversion. The session will be of interest to both K-12 admissions professionals and credential evaluators working with primary and lower secondary documents from China.

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

Understanding Chinese Credentials

Presenter:

Karen Krug, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Educational documents in Chinese can seem daunting, and even school-issued translations vary in quality. With no alphabet to rely on, it's hard to even know where to start. But you do not have to be fluent in Mandarin to identify key words and distinguish between similar documents. This session covers different types of Chinese educational documents, both secondary and post-secondary. It includes hints on recognizing important Chinese terminology, tools to aid translation, and some tips for detecting fraud.

Evaluating Credentials with a Global Mindset: The Discussion Continues

Presenters:

Emily Tse, Director of Evaluations, IERF

Jessica Stannard, Policy Advisor, EP-Nuffic

Rolf Lofstad, Senior Advisor, NOKUT

Kate Trayte Freeman, Senior Credentials Analyst Consultant, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company

Wendy Loat, Senior Evaluator, International Credential Assessment Services (ICAS)

Last year's plenary session on comparative evaluation methodologies spurred much thought and discussion. This presentation serves as a continuation of that session with the opportunity to explore similarities and differences in approaches to credentials evaluation. While similar criteria may form the basis of our work (e.g., accreditation, minimum entrance requirements, length of program, etc.), our emphasis and interpretations can differ, even among signatories of the Bologna Process. The panel will have evaluators representing Europe and North American which rank among the top regions for international student and professional mobility. At the start of the session, the presenters will highlight what factors drive the methodologies used in their respective countries. Afterward, a variety of sample credentials at all educational levels will be presented. The panel members will each discuss their placement recommendations and the rationale behind them. Fellow panelists and audience members will be invited to comment and share their perspectives on the placement recommendations.

In-House vs Out-sourcing Evaluations

Presenters:

Kelly Sharp, Senior Graduate and International Programs Associate, Columbia College

Timothy Kell, Senior Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

This open mic session is open to everyone, from the experienced professionals to the newcomer on the scene. It is hoped that participants will take away a better understanding of why some institutions have chosen to do their own evaluations in-house, while others have chosen to work with an agency. It is also hoped that participants will leave with the tools to make an informed decision as to what is best for their own institution, whether they choose to evaluate in-house or outsource

Certification of Credential Evaluators-What are the Options?

Presenters:

David Millar, Manager of Evaluation Services, Ontario College of Teachers

Marianne Tompkins-Carter, Senior Evaluator, Ontario College of Teachers

This session will provide an overview of the certification requirements of various professions in order to elicit from participants how they think a proposed certification of credential evaluators should be implemented. The discussion will include what pre-requisites, knowledge, skills and competencies a certified credential evaluator should possess, and how those elements should be assessed. In addition to learning the “ins and outs” of certification, participants will also be assured that TAICEP is seeking membership input and is willing to act upon it.

The Baha'i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE) - To Recognize or Not to Recognize?

Presenters:

Nancy Katz, Director, Evaluation Services Inc.

William Bellin, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

This session will discuss the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE), an 'underground' university located in Iran for Baha'i students who are 'banned' from attending post-secondary study in Iran. We will discuss the history, the system of learning, the programs offered and how students attempt to continue their education outside of Iran. The discussion will also cover how to obtain and review the 'transcripts' from BIHE and how schools around the world work with BIHE studies.

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

Increasing Pre-Arrival Support for Internationally Educated Professionals in a Culture of Openness and Transparency

Presenters:

Diana Sinnige, Policy Advisor, The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators

Shereen Mir-Jabbar, Acting Sr. Credentialing Officer, The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators

Robert Lachance, Manager of Client Services, Ontario College of Teachers

Linda Somersall, Client Services Officer, Ontario College of Teachers

Making informed decisions is an essential part of planning for a smooth transition to practicing one's profession in another country. These decisions are easier to make when internationally educated professionals can determine the likelihood of meeting the requirements for licensing before they leave their source country and apply for certification.

