WHO WE ARE
For a number of years informal groups of international credential evaluators around the world have been discussing the need for a new professional association. TAICEP was established to meet the unique goals of the profession of International Credential Evaluation Professionals.

TAICEP STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES
Openness – the opportunity for involvement by all parties known to be affected by the particular standards development activity.
Balance – balancing interests so that standards development activities are not dominated by any single group of interested parties.
Transparency – readily available access to essential information regarding proposed and final standards.
Consensus – substantial agreement reached on all material points after the consideration of all views and objections.
Process – including the right to express a position, to have it considered, and to appeal an adverse decision.

OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES
1. Collaboration
2. Transparency
3. Inclusiveness
4. Volunteerism
5. International orientation

PRIMARY GOALS
- Define and promote the profession.
- Develop and promote common standards.
- Advocate for the profession.
- Conduct research and disseminate information that supports the profession.
- Identify and develop theories, methodologies and best practices used in international credential evaluation.
- Obtain appropriate official recognition for the association.
- Promote cooperation with other groups involved in international education.
- Identify and promote professional development, training, and other educational opportunities.
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THE VALUE OF YOUR TAICEP MEMBERSHIP

Be a part of the only professional organization geared solely toward the needs of international credential evaluators.

Your $195 membership fee offers you:

- unlimited access to online resources on the TAICEP website
- unlimited access to TAICEP TALK, our newsletter, past and current editions
- unlimited access to professionals in the field always willing to share their knowledge
- access to webinars throughout the year, including unlimited access to previous webinars
- the opportunity to attend TAICEP Conferences uniquely planned to meet our needs
- the opportunity to participate in our Certification Program coming soon
- the opportunity to volunteer in a variety of committees whether in leadership positions or not
- the opportunity to advocate for the profession and impact its development
WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT
Here are some of the answers from those who are traveling to this meeting:

“I want to learn from others.”
“I want to share my knowledge.”
“TAICEP is the most useful conference I have ever attended.”
“All of the sessions are relevant to what I do every day.”

Other answers are:

“I will share my experiences with professionals who implicitly understand the triumphs and challenges of the field.”
“I like hanging out with people who do what I do.”
“I don’t have to explain to anyone what I do – they know!”
“I want to serve a profession that I love.”

When the charter members formed TAICEP, they had the goals of defining the profession, promoting common standards, advocating for the profession, sharing information and best practices and promoting cooperation with other international education professionals. The conference is the annual celebration of those goals, and so much more. It is the human and personal expression of our profession. At the conference we learn and teach. We also revel in the comfort of being with other people who love what they do and understand the essence of our field. This is where we celebrate our work and our joy.

Through our work, we perform our part to break down barriers and make the world a more open and peaceful place. As a truly international association, we are holding our third conference in Europe. International credential evaluation professionals from over 20 countries in Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America will come together at this meeting.

On behalf of the TAICEP Executive Board, I wish you all a warm welcome to TAICEP’s third annual conference in Rome, the Eternal City.

On the Conference Committee, 2017 Conference Chair Luca Lantero and his team have provided us with a beautiful location and environment for our deliberations, and Committee Chair Jeremy Mixell has seen to a myriad of details to ensure a productive and enjoyable meeting. Leading the Committee for Professional Development, Chair Jessica Stannard and the entire Committee have worked with session and workshop presenters to give you the content that makes this gathering unique in our profession. Our Executive Director Robert Prather is the force of nature that keeps everything running.

Your job for the next few days is to learn, teach and enjoy one another’s company under the beautiful Italian sky.

With joy, I welcome you all to TAICEP in Rome.

Margit Schatzman
TAICEP President
CONFERENCE CHAIR’S WELCOME
It’s a great pleasure to give to all the TAICEP participants a warm welcome in Rome! It’s an honour for us as CIMEA – NARIC Italia to host all the attendees to this amazing first TAICEP conference in Italy and in Europe.

I participated in all TAICEP meetings and I always learnt something new and useful for my profession: the different geographical provenience and professional experience of attendees, the richness of contents tailor made on credential evaluators needs, the deep preparation of conference speakers and the great possibility of networking and exchange of ideas and practices make the TAICEP conference a unique occasion of professional growth.

I love so much the pay off of TAICEP: “The art and the science of credential evaluation”, and here in Italy terms like “Art” and “Science” have a specific taste, where millenniums of history, of flourishing of arts and scientific research and developments imprinted all our culture.

In fact, the work of each credential evaluator is absolutely an art, as CIMEA define in its motto: “the Art of connecting Academia”!

I really hope that you can get inspiration for our daily job in this long tradition of brilliance, beauty and intelligence at the service of humanity.

So I would like to wish to TAICEP and to participants to this conference to have in future bigger things, and as in Latin... Ad maiora TAICEP!

Luca Lantero
Conference Chair
MEET THE EXECUTIVE TEAM!

WE WANT TO SHARE A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OURSELVES AND GET TO KNOW YOU, TOO.
WE’RE SO EXCITED TO BE A PART OF THIS AMAZING GROUP AND CAN’T WAIT TO SHARE OUR PLANS FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE. THANKS FOR JOINING US IN ROME!
Margit Schatzman is President of Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE), a U.S. non-profit organization that provides credential evaluation, research and training in international education. She is excited about work that ECE is doing to provide free evaluations for refugees. Her professional passion is supporting the growth of TAICEP and she is a frequent speaker at U.S. and international conferences. Her degrees include a Master of Science and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

**Margit Schatzman**

**PRESIDENT (April 2017 to December 2017)**

Natasha is the former Coordinator of the Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials (CICIC) at the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) [cicic.ca]. CICIC is Canada’s National Information Centre (ENIC) to facilitate the mobility of students and skilled workers. Natasha has worked in philanthropic, not-for-profit, and public sector organizations on postsecondary education, international relations, and public policy development. She was part of TAICEP’s inaugural steering committee, co-chaired the transition committee, and served as president from January 2016 to April 2017.