Both the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators and the Ontario College of Teachers implemented pre-arrival tools and other resources to help their internationally educated

applicants make informed decisions. This session will highlight the efforts of these two organizations to increase openness, transparency and timely communication by increasing pre-arrival support for its applicants. The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators will discuss the issues, risks and lessons learned from the following initiatives:

- Open communication of wait times
- Self-Assessment Readiness Tool for Physiotherapists (SART)
- Source Country Profiles- including practice comparisons and exam pass rates
- Cost-Estimator

The Ontario College of Teachers will offer an overview of some of the tools in place to assist applicants and by way of a case study, examine the collaborative approach and comprehensive methodologies used to design and implement a new applicant assessment function on its website.

Demystifying Technical and Vocational Education: A Thorough Look at BTEC and University Progression

Presenters:

Rebecca Spanos, Progression and Recognition Manager, Pearson
Emily Tse, Director of Evaluators, IERF

The educational system of England, Wales and Northern Ireland is robust and yet confusing, in large part due to the complex vocational and technical curriculum that is taken by thousands of learners globally. In this region, there are various routes to tertiary education: the well-known academic curriculum (A levels and GCSEs), along with the often misunderstood suite of BTEC qualifications. This session will help demystify vocational and technical education, focusing on BTEC as an alternative route to university.

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

The Twilight Zone of Evaluation: A Journey Into a Wondrous Land Whose Boundaries Are that of Recognition. Your Next Stop, the Twilight Zone!

Presenters:

Erik Johansson, Credential Evaluator, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Amy Ullrich, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

The session will focus on the nebulous area between pure degree mills and fully recognized/legitimate/accepted institutions. On the safari into this “wondrous land” we will look at different types of terrain, such as international institutions, institutions in non--recognized states/occupied territory, and recognized yet probably substandard institutions. The session will offer a comparative approach with different perspectives on recognition from two different evaluation agencies on either side of the Atlantic. The presenters will offer the audience tools to navigate in the “Twilight Zone.” Participants’ understanding of concepts such as “substantial differences” and “transnational education” will be enhanced.

Medical Education In the Caribbean: Accreditation and Quality Issues

Presenter:

Lorna Parkins, Executive, Director, Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions

In this session, participants will learn about the geographical and historical setting of the Caribbean Region, and the background to the development of medical education and medical education accreditation in the Caribbean. Information will also be provided on the establishment of The Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions (CAAM-HP), its membership, objectives and accreditation system, and the response of institutions whose programs have been accredited.

See the related article in our August 2016 edition at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2016-August-TAICEP-Newsletter.pdf>

How Confident Are We to Assess Credentials From Syria?

Presenter:

Andreas Arsalan, Senior Credential Evaluator/Expert, Swedish Council for Higher Education

This session will cover the education system in Syria, including a short history, institutional types, and quality assurance measures. We will also look at various verification and authentication techniques. This session will be of interest to both beginning and experienced credential evaluators.

Introduction to the Russian Secondary Educational System

Presenters:

Tatiana Arias, Assistant Director of Academic Credential Evaluation, University of South Florida

Tatiana McKenna, Evaluator, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) Inc.

Russia has always been a complex and mysterious country that attracts international attention to its rich culture, tragic history, unpredictable politics, and evolving educational system. Despite serious historical and current political discrepancies between the countries, both the USA and the Russian Federation share countless similarities. Therefore, it is not uncommon for Russian students who are interested in international education to select the USA as their target country.

According to annual statistics published by the Institute of International Education, thousands of Russian students continue their secondary and tertiary education in the USA and that number continues to increase. We find the Russian secondary education sector to be a particularly good way to introduce new evaluators to the basics of evaluating Russian credentials. The presenters will introduce you to the types of schools offering the Russian secondary school curriculum, the Unified State Examination, the secondary grading scale, as well as methods for identifying and reading basic Russian language terms used in credential evaluations. Although this session targets an audience new to the international credential

evaluation field, we will also cover recent educational reforms like new formats for educational credentials, new means of addressing authenticity issues, and free credential evaluation resources. These should appeal to novice and seasoned evaluators alike. Special attention will be paid to analysis of fraud in secondary credentials and methods of contacting schools for verification.

Hands-On Documentation Features

Presenter:

Peggy Hendrickson, Director, Transcript Research

The goal of this session is to examine the fascinating and fun security features available on numerous educational records as a method of fraud detection. This session is oriented towards those who are newer to the field, though all are welcome and all can learn and have fun. Attendees will physically examine numerous samples from a variety of countries and education levels. A brief summary of the types of security features currently used by institutions around the world will be given, as well as the tools evaluators should have in their toolkit. Participants will learn how to use the tools of the trade to examine security features.

International Credential Evaluation in Higher Education Institutions

Presenters:

Patrick Leahy, International Credential Analyst, Michigan State University

Kelly Sharp, Senior Graduate & International Programs Associate, Columbia College (Missouri)

Maxine Reimer, International Admissions Officer, University of Saskatchewan (Canada)

Kaja Schiotz, Senior Adviser, Faculty of Humanities - University of Oslo (Norway)

How does international credential evaluation work in higher education settings? This session will explore international credential evaluation in varying country and institutional contexts. Topics will include descriptions of institutions, staffing arrangements, as well as policies and practices towards international credentials for admissions purposes. Undergraduate and graduate admissions processes and methodologies will be discussed as well. Lastly, we will highlight opportunities and challenges our institutions face in this area.

Looking West: Building a Higher Education Area in Central Asia

Presenter:

Marshall Houserman, Evaluator, Educational Perspectives, Nfp.

Within the past few years Central Asian countries have worked with European Union partners to create a framework for a Central Asian Higher Education Area (CAHEA) modeled on the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), referred to as the 'Bologna Process'. This session provides a brief overview of how Central Asian higher education institutions are shifting from educational systems modeled on the old Soviet format (and in recent years the US format) to the EU model of mobility and credential recognition. We will discuss how this initiative and its reforms will impact credential evaluation and recognition in the region.

Credential Evaluation: Differences In Perspectives of Evaluation Agencies and Educational Institutions

Presenters:

Katerina Roskina, Owner and Senior Evaluator, China Credential Services

Mark Anderson, Director of International Programs and Services, Milwaukee School of Engineering

It is no secret that evaluation agencies and US higher education institutions frequently handle foreign credentials differently: be it what credentials are requested, what document formats are acceptable, or how credit and grade conversions are performed. A credential evaluator's job is to know most everything about a foreign system of education, while an institution's goal is to make sure the student in question is not only admissible, but also has a real chance to succeed if admitted. In addition, the institutions often face a lot of pressure to reach their enrollment goals, and need to find a balance between that and the due diligence to admit qualified students. This session will talk about the differences in our respective approaches and the ways to foster effective collaborations between institutions and evaluation agencies.

A Unique Virtual Admissions Organization – How Swedish Universities Decided to Cooperate

Presenters:

Karin Sikström, Process Manager Department for Admissions and Student Information, Swedish Council for Higher Education

Elisabeth Sudelin, Process Manager Department for Admissions and Student Information, Swedish Council for Higher Education

The Swedish Council for Higher Education, in cooperation with Sweden's universities and university colleges, has developed a unique virtual admissions organization for the processing of foreign academic qualifications. This organization is "virtual" in that admissions staff can access an applicant's scanned documents and admission application electronically, from anywhere in Sweden. The focus of the session will be on the actual processing of applications and the review process. We will discuss the design and management of the virtual organization, its administration and the effective use of resources, as well as how expertise among higher education institutions is shared. Some interesting issues that will be touched upon are how institutions dare to allow an admissions counselor from a competing institution to process their own applications, quality assurance, the division of labor among the universities and university colleges, and special circumstances that may arise. By sharing our experiences, successes and challenges with attendees, we will provide them with an example of good practice on setting up and managing a virtual admissions procedure.

Updates in the System of Higher Education in Ukraine

The purpose of this article is to review the new structure of higher education and the verification database currently functioning in Ukraine.

One of the most important recent legislation updates in the system of Ukrainian higher education was the implementation of the Law “On Higher Education” № 1556-VII on the 1st of July 2014 by the Supreme Council of Ukraine. The Law on Higher Education was welcomed by the Ukrainian educational community with much anticipation as well as simultaneous criticism ever since the country's independence. The revolutionary and controversial principles of the Law oppose the rigid Ukrainian higher education system which continued to bear the traces of the Soviet heritage for the last 25 years. According to the Law, higher education will undergo serious changes which we, as evaluators, should be aware of.