**Natasha Sawh**

**PRESIDENT (January 2016 to April 2017)**

Ken has worked in international education since 1992. A frequent presenter at conferences in the US and abroad, he is a specialist in credential evaluation methodology, fraudulent credentials, international systems of accreditation and recognition in higher education. He is the author of ECE Presents: the Educational System of Finland, a contributing author to the AACRAO Student Records Management: A Handbook and The Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals. Ken has served as Chair of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) and as a member of the ACE Board of EAIE. He is Founder and President of Educational Perspectives, a not-for-profit organization located in Chicago, USA. EP became a signatory to the Groningen Declaration in 2014. Ken holds a BA degree in History and Russian Language and Literature and completed his graduate study in Public History at the University of Wisconsin.

**Ken Warren**

**VP OF STANDARDS**

Jeanie Bell is Senior Assistant Director of International Admissions in the Office of Admissions, University of Colorado Boulder, located in Boulder, Colorado, USA. She has led international admissions teams at US universities, including in her current position. She has set standards for international academic admissions, has recruited students, and trained staff in credential evaluation and immigration processing. Professionally active in international education since 1986, her accomplishments include presenting and chairing sessions in Asia, Europe and North America for various professional organizations including TAICEP, NAFSA, EAIE, AACRAO and OACAC. She is currently Vice-President of Membership for The Association for International Credential Evaluation Professionals (TAICEP). She received her Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver.

**Jeanie Bell**

**VP OF MEMBERSHIP**

Ken has worked in international education since 1992. A frequent presenter at conferences in the US and abroad, he is a specialist in credential evaluation methodology, fraudulent credentials, international systems of accreditation and recognition in higher education. He is the author of ECE Presents: the Educational System of Finland, a contributing author to the AACRAO Student Records Management: A Handbook and The Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals. Ken has served as Chair of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) and as a member of the ACE Board of EAIE. He is Founder and President of Educational Perspectives, a not-for-profit organization located in Chicago, USA. EP became a signatory to the Groningen Declaration in 2014. Ken holds a BA degree in History and Russian Language and Literature and completed his graduate study in Public History at the University of Wisconsin.

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WE HOPE THIS CONFERENCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE A GREAT WAY TO CONNECT WITH COLLEAGUES, SHARE BEST PRACTICES AND BUILD A STRONGER NETWORK IN THE FIELD FOR CREDENTIAL ANALYSTS.

DAVID HAYNES
TREASURER
David has over 25 years of experience in foreign credential evaluation and business experience. He has served as the President and Head Evaluator of International Education Evaluations, Inc. (IEE, Inc.) since 2007. Before entering the credential evaluation industry he worked for nine years in the accounting field.

ROBERT PRATHER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Robert has worked in higher education in a variety of positions in international admissions, marketing, immigration, and study abroad. He has worked at several large state universities and for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Robert has held a variety of volunteer roles in NAFSA and AACRAO. In addition to his current role as TAICEP Executive Director, he acts as primary caregiver for his mother, who has Alzheimer’s. Robert has his master’s degree from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce in economics and diplomatic history. He is devoted to the international education profession and very much values his association with TAICEP.

KATE FREEMAN
SECRETARY
Kate has more than 30 years of experience in international education that started with studying abroad in Salamanca, Spain, as an undergrad, and continued as an ESL teacher with U.S. Peace Corps in Morocco and at Feng Chia University in Taichung, Taiwan followed by positions as an international student advisor, international admission officer, and foreign credentials evaluator. She has authored 150+ entries in AACRAO’s EDGE, and volumes on the educational system of Morocco, an introduction to foreign credentials evaluation, and co-authored a book on the educational system of France. She’s currently the senior credentials analyst consultant at SpanTran: The Evaluation Company.
COMMITTEES

THE GREAT WORK TAICEP IS DOING WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT EVERYONE INVOLVED. IN ADDITION TO THE EXECUTIVE TEAM, WE WANT TO RECOGNIZE ALL THE HARD WORK COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE DOING.
Committee for Governance and Finance

The Committee for Governance and Finance is responsible for overseeing the governance structures for TAICEP, the long-term financial sustainability of the Association and to ensure that the Association complies with relevant legislation concerning the financial reporting of its activities.

Margit Schatzman (Chair)
Ken Warren
Margaret Donaldson
David Haynes (ex officio)
Robert Prather (staff)

Committee for Standards

The Committee for Standards is responsible for developing and maintaining a set of ethical principles, guidelines, standards, and best practices for the international credential evaluation profession that all members will be asked to adhere to, and to build on existing resources.

Rolf Lofstad (Chair)
Emily Tse
Meg Wenger
Sarah Ledwidge

Committee for Membership Outreach

The Committee for Membership Outreach is responsible for building TAICEP’s membership base and organizing appropriate outreach activities to ensure the Association is well-known.

Marshall Houserman (Chair)
Kelley Sharp
Shelby Cearley
Laurie Cook
Patrick Leahy

Professional Development and Training Committee

The Professional Development and Training Committee will develop a strategy for structured professional development for credential evaluators.

Jessica Stannard (Chair)
Robert Huang
Timothy Kell
Denise Benz
Julia Funaki

Resources for Members Committee

The Resources for Members Committee will develop key benefits/resources for members.

Lou Nunes (Chair)
Peggy Bell-Hendrickson
LesLee Eicher
Annetta Stroud
Anu Soin
Lily Jandreska
Rebecca Chamula

Ad-Hoc Committees

Conference Committee
Jeremy Mixell (Chair)
Luca Lantero (2017 Coordinator)
Kate Freeman (2018 Coordinator)

Certification Committee
Kate Freeman (Chair)
Aleksandar Popovski
Brian Bates
Eve Bonner
Marianne Tompkins-Carter

Marketing and Communications Committee
Shereen Mir-Jabbar (Chair)

Fundraising Committee
George Kacenga (Chair)
PLENARY SPEAKER
Stig Arne Skjerven is Director of the Foreign Education in NOKUT (the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education). He leads the Norwegian ENIC-NARIC office, which is in charge of recognition of foreign qualifications and information provisions in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention. He has been crucial in developing recognition schemes in Norway, in particular for refugees, displaced persons and persons in refugee-like situations, persons which often lack or have unverifiable documentation. He has published a number of articles on this issue. Together with his team in NOKUT, he has been crucial in developing the methodology of the Qualifications Passport for Refugees.

Skjerven has a vast experience as an elected representative of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) and the European recognition network (ENIC-NARIC), plus active participation in international work in various fields of higher education. He is currently a member of UNESCO’s Drafting Committee for the Global Convention for Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications.
SPONSOR RECOGNITION

WE OFFER SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS - THIS CONFERENCE SIMPLY WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR GENEROSITY.
ICAS – International Credential Assessment Service of Canada/Service canadien d’évaluation de documents scolaires internationaux

$ 1000 - Plenary Speaker

ICAS is a bilingual Canadian organization with over 25 years of experience in the assessment of international credentials. ICAS is committed to helping people achieve their personal, career and education goals by providing accurate and reliable credential assessment services and helping employers, education institutions, immigration officials and community agencies understand education completed outside Canada. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with our international colleagues at this year’s conference and hope that it will further increase TAICEP’s international presence and its information sharing/professional development activities.

Digitary

$ 1000 - Plenary Speaker

The world’s leading universities & education providers have chosen Digitary to secure their students’ and graduates’ credentials across Europe, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, China, India and beyond. For over 10 years, Digitary has enabled education providers, students, employers, and government agencies to securely certify, share & verify academic credentials online.

Arizona International Credential Evaluators, LLC

$ 500 - Operating Expenses and Supplies

AZICE has been an independent credential evaluation service since 2007. Its senior evaluators are Brian Bates and Maxine McCarty, with combined professional experience of more than 100 years in international education in universities and international credential evaluation. Both have served in leadership positions in NAFSA and AACRAO.

A2Z Evaluations

$ 500 - Operating Expenses and Supplies

A2Z Evaluations, LLC, a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES), providing personal, professional and reliable international credential evaluation services, is proud to be a sponsor of this year’s TAICEP Conference in Rome, Italy.

Evaluation Services Inc.

$ 1500 - Breaks

Congratulations TAICEP!!! Wishing you success for a wonderful conference in ITALY! Evaluation Services, Inc., was established in 1990 providing international academic credential assessment.

Academic Evaluation Services Inc.

$ 700 - Two attendees

Academic Evaluation Services, Inc., a NACES® member firm since May 2008, analyzes foreign academic and professional credentials to establish the equivalent degree, credits or years of study that would be awarded in the U.S. educational system, at different levels of education. Our mission is to provide fast, accurate services so that our clients may further their education and professional careers in the United States. With years of expertise, knowledge and reliability, we strive to not only provide evaluations to those in need but to also set an example of good business ethics and practices within our local, national, and international communities.
Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators (CAPR)

$2000 - Gold Sponsor

The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators (CAPR) is a credentialling and assessment agency that provides Evaluation Services on behalf of our Members – the Canadian provincial and territorial physiotherapy regulators (called Colleges). On behalf of our Members, we review the education and qualifications of applicants educated outside of Canada to determine whether or not they are substantially different from those of Canadian-educated physiotherapists. For both Canadian and internationally-educated physiotherapists, we administer the Physiotherapy Competency Examination (PCE) to determine a candidate’s readiness for safe, effective and independent physiotherapy practice.

ICAS – International Credential Assessment Service of Canada/Service canadien d’évaluation de documents scolaires internationaux

$1000 - Silver Sponsor

ICAS is a bilingual Canadian organization with over 25 years of experience in the assessment of international credentials. ICAS is committed to helping people achieve their personal, career and education goals by providing accurate and reliable credential assessment services and helping employers, education institutions, immigration officials and community agencies understand education completed outside Canada. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with our international colleagues at this year’s conference and hope that it will further increase TAICEP’s international presence and its information sharing/professional development activities.

Transcript Research

$100 - Friend of TAICEP

Working toward the international exchange of people and ideas. Transcript Research is a foreign transcript evaluation company that assists people who have earned educational credentials in other countries as they pursue their goals in the U.S. We also conduct evaluations directly for institutions as their in-house evaluator or through a custom application portal. Transcript Research is also very active in the international education community, especially focused on helping to educate and grow newer credentials evaluators. We also conduct workshops, conference sessions, and other training opportunities for educational institutions and transcript evaluators. Transcript Research believes that comparative education allows more people to expand their boundaries and knowledge of the world, helping us all become global citizens.

Shorelight Education

$100 - Friend of TAICEP

Shorelight Education is reinventing the international education experience for students worldwide. Based in Boston, the company partners with top-ranked, nonprofit U.S. universities to build innovative degree programs and services that are both high-touch and technology-driven to help talented students succeed on campus and become globally minded alumni.
SAVE THE DATE:
SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2018
TAICEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE
IN PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA

at the DoubleTree by Hilton,
Philadelphia Center City

If you loved this year’s conference in Rome, don’t miss out on attending next year’s conference in Philadelphia! Our conferences are an excellent opportunity for credential evaluators to network, share and gain extensive knowledge, and to further grow the profession. Be sure to mark this one in your calendars!
EXHIBITOR RECOGNITION

THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED BY THE AMAZING EXHIBITORS WHO KEEP US UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST TRENDS AND TECHNOLOGIES IN OUR FIELD.
**Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.**

Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) is a nonprofit that reviews educational achievements by individuals from other countries and converts them to the U.S. system for purposes of studying or working in the U.S. We take pride in our accurate, high quality reports based on official documents and expert research, as well as our quick turnaround time and superior customer service. Over 3,000 institutions and 600,000 individuals continue to trust us. A charter NACES member, ECE also provides training and resources for in-house university credential evaluators, expertise, and customer service.