Although the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine still remains the main governmental body overseeing the Ukrainian education on all levels, much of the legislative educational authority will be delegated to the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education. This Agency will be authorized to implement the state policy in education under the Law of Ukraine “On Higher Education”. The Agency will be responsible for monitoring the quality of education in higher education institutions, forming the list of specialties, developing the standards of higher education, accrediting specialties, curricula, specialized academic councils and institutions of quality assurance. It is expected that the Agency will consolidate the regulatory and monitoring functions of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, as well as replace the Higher Attestation Commission (VAK), which was disbanded in 2010, and the State Accreditation Commission (DAK). In the Fall of 2016 the Agency is supposed to be launched, as it was reported by the Minister of Education and Science, Ms. Liliya Grynevych, at the meeting with the representatives elected into the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education held on the 15th of June 2016.

The implementation of the new Law on Higher Education means the complete overhaul in the structure of all the academic levels and degrees. The new educational legislation provides that higher educational specialists will be trained in the academic-professional, academic-scientific and scientific programs according to the following higher education levels relevant to one of the nine Levels of the National Qualification Framework (NQF):

- initial level (short-cycle) higher education corresponding to Level 5 of the NQF;
- Level One (bachelor) corresponding to Level 6 of the NQF;
- Level Two (master) corresponding to Level 7 of the NQF;
- Level Three (education and research) corresponding to Level 8 of the NQF;
- Research level corresponding to Level 9 of the NQF.

In accordance with the five levels of higher education, there will be five new academic qualification degrees: junior bachelor, bachelor, master, doctor of philosophy, and doctor of sciences. The current degrees of junior specialist, specialist, and candidate of sciences will be discontinued after 2016 altogether.

Level	Degree Name	NQF Level	ECTS
Introductory (Short Cycle) Level	Junior Bachelor (молодший бакалавр)	5	90-120
First (Bachelor) Level	Bachelor (бакалавр)	6	180-240
Second (Master) Level	Master (магістр)	7	90-120 (professional programs) 120 (research programs)
Third (Education and Research) Level	Doctor of Philosophy (доктор філософії)	8	30-60
Research Level	Doctor of Sciences (доктор наук)	9	-

The Law includes the workload information in ECTS credits for each of the tertiary degree programs. Currently 1 ECTS credit is equivalent to 30 Ukrainian academic hours, although previously 1 ECTS credit represented 36 Ukrainian academic hours. Therefore, replacing the Junior Specialist degree, there will be a Junior bachelor degree awarded by a higher education institution upon the participant's successful completion of a vocational program of study comprised of 90-120 ECTS credits. The regular Bachelor degree will comprise 180-240 ECTS credits. There will be two types of Master programs: a professionally oriented Master program requiring 90-120 ECTS credits, and an academic Master program requiring 120 ECTS credits. The Master degree in medical, pharmaceutical or veterinary fields will be acquired on the basis of complete general secondary education and it will be awarded by a higher education institution upon successful completion of a relevant program comprised of 300-360 ECTS credits. It should be noted that Minister Grynevych announced at the meeting of the Accreditation Commission of Ukraine on the 5th of 2016 that one-year Master programs (with the exception of a one-year State Service graduate program) would not be accredited since they contradict Article 5 of the Law on Higher Education stipulating the normative duration of study at the Master degree of one and one-half or two years.

Since the status of the Candidate of Sciences degree was discontinued and the Higher Attestation Commission (a central agency under the Cabinet of Ministers responsible for the administration of the nation's scientific work and advanced degree awards) was disbanded on 9 December 2010 per presidential decree No. 1085/2010, the new degrees have come into force to substitute for the outdated "Soviet-style" degrees. The degrees replacing the older "Soviet-style" degree will be known as Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Sciences degrees. The Doctor of Philosophy degree being an academic and the first research degree, includes the normative four-year study period with an education component of 30-60 ECTS credits. The training for Doctor of Philosophy study will be conducted according to the traditional "*aspirantura*" (post-graduate studies) model, including full-time, evening and part-time (distance) modes of study. However, study options outside of traditional "*aspirantura*" norms will be available for those individuals who wish combine their scientific and scientific-pedagogical work. The Doctor of Sciences degree, the second research degree based on the Doctor of Philosophy degree, will be awarded upon completion of the full-time study or independent dissertation research in the two-year "*doctorantura*".

Under the Law, each higher education institution has received considerable autonomy to implement their own academic and scientific programs, to award academic degrees, and to issue customized and state-recognized diplomas. Regarding the format of the Diplomas, it is stated in the Law (Article 7) that “a state-recognized document certifying higher education shall be issued by a higher education institution only for the accredited program of study. For non-accredited programs, institutions produce and issue their own documents certifying higher education according to the procedure and form as established by the institution’s Academic Council”. Moreover, higher education institutions will be entitled to award dual degrees in conjunction with foreign institutions on the basis of the agreement signed by the pedagogical councils of HEIs.

Since 2015, graduates with the degrees of Bachelor, Master, and Doctor of Philosophy started receiving bilingual academic credentials consisting of the Diploma issued in the European format with the QR (Quick Response)-code and the European Diploma Supplement (DS) containing structural information on the completed education. The new European Diploma Supplement contains information regarding the study of the individual including the coursework, assessment and ECTS credits as well as clarification on the national system of higher education in Ukraine.

In conjunction with changes to the levels of higher education and the academic credentials implemented on the basis of the Law on Higher Education, we should also be aware of the emergence of the Unified State Education Electronic Database (ЄДЕБО) available at the websites of the state enterprise “*Inforesurs*” <http://www.inforesurs.gov.ua/> and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine at <http://mon.gov.ua>. The state enterprise “*Inforesurs*” belongs to the managerial sector of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The enterprise is the administrator of the Unified State Education Electronic Database, the authorized body for providing the educational institutions with the credentials of the state-recognized format. The Unified State Education Electronic Database contains the Registry of higher education institutions, the Registry of documents certifying higher education and the Registry of external standardized assessment certificates.

Since the adoption of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine resolution “On Documents on Education and Scientific Degrees” from 11/12/1997 N 1260 until 01/04/2015 on behalf of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Scientific Research Institute of Applied Information Technology under agreement with the State Enterprise “*Inforesurs*” centrally provided HEIs with academic credentials issued in the state-recognized format. Documents on education, centrally produced by the Scientific Research Institute of Applied Information Technology, had security features that protected them from forgery. The unique series and number could be verified online free of charge on the website of the Internet resource of the Information and Production System “*Osvita*” (www.osvita.net). The “*Osvita*” database worked smoothly practically for all levels of credentials, but not without some glitches, from 1998 until 2014. It was an excellent database for us to check the Ukrainian diplomas issued on the basis of photo-computer technology for authenticity. Unfortunately, it was not possible to verify the transcripts in addition to the diplomas, and this was one of the drawbacks of the system that spurred the government of Ukraine to develop an alternative database. In the Fall of 2015, the “*Osvita*” database directed its users with inquiries regarding the diplomas issued in the format of the photo-computer technology previously stored in the “*Osvita*” to the

website of the “*Inforesurs*”. Credential evaluators may have wondered why the smoothly functioning verification database of the system “*Osvita*” ceased existing. It should be noted that the situation around the enterprises responsible for issuing diplomas in Ukraine is rather sensitive as it involves considerable corruption and embezzlement at the highest level. At the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the 24th of February 2016, the former Minister of Education Mr. Kvit gave a clarifying speech regarding the Ltd. Scientific Research Institute of Applied Information Technology which developed the state Information and Production System “*Osvita*”. It turned out that whereas the database was state-owned, the software was privately owned and this discrepancy created tensions connected with the financial situation around the diplomas.

Currently the “*Osvita*” database is located in the “*Inforesurs*” and it is intended for public use as before; however, only the diplomas issued in 2015 and 2016 are available. Per written request, both the students and employers can obtain confirmation of study from “*Inforesurs*” for the time frame of 2000 through 2014, and the confirmation will be issued within five business days.

Conclusions: Despite the European vector of higher education innovations (ECTS, NQF, DS, levels of education and degrees) to be carried out in all the Ukrainian higher education institutions, it is still too early to draw conclusions on how the 2014 Law has affected higher education in Ukraine. However, the first important steps have been made towards the European educational community which is supposed to provide the Ukrainian students with more educational opportunities including transparency in education, mobility and freedom to pursue their goals in life with the help of modernized Ukrainian education.