**Ucredo**

Ucredo is a credential evaluation and translation company located in Orlando, Florida. We provide fast, accurate, and reliable credential evaluations for individuals that have completed all or part of their education outside the United States. We also have a team of experienced translators that specialize in translation of academic documents from Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Mandarin, Russian, German, and French.

**Association of International Credential Evaluators, Inc. (AICE)**

AICE® is a not-for-profit organization founded by international educational credential evaluation services dedicated to research and publishing in the field of applied comparative education. AICE® prides itself in as the standard-setting association for international credential evaluation professionals. Established in 1998, AICE promotes best practices in international education through collaboration among a variety of stakeholders. AICE bridges the gap between credential evaluation services and academic institutions by offering two membership tiers: Endorsed Member (for credential evaluation services) and Affiliate (for accredited schools, and degree-granting institutions of higher education).

**Cambridge English Language Assessment**

Cambridge English Language Assessment is part of the University of Cambridge. We develop and produce the most valuable range of qualifications for learners and teachers of English in the world. Over 5 million Cambridge English exams are taken each year in more than 130 countries. Around the world over 20,000 universities, employers, government ministries and other organisations rely on our exams and qualifications as proof of English language ability. Cambridge English exams are backed by the work of the largest dedicated research team of any English language test provider. Cambridge English Language Assessment – a not-for-profit organisation.
About LUISS

LUISS - Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli - is an independent University accredited by the Italian Ministry of Education and affiliated with CONFINDEUTRIA, the Association of Italian Industries.

VIALE ROMANIA CAMPUS

This historic complex from the early nineteenth century with the later addition of a church has been completely renovated in 2007. It now houses the Departments of Economics and Finance, Business and Management and Political Science. It is a campus of over 33,000 square meters set in a park in the centre of Rome, with advanced technology and services.
THE ETERNAL CITY

WELCOME TO ROME! THESE ARE JUST FEW SUGGESTIONS OF WAYS TO SPEND YOUR TIME IN THE CITY
Restaurants and Pizzerias in the area of the conference venue

AL CEppo
Phone: +39 06 85301370
info@ristorantalecceppo.it
www.ristorantalecceppo.it
Via Panama 2, 00198
Roma

La Pariolina
Phone: +39 0680693196
giusylapariolina@gmail.com
www.lapariolina.it
Viale Parioli 95 A/F, 00197
Roma
Discount: 10% for lunch

Pepe Verde
Phone: +39 06 8530 1181
pepeverde.eu
Viale Corizia 38/44, 00198
Roma

Villa Paganini
Phone: +39 06 4423 1448
ristorantevillapaganini@gmail.com
www.ristorantevillapaganini.it
Vicolo della Fontana 28, 00198
Roma

Villa Paganini
Phone: +39 06 4423 1448
ristorantevillapaganini@gmail.com
www.ristorantevillapaganini.it
Vicolo della Fontana 28, 00198
Roma

Il Datterino Giallo
Phone: +39068605404
info@ildatterinogiallo.it
www.ildatterinogiallo.it
Piazza Ledro 1/6, 00199
Roma
Discount: 10% for dinner

MAF Bistrot
Phone: +39 0686383223
info@mafbistrot.it
mafbistrot.com
Via di Santa Costanza 33, 00198
Roma
Discount: 20% for lunch and dinner

Obicà
Phone: +39 0685344184
eventiroma@obicà.com
obica.com
Via Guido D’Arezzo 49, 00198
Roma
Discount: 10% for lunch

Ristorante Hotel Panama Garden
Phone: +39 068552558
morga@tin.it
www.hotelpanamagarden.com
Via Salaria 336, 00199 Roma

The King of Salads
Phone: +39 0685961853
romapiazzaistria@thekingofsalads.com
www.facebook.com/thekingofsaladsPiazzaIstria/
Via Bisagno 16 B, 00199
Roma
Discount: 15%

Momart
Phone: (+39) 06 86391656
www.momartcafe.it
Viale XXI Aprile 19, 00162
Roma
Discount: 10% for lunch
and 10% for dinner

Full list of Restaurants and pizzeria on the LUISS www.luiss.it/studenti/convenzioni?term_node_tid_depth=2199&sconto_minimo

Some restaurants have a convention with LUISS, see details of each restaurant.
In order to have the discount, please bring your conference badge with you.

Things to see in the area of the conference venue

Rome is the capital and largest city of Italy. The historic centre of the city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. With wonderful palaces, millenium-old churches and basilicas, grand romantic ruins, opulent monuments, ornate statues and graceful fountains, Rome has an immensely rich historical heritage and cosmopolitan atmosphere, making it one of Europe’s and the world’s most visited, famous, influential and beautiful capitals.

Here you will find a variety of things to see and do within a walking distance from the LUISS University: the Auditorium designed by Renzo Piano and the MAXXI Art Gallery designed by architect Zaha Hadid. The real jewel in this part of Rome is without a doubt Villa Borghese, a public park that offers something for everyone – and it’s just a 20-minute walk from the campus! Also located within a 20 minute walking distance from the conference is Villa Ada. Located in the northeastern part of the city, this park is the second largest in the city after Villa Doria Pamphili, and offers the perfect place for a relaxing stroll in its expansive 450 acres.

Nearby, the Flaminio district is also a favorite among sports enthusiasts given the Foro Italico sports complex is located here. Romance is in the air at Ponte Milvio, whose lamp posts are covered with locks that have been left by couples as tokens of everlasting love.

Just a stone’s throw away is the Parioli district where business and residential buildings flourish with lots of fashionable bars and restaurants.
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE!

ALL THE DETAILS YOU’LL NEED TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE. CHOOSE FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF SESSIONS TO CUSTOMIZE THIS EXPERIENCE AND GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TIME HERE IN ROME.
SPECIAL THANKS!
WE OFFER SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OUR AMAZING PRESENTERS!
YOU MAKE OUR CONFERENCE WHAT IT IS EACH YEAR WITH YOUR PROFESSIONALISM AND WILLINESS TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICES WITH THE GROUP. LOOKING FORWARD TO AN AMAZING SELECTION OF SESSIONS THIS YEAR.
**Beyond the Basics: Confronting Issues and Challenges in Evaluating of Foreign Credentials**

As a credential evaluator, you have probably been confronted more than once with cases that are out of the ordinary and that require additional time and effort to complete. We have many tools at our disposal to help us evaluate foreign credentials, but many cases require creative solutions in order to come up with an evaluation in line with the methodology that we use. In this pre-conference workshop, we will take a closer look at some of the issues and challenges that credential evaluators have to deal with, such as doubtful accreditation/recognition, transnational education, lack of reliable information, uncommon documentation, fraudulent documents. During the workshop, we will work with documents that provide concrete examples of these issues. Most of the workshop will be spent discussing and comparing how credential evaluators in various countries and working in various environments (ENIC/ NARIC offices, higher education institutions, evaluation agencies, licensing authorities) evaluate these qualifications. We invite all participants to bring their own challenging examples to the workshop to share with their colleagues. At the end of the workshop, we hope to come up with recommendations and guidelines that can be useful when confronted with similar cases in the future.

**Presenters:**
Sarah Ledwidge, ICAS, Canada  
Jessica Stannard, Nuffic, the Netherlands

**Room:** 209

---

**Evaluating Refugee Qualifications**

As wars and conflicts around the globe continue apace, 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 Europe and North America. It will build on the 2016 TAICEP pre-conference workshop on the same topic by highlighting key developments that have taken place over the past year. Norway’s NOKUT will discuss two key European initiatives: the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees and the Toolkit for Recognition of Refugees’ Qualifications. World Education Services will share WES’s methods of evaluating academic credentials of refugees and report on the findings from their pilot project – assessing the qualifications of 200 Syrian refugees to Canada without access to standard documentation. Italy’s CIMEA will present on the work it has undertaken to test new tools and new forms for cooperation with higher education institutions. All of the presentations and discussion will focus on lessons learned, pitfalls, and key considerations in developing your organization’s approach to fairly assessing the academic qualifications of those refugees and others in refugee-like situations who – for reasons beyond their control – can’t meet standard documentation requirements.

**Presenters:**
Rolf Lofstad, NOKUT, Norway  
Luca Lantero, CIMEA, Italy  
Beka Tavartkiladze, World Education Services

**Room:** 209

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**2017 TAICEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENING RECEPTION, LUISS garden**
8:00 am-9:00 am
BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

8:00 am-5:30 pm
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION, Room 200

9:00 am-9:15 am
CONFERENCE WELCOME, Room 200

9:15 am-10:00 am
PLENARY, Room 200

**Making Recognition Relevant for the Next Decade**

*Plenary speaker:*
Stig Arne Skjerven, Director of the Foreign Education in NOKUT (the Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education)

10:00 am-10:15 am
REFRESHMENT BREAK, Room 200

10:30 am-11:15 am
SESSIONS

**Thriving in Chaos: Operating Effectively in a Decentralized International Admissions Office**

Operating in a decentralized international admissions office provides both benefits and challenges. In this session, you will hear a variety of methods used to effectively operate and communicate in an office that is responsible for the oversight of all international graduate admissions. Learn best practice methods for effective communication, ‘humanizing’ the admissions process, and educating campus partners.

*Presenters:*
Rachel Salinas, Indiana University Bloomington
Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington

*Room: 200*

**Post-Secondary VET: An Introduction to the Swedish Methodology**

The interest in evaluation of post-secondary vocational education and training (VET) increases every year in Sweden, with evaluation statements made exclusively for the labor market. The evaluators at ENIC-NARIC Sweden constantly need to develop methodology for their evaluation of VET. This small unit with a young method possesses a large toolbox for evaluation!

*Presenters:*
Elisabeth Lagernäs, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Heni Hatamzadeh, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Hanna Sannéus, Swedish Council for Higher Education

*Room: 204*

**Introduction to the Educational Systems of Colombia and Venezuela**

This session will introduce participants to the educational systems of Colombia and Venezuela, including secondary, higher, and vocational education, recent changes, sample documents, and determining authenticity. The session is designed for those who may be new to the field and/or those who aren’t very familiar with credential evaluation from these countries.

*Presenter:*
Kurt Baumbach, Academic Evaluation Services

*Room: 209*
**Getting to Know You (Icebreaker)**

Do you want an opportunity to meet your fellow attendees? Here’s your chance! Meet and mingle with your colleagues in a structured environment. Jeanie Bell will guide you through a fun and functional session in which you will find out about common interests and topics that are pertinent to your institution or organization. You will have an opportunity to share business cards and solutions.

**Presenter:**
Jeanie Bell, University of Colorado Boulder

**Room:** 210

**Time:** 11:15 am-11:30 am

**Sessions**

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**1st Ever TAICEP Credential Evaluation Trivia**

The credential evaluator brain is a wealth of incredibly specialized knowledge, essential to the academic mobility of students around the world. Sadly, it is a job with a conspicuous lack of bragging rights. If you think your arcane knowledge of international education is better than the rest (and you aren’t yet sick of winning), prove it to your colleagues at the 1st Annual TAICEP Trivia Contest. It’s gonna be yuge!

**Trivia Rules:** No alternative facts. Both individuals and teams are welcome (except the Brits, who must participate individually). All European participants must answer the same number of questions in three rounds of trivia as North American participants do in four. However, the first two rounds of all US participants are remedial and will not be counted towards their final score. West African participants should provide a scratch card with their answer sheet. Chinese participants should submit their answers through CHESSIC (or CDGDC if the answer sheet is incomplete). All participants will NOT get a trophy, only the winners.