Resources:

1. Ministry of Science and Education of Ukraine: <http://mon.gov.ua/>
2. State Enterprise “Inforesurs”: <http://www.inforesurs.gov.ua/>
3. Law on Higher Education (2014): <http://zakon4.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1556-18>
4. Law on Higher Education in English <http://erasmusplus.org.ua/vyshcha-osvita-v-ukraini.html>
5. “Ukrainian Government sets up authority to ensure quality higher education in the country”: http://www.kmu.gov.ua/control/en/publish/article?art_id=248104712&cat_id=244314975
6. Center of International Projects “European Education”: <http://www.euroosvita.net/index.php>
7. ENIC Ukraine National Information Centre of Academic Mobility: <http://enic.in.ua/index.php/en/main/2-uncategorised/3-main>
8. On Higher Education Credentials: http://search.ligazakon.ua/l_doc2.nsf/link1/GH3T600A.html

Tatiana McKenna, Educational Credential Evaluators

Sharing a Reality (in International Education)

With the oh-so-fun election season in full swing here in the U.S., it is more difficult than usual to ignore how people can operate in such different realities. People can't seem to agree on what is a "fact". In many cases, this is for good reason, because so much around us has subjective meaning.

However, a shared reality does seem to exist. If it didn't, then mathematics would be meaningless. The "fact" that $1+1=2$ is true for you, for me, and for everyone connects us all, independent of our subjective realities. Fantastically, this also seems to mean that if a group of different people living in their own subjective worlds can collectively learn enough about our shared reality, they can successfully invent something that will blast off from our planet and fly to a precise place in the previously unexplored depths of spacetime! And then do it again, and again!

Working in international education with credentials, I sometimes feel like I'm searching for relationships between separate "educational realities". Of course, credentials and educational situations are complicated issues involving a significant amount of subjective human behavior. As a result, simple arithmetic is insufficient for understanding comparative education, and we may never have credential evaluation solutions as precise as the results of a mechanical-physics equation. Nonetheless, I certainly believe we can reduce biased decision making in our field and improve fair treatment of applicants by using transparent and consistent, evidence-oriented methods. Eventually, if we collect and exchange enough information in a coherent manner, we might even build our own shared reality in international education!

Drew Feder, Credential Consultants

Add to Your Library

TAICEP members have access to our Resources for Members area which includes our fabulous and exciting new database of Verification Sources for Educational Documents. It's available online at <http://www.taicep.org/taiceporgwp/professional-development/resources/reference-materials/verification-sources-for-educational-documents/>

Here are just a sample of some the latest editions to our online database that relate to our conference sessions. This selection includes email addresses and/or websites for national exam boards, professional qualification providers, higher education institutions, and Ministries of Education.



Afghanistan: <http://moe.gov.af/en/page/5949>
Chile: Universidad de Chile: maranda@uchile.cl
India Government, Directorate of Technical Education Tamil Nadu:
<http://www.tndte.com/gte.html>
India: North Maharashtra University:
<http://apps.nmu.ac.in/DegreeVerification/VerifyDegree.aspx>
Iraq: University of Technology: <http://www.uotechnology.edu.iq/uot-graduates/index.htm>
Russian Federation: Federal Service for Supervision of Education and Science (diplomas issued in 2010-2011): <http://frdocheck.obrnadzor.gov.ru/>
Ukraine: Inforsurs: <http://inforesurs.gov.ua/info-per/inforesurs-per-doc.php>
United Kingdom: University of London, International Programs:
<https://results.londoninternational.ac.uk/examresults/results/findresults.jsp>
Venezuela: Universidad Dr. Rafael Bellosó Chacín: <https://www.urbe.edu/portal-empresas/>

If you'd like to include additional resources that we haven't already discovered, please email our editor at peggy@transcriptresearch.com, and we'll thank you in an upcoming edition!

Notes from the Field

We also like to share neat things we find in our daily work that we think would be useful or helpful to other international credential education specialists. These findings are also related to our fabulous session offerings!