**Presenter:**
Timothy Kell, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)

**Room:** 204

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**Evaluating Credentials with a Global Mindset: Exploring Our Differences and Similarities**

This session is your chance to learn directly from your professional counterparts how credential evaluation is done in other parts of the world. The sessions from the last two years have allowed us to take sneak peeks at what others do. This one will pull back the curtain further. Certain credentials will be explored, as well as how evaluators in different countries might view them. Through collegial, group-styled speech and debate, audience members will be given ample opportunity to represent their own regions as well!

**Presenters:**
Emily Tse, International Education Research Foundation (IERF)
Leah Farrow, International Credential Evaluation Service
Jessica Stannard, EP-NUFFIC
Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company
Rolf Lofstad, Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT)
Tracey Torrance, International Credential Evaluation Service

**Room:** 200

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**2 HE Systems in 1 City: the Italian and Holy See Higher Education Systems**

Learn more about the Italian system of higher education, including both current qualifications and the “old” ones awarded before the Bologna reform took place. We will explore the higher education system of the Holy See, the only “real” global higher education system - one small state located in Rome awarding official qualifications in almost all nations worldwide.

**Presenters:**
Luca Lantero, CIMEA – NARIC Italia
Chiara Finocchietti, CIMEA – NARIC Italia

**Room:** 209
Issues in Ukrainian Credential Evaluation: Overview, Recognition, and Fraud

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 climate of upheaval has spurred the mass exodus of the Ukrainian population to many countries of the world. Many European and U.S. educational institutions are experiencing an increase in Ukrainian prospective students. In the context of educational updates we will analyze the most recent overhaul in the system of higher education of Ukraine based on the Law on Higher Education (2014) and the educational legislation adopted afterwards. This session will be a great update for evaluators with experience in Ukrainian credentials.

Presenters:
Tatiana McKenna, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Karen Krug, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)

Room: 210

1:00 pm-2:00 pm
LUNCH, Cloister

2:00 pm-2:15 pm
BREAK

2:15 pm-3:15 pm
SESSIONS

Issues and Challenges Concerning the Recognition of Double, Multiple and Joint Degrees

Multiple institutions logos. Unclear final official qualifications. Contrasting higher education systems. Joint degrees have become an integral part of higher education, but sometimes their recognition is still a challenge. This session will provide practical tips in order to understand what is behind a double / multiple / joint degree.

Presenters:
Luca Lantero, CIMEA – NARIC Italia
Vera Lucke, CIMEA – NARIC Italia

Room: 204

Understanding Differing Evaluation Perspectives

Presenters will discuss credential evaluation from different perspectives. In other words, what do higher education institutions do vs. what credential agencies do? While some of the basics are the same, the needed outcomes can be different. Institutions and agencies have different missions, ranging from determining eligibility to successfully complete a higher degree to eligibility to practice a profession. Various regulations surrounding each type of organization will be included in the presentation.

Presenters:
Jeanie Bell, University of Colorado Boulder
Monica Hatle-Larssen, Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT)
Margaret Wenger, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.

Room: 200

Health Professionals Education and Licensure in the USA

This session will introduce the various educational pathways and licensure process of health professionals (doctors, nurses, dentists, physical therapists, etc.) in the US. In addition, this session will give an overview of how health professionals educated outside the US are licensed to practice.

Presenters:
Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company
Ildiko Bors, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company

Room: 209
Untangling Transnational Education in China

Transnational education is an ever-broadening field, and China is no exception. As the options multiply, it becomes more complicated to determine things like recognition status and sources responsible for issuing official credentials. This session will examine various types of transnational education in China, the types of documentation to look for, and how to identify an international program from the documentation. We will look at secondary schools offering international programs (such as IB and A Levels), joint degree partnership programs with overseas institutions, summer programs, and more, with tips and tools for determining recognition of different types of programs.

Presenters:
Karen Krug, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Jade Jiang Rieger, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Patrick Leahy, Michigan State University

Room: 210

3:15 pm-3:30 pm
REFRESHMENT BREAK, Room 200

3:30 pm-4:00 pm
TAICEP BUSINESS MEETING, Room 200

4:00 pm-4:15 pm
BREAK

4:15 pm-5:00/5:15/5:30 pm
SESSIONS

Academic Research and International Credential Evaluation – Broadening Horizons?
(75-minute session)

This 75-minute session seeks to explore the relationship between academic research in Comparative and International Education (CIE) on the one hand and international credential evaluation on the other. We will provide an overview of theoretical and methodological developments in CIE research, and suggest some possible starting-points for applying these theories and methods (or elements thereof) in our field. Sample cases will be provided to illustrate our suggested applications. We will ultimately consider the ways academic research may support the development of policies, processes, as well as broaden the scope of what is evaluated and what recommendations are made.

Presenters:
Henrik Ohlsson, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Patrick Leahy, Michigan State University

Room: 204

“Breaking Bad”: An Evaluator’s How-To Guide to Document Fraud
(60-minute session)

Maybe it’s my degree in criminology that makes me always think like a ‘bad guy’. I’ve seen enough academic documents (real and not) and attended enough sessions on fraud and verification to learn how to beat the system if I ever start ‘Breaking Bad’. Using resources and technology that are easily available to anyone, let me demonstrate exactly how I would beat your institution’s documentation requirements, get a visa, and take your scholarship money—should I ever decide I’m in the wrong business. Only by realizing and accepting what your institution’s vulnerabilities are can you develop best practices to protect yourself. Bring your thoughts to the discussion on how to best balance security concerns against the practical considerations of time, cost, and access.

Presenter:
Timothy Kell, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)

Room: 209

Introduction to TAICEP’s Certificate Program
(45-minute session)

One of TAICEP’s goals is to provide a certificate program to provide credentials assessors with a professional qualification. Members of the Certificate Committee will describe TAICEP’s new certificate program.

Presenters:
Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company
Aleksandar Popovski, Ucredo

Room: 200
8:00 am-9:00 am
BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

8:00 am-5:00 pm
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION, Room 200

9:00 am-10:00 am
SESSIONS

Overview on Bologna Tools: Qualification Framework, ECTS, and Diploma Supplement
In the European credential evaluator community, the city of Bologna is known not only for its lasagna, but mainly for educational change. Begun in 1999 in this ancient university city, the Bologna Process created the European Higher Education Area, reshaping the education landscape in its 48 member countries.

Presenters:
Luca Lantero, CIMEA – NARIC Italia
Vera Lucke, CIMEA – NARIC Italia

Room: 209

Introduction to Education Fraud and Degree Mills: What It Is and How to Fight It
Have you ever received a document from an institution that did not look or feel quite right and were not sure what to do? Fraudulent documents and degree mills are a growing problem. Knowing how to identify such documents is crucial to maintaining the integrity of your credential evaluations process. If you are new to the field, or looking for a refresher session on fraud and degree mills, this session is for you. Together, we will embark on an exciting journey to learn about fraud -how it works, how to spot a fake degree and what to do when you find one.

Presenter:
Shereen Mir-Jabbar, Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators

Room: 204

Demystifying Institution and Program Recognition in French-Speaking Africa
Autorisé, Agréé, Habilité, Homologué. What do these terms mean? How do they apply to the recognition of academic credentials in French-speaking Africa? What role does the Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l’Enseignement Supérieur (CAMES) have in program recognition? All these questions will be examined as we dig into the recognition systems in place for public and private institutions in the selected countries.

Presenters:
Sarah Ledwidge, International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS), (Presentation prepared in collaboration with Michel Bédard of the Ministère de l’Immigration, de la Diversité et de l’Inclusion (Québec)

Room: 200

Supporting Student Mobility with EMREX Towards Automatic Recognition
Do you want to get rid of paper? This session will introduce EMREX and how it supports student mobility with smooth and fast electronic transfer of achievement records. We will present student feedback on EMREX and discuss the long term implications and how EMREX can be used as a building block for automatic recognition and credential verification across countries and HEIs. We will also open up the floor to a discussion on what more is needed for automatic recognition and how to get there. What about standard formats of data? A way to know the credibility of the other HEI/program? Grade conversion? Degree conversion? Other considerations?

Presenters:
Mats Lindstedt, CSC – IT Center for Science Ltd
Anders Bøgebjerg Hansen, Danish Agency for Institutions and Educational Grants

Room: 210

10:00 am-10:15 am
REFRESHMENT BREAK, Room 200
THURSDAY 9/7

10:15 am-11:00 am
TAICEP TOWN HALL MEETING, Room 200

11:00 am-11:15 am
BREAK

11:15 am-12:45 pm
SESSIONS

Vocational Qualifications from Russia and Ukraine
Russia and Ukraine shared the same centralized system of education for many decades until the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Vocational education in Russia and Ukraine has been subject to significant structural and content changes over the last twenty years and presents a challenge for professionals in international evaluation. Expertise in this topic is in high demand for evaluators, university admission officers and employers as a large portion of people immigrating to Europe and the USA are holders of vocational qualifications.

Presenters:
Tatiana McKenna, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Henrik Ohlsson, Swedish Council for Higher Education

Room: 204

The Future of Electronic Student Data Mobility
In April 2017, a group of stakeholders in student data and credential evaluation convened in Melbourne. They discussed recent developments in electronic data transfer as it pertains to credential evaluation, building on the work of the Groningen Declaration Network (GDN). The goals of this Symposium were to a) discuss best practices, b) create a plan to direct the evolution of the transfer of student data, and c) suggest a data governance strategy to guide the future of student data mobility. The presenters will share the outcomes and look for input from attendees on next steps.

Presenters:
Margaret Wenger, Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
Bas Wegewijs, EP-NUFFIC

Room: 209

International Secondary Schools on Domestic Soil: Whose Educational System Is It, Anyway?
It can be a challenge when a student presents records from a secondary school that is not part of the educational system of the country in which it is located, especially when the program is still in progress and a final credential has not been awarded. Examples include international schools, A-level colleges, IB schools, “European schools”, refugee schools, and one country’s secondary school operating in another country. We will review case studies and share best practices for evaluating the status of transnational secondary schools and the programs they offer, as well as considerations involved in credential recognition.

Presenter:
LesLee Clauson Eicher, AACRAO International

Room: 200

From Confucius to International College: An Insider’s Guide to Changes in China’s Educational System
When Confucius started the first private school in ancient China over 2500 years ago, he probably never foresaw that “his school” would be established around the globe. In this fast-paced and globally-connected world, China is adapting by updating their educational system to meet the needs of both domestic and international stakeholders. Drawing upon the Eastern and Western educational experiences of our group of presenters, this session will address several major topics, including historical perspectives on the development of China’s educational system, changes in degree format, gaokao reforms, and China’s role in the growing international education market.

Presenters:
Jade Jiang Rieger, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Xiaohua Ning, China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center (CHESICC)
Xiaoshu (Susan) Li, China Higher Education Student Information and Career Center (CHESICC)

Room: 210
12:45 pm-1:00 pm
BREAK

1:00 pm-2:00 pm
LUNCH, Cloister

2:00 pm-2:45 pm
SESSIONS

Who Wants to Be a Credentials Evaluator?
Using the format of the popular game show “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?”, this session will challenge both new and experienced credentials evaluators on educational systems and qualifications.