Send your neat findings to peggy@transcriptresearch.com, and we'll mention you in an upcoming edition.



From around the Web:

Afghanistan: <http://www.cnn.com/2016/08/24/asia/kabul-afghanistan-american-university-blast-gunshots-heard/index.html>
China gaokao: <http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/990567.shtml>
China fake universities: <https://www.rt.com/news/348842-china-fake-universities-colleges/>
Baha'i Institute: http://www.mercurynews.com/education/ci_30245999/underground-university-bay-area-teachers-beam-secret-online
Bologna degrees: <http://www.aacrao.org/resources/resources-detail-view/bologna--three-year-degrees--and-what-it-means-for-the-u-s->
Degree Fraud: <http://cdn.prospects.ac.uk/pdf/Advice%20and%20Guidance%20on%20Degree%20Fraud%20for%20HE%20Providers.pdf>
Fraud: <http://thepienews.com/analysis/fraud-in-international-education-how-secure-is-your-score/>

India: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/Non-existent-UP-universities-make-it-to-UGCs-list/articleshow/53664278.cms>

India online database: <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/hrd-ministry-to-set-up-digital-database-to-curb-fake-certificates-mark-sheets/story-fKgiht2kOwPtJ5gmPAZoO.html>

Joint Degree Programs: http://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/articles/2016-08-23/international-double-joint-degree-programs-on-the-rise?src=usn_tw

Kazakhstan: http://kazakh-tv.kz/en/view/business/page_164653_kazakhstan-set-to-improve-higher-education

Russia:

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/cover_story/2016/05/the_thriving_russian_black_market_in_dissertations_and_the_crusaders_fighting.html

Turkey: [https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/08/31/foreign-academic-briefly-detained-turkey-tells-his-story?](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/08/31/foreign-academic-briefly-detained-turkey-tells-his-story?utm_source=Inside+Higher+Ed&utm_campaign=3ec1ff9937-DNU20160831&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1fcbc04421-3ec1ff9937-197548621&mc_cid=3ec1ff9937&mc_eid=cfc9a35aca)

[utm_source=Inside+Higher+Ed&utm_campaign=3ec1ff9937-DNU20160831&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1fcbc04421-3ec1ff9937-197548621&mc_cid=3ec1ff9937&mc_eid=cfc9a35aca](https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/08/31/foreign-academic-briefly-detained-turkey-tells-his-story?utm_source=Inside+Higher+Ed&utm_campaign=3ec1ff9937-DNU20160831&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1fcbc04421-3ec1ff9937-197548621&mc_cid=3ec1ff9937&mc_eid=cfc9a35aca)

US Accreditation: <http://www.chea.org/pdf/AccredRecogUS.pdf>

Journals, Newsletters, and Other Resources:

2016 Summer Forum. European Association for International Education.

<http://www.eaie.org/eaie-resources/library/publication/Forum-Magazine/2016-summer-forum>

The ACCRAO International Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals.

ACCRAO, 2016. [http://www4.aacrao.org/publications/catalog.php?](http://www4.aacrao.org/publications/catalog.php?item=0146#.V79pZ5grKUK)

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Focus: Refugee Education. Al-Fanar Media. [http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?](http://us5.campaign-archive2.com/?u=1d3de7155coca636f6ba1b1ab&id=47a2f7be2a)

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Mapping the Landscape: Accreditation and the International Dimensions of U.S. Higher Education. NAFSA, 2015. <http://www.nafsa.org/wcm/Product?prodid=438>

No More Excuses: Provide Education to All Forcibly Displaced People. UN Refugee Agency.

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002448/244847E.pdf>

Not There Yet: An Investigation into the Access and Participation of Students from Humanitarian Refugee Backgrounds in the Australian Higher Education System.

Melbourne Refugee Studies Program, 2016. <https://www.ncsehe.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Not-there-yet-An-Investigation-into-the-Access-and-Participation-of-Students-from-Humanitarian-Refugee-Backgrounds-in-the-Australian-Higher-Education-System-11-Aug-16.pdf>

Thanks!

Thank you to all of our presenters, organizers, volunteers, coordinators, contributors, exhibitors, and everyone else who has worked tirelessly to create this wonderful conference!