Presenters:
Kate Freeman, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company
Ildiko Bors, SpanTran: The Evaluation Company
Room: 210

Post-Secondary Technical Education in Syria
The session will focus on post-secondary technical education in Syria. Technical/Intermediate education in Syria is taught at over 200 different institutes. There is also the lack of contacts in Syria and the lack of information about technical education on official Syrian websites, which all together have made our work quite difficult. However, we are receiving thousands of Syrian certificates per year and have worked out best practices on how to deal with these credentials. The goal of this session is to share our approach and our knowledge of Syrian certificates.

Presenters:
Elin Medalen, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Alaa Alhusni, Swedish Council for Higher Education
Room: 204

Beyond Year One: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Credential Evaluation
Are you in charge of training new evaluators and need some ideas on how to start? Are you a new evaluator yourself and want to learn about ways to grow in the field? Then this session is for you! Please join me, a relative newcomer to the exciting field of credential evaluation, as I describe the arduous training process, some immediate challenges and learning experiences I faced, and ways that I have broadened my horizons and grown as an evaluator. Equipped with a good sense of humor and a thirst for information, the field is your oyster – come see how!

Presenter:
Amy Kawa, Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
Room: 209

The Advanced Placement Program (AP): AP’s Value As An Admission Qualification within Higher Education in Europe & Beyond
The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program (AP) is increasingly used as a credential for entry to world-class universities, particularly within Europe. As students’ international mobility from high-achieving schools to European higher education accelerates, what do credential evaluators need to know about these qualifications? This interactive session will provide examples of how AP courses and exams are used to evaluate applicants. The use of AP vs the SAT as an admissions credential within European universities and other regions will be discussed.

Presenters:
Russell Dover, College Board
Danette Anderson, John Cabot University
Jessica York, American University of Rome
Room: 200
THURSDAY 9/7

2:45 pm-3:00 pm
REFRESHMENT BREAK, Room 200

3:00 pm-4:00 pm
SESSIONS

Cross Border Higher Education Institutions and Recognition
Do you feel lost in the Transnational Education jungle? Learn more about what TNE is, the expansion of TNE institutions, the stakeholders involved, and the main emerging issues. Learn how to implement best practices in TNE, and how to defend oneself against bad practices.

Presenters:
Luca Lantero, CIMEA – NARIC Italia
Chiara Finocchietti, CIMEA – NARIC Italia

Room: 210

AICTE vs UGC: What Is the Difference and Does It Matter?
Traditionally, approval of universities in India by the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been used to determine the recognition of a school. However, over the years, many more programs have come onto the scene from schools approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). Should credit be given for these programs based on AICTE recognition alone? Also, what should one do with the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) list of Postgraduate Diplomas in Management that are regarded as equivalent to MBAs (which often come from AICTE-approved schools)? This session will help tackle these questions and more!

Presenters:
Emily Tse, International Education Research Foundation (IERF)
Johan Rognlie Roko, Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT)

Room: 204

Secondary Education in Scandinavia: Denmark, Norway, Sweden
Education in Europe is currently undergoing many changes. Scandinavia has often been at the forefront of these changes. In this session, participants will be introduced to the various types of secondary-school curricula and leaving-certificates (academic, vocational, and the varied streams within each) currently available to students in Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Grading scales will be shown. We will examine sample documents and learn about available resources.

Presenters:
LesLee Clauson Eicher, AACRAO International
Rolf Lofstad, Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT)
Christopher Adams, Indiana University Bloomington
Erik Kyhlberg, Swedish Council for Higher Education

Room: 209

The Quandaries of Evaluating Transnational Education Academic Credentials
In this session we will provide an overview of the varieties of translational educational (TNE) relationships and scenarios, from overseas branch campuses to “validated” degree programs offered by prominent universities that, in fact, are taught by non-faculty at non-recognized and non-accredited institutions in other countries. We will examine the official recognition statuses of the partnered institutions, the teaching faculty, the curricula and mode of delivery (residential and/or online), and then we will explore and discuss the available resources and types of documentation issued. Ultimately, we will compare sensible evaluation procedures and outcomes.

Presenter:
Kevin F. Rolwing, World Education Services (WES)

Room: 200
4:00 pm-4:15 pm  
BREAK

4:15 pm-5:00 pm  
CONFERENCE CLOSING, Room 200

5:00 pm-5:30 pm  
CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES PICKUP, Room 200
# DAY AT A GLANCE

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2017

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<th>Hour</th>
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<td>8:00am-6:30pm</td>
<td>CONFERENCE REGISTRATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-12:00pm</td>
<td>PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP # 1 - BEYOND THE BASICS: CONFRONTING ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN EVALUATING OF FOREIGN CREDENTIALS</td>
<td>209</td>
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<td>1:00pm-5:00pm</td>
<td>PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP # 2 - EVALUATING REFUGEE QUALIFICATIONS</td>
<td>209</td>
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<td>6:30pm-8:15pm</td>
<td>2017 TAICEP ANNUAL CONFERENCE OPENING RECEPTION</td>
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## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2017

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<td>CONFERENCE WELCOME</td>
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<td>9:15am-10:00am</td>
<td>PLENARY SPEAKER: STIG ARNE SKJERVEN MAKING RECOGNITION RELEVANT FOR THE NEXT DECADE</td>
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<td>Getting to Know You (Icebreaker)</td>
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<td><strong>SESSIONS</strong>&lt;br&gt;Academic Research and International Credential Evaluation – Broadening Horizons? (75-minute session)&lt;br&gt;“Breaking Bad”: An Evaluator’s How-To Guide to Document Fraud (60-minute session)&lt;br&gt;Introduction to TAICEP’s Certificate Program (45-minute session)</td>
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### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2017

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<td>Who Wants to Be a Credentials Evaluator?</td>
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<td>Post-Secondary Technical Education in Syria</td>
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<td>Beyond Year One: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Credential Evaluation</td>
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<td>AICTE vs UGC: What Is the Difference and Does It Matter?</td>
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<td>The Quandaries of Evaluating Transnational Education Academic Credentials</td>
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