

NO, IT'S NOT!

AN INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION OF CONTROVERSIAL EVALUATION TOPICS

Justine Watts, FACS, Inc. and Amy Kawa, ECE – TAICEP 2019



WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

VIA WEB/WIFI: JOIN THE POLL AT

- **POLLEV.COM/facsusa042**
- **OR DOWNLOAD POLLEVERYWHERE APP**

TEST QUESTION

- **DO ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION MATTER AT ALL?**

1. YES

2. NO

WHO WE ARE



**JUSTINE WATTS, SENIOR EVALUATOR AND VICE PRESIDENT
FOREIGN ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS SERVICE, INC.**

- **24 YEARS AS AN EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATOR**
- **3 KIDS, 3 DOGS (BUT I WANT ALL OF THE DOGS)**
- **LIVE ON TOP OF A MOUNTAIN IN COLORADO**
- **DECENT SKIER (YEAH I CAN DO EXTREME TERRAIN, BUT DO I WANT TO?)**



WHO WE ARE



AMY KAWA, EVALUATOR SUPERVISOR

EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIAL EVALUATORS, INC.

- **12 YEARS IN HIGHER EDUCATION (ALMOST 4 AS AN EVALUATOR)**
- **MILWAUKEE TRANSPLANT**
- **MULTI-LINGUAL WORLD TRAVELER AND TRIVIA ENTHUSIAST**
- **VOTED “MOST ATHLETIC” AT ECE**



SO WHAT'S THE DEAL?

- **WHY? WHY IS THERE A SESSION ON CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS IN CREDENTIAL EVALUATION? ISN'T IT ALL STRAIGHTFORWARD AND SIMPLE???** EASY ANSWER: NO.
- **EVALUATION OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS IS AS MUCH AN ART AS IT IS A SCIENCE. THERE ARE A MYRIAD OF DIFFERING METHODOLOGIES, EACH OF WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED VALID. FOR EXAMPLE, OUTCOME-BASED EVALUATION, YEAR COUNTING, BENCHMARKING...**

PHILIPPINE SECONDARY EDUCATION

- **PRIOR TO THE 2012 REFORMS, SECONDARY EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS ONLY A 10 YEAR SYSTEM. HOW DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION VIEW THIS?**

- 1. EQUIVALENT TO A U.S. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (12 YEARS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ED)**
- 2. EDUCATION THROUGH GRADE 10**
- 3. OTHER**

BAHA'I INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

THE BAHAI RELIGION IS NOT RECOGNIZED IN IRAN, AND BAHAI STUDENTS ARE DENIED ENTRY TO OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION. B.I.H.E IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (IRAN). HOW DO YOU HANDLE THESE COURSES?

- 1. DO NOT RECOGNIZE OR SHOW CREDIT FOR EDUCATION COMPLETED BECAUSE IT IS NOT OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY (IRAN)**
- 2. STUDENTS MUST MEET ADMISSION STANDARDS, INCLUDING A NATIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, SO GRANT CREDIT**
- 3. OTHER**

SCHOOLS OPERATING OUTSIDE THEIR HOME COUNTRY

- **MANY SCHOOLS NOW OPERATE BRANCHES OUTSIDE OF THEIR HOME COUNTRY. SOME OF THESE ARE NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE HOST COUNTRY MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION (OR EQUIVALENT). WHAT DO WE DO WITH THESE COURSES?**

- 1. ACCEPT THEM – THEY ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE HOME COUNTRY AND THE CURRICULUM IS THE SAME, RIGHT?**
- 2. NOPE. NO M.O.H.E. RECOGNITION IN THE COUNTRY OF DELIVERY, NO CREDIT.**
- 3. OTHER**

2014 LEBANESE BACCALAUREATE (GSEC)

- **IN 2014 THE EXAMINATIONS FOR THE LEBANESE BACCALAUREATE/GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE WAS NEVER GRADED DUE TO A STRIKE. WHAT DO YOU DO WITH STUDENTS HOLDING THE AFFIDAVIT PROVIDED BY THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION?**

- 1. GIVE CREDIT FOR COMPLETION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL, BUT NO ADDITIONAL CREDITS**
- 2. RECOGNIZE IT AS A TYPICAL GRADED (AND PASSED) LEBANESE BACCALAUREATE**
- 3. OTHER**

RECOGNITION OF NON-MINISTRY OF EDUCATION SCHOOLS

- **OFTEN, SEMINARIES, ART AND DESIGN SCHOOLS, AND OTHER NON-TRADITIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ARE NOT RECOGNIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (OR EQUIVALENT), BUT RATHER BY OTHER VOCATION SPECIFIC ACCREDITING BODIES. HOW DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION VIEW THESE?**

- 1. NEVER ACCEPT THESE INSTITUTION'S COURSES**
- 2. ACCEPT THEM, DEPENDING ON THE ACCREDITING BODY**
- 3. OTHER**

RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS WITH GLOBAL ACCREDITATION, BUT NOT M.O.H.E.

- **WE'RE TALKING THE ALPHABET ORGANIZATIONS NOW. AACSB (ASSOCIATION TO ADVANCE COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS OF BUSINESS), EQUIS (EUROPEAN QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM), AMBA (ASSOCIATION OF MBAS), ETC.**

- 1. WE ACCEPT COURSES FROM PROGRAMS ACCREDITED BY THESE GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS**
- 2. WE NEVER ACCEPT THESE COURSES**
- 3. DEPENDS ON THE ACCREDITING ORGANIZATION**

BATMAN IS FAIRLY STRICT



DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS FOR REFUGEES/DISPLACED PERSONS/NATURAL DISASTERS

- **WHAT IS YOUR INSTITUTION'S POLICY REGARDING DOCUMENTATION FOR REFUGEES, DISPLACED PERSONS, OR VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS WHO MAY BE UNABLE TO MEET YOUR STANDARD DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS?**
- 1. NO EXCEPTIONS, WE WILL NOT PREPARE AN EVALUATION IF THEY CANNOT PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**
 - 2. ATTEMPT TO VERIFY WITH THE ISSUING INSTITUTION BEFORE PREPARING A REPORT**
 - 3. ACCEPT PHOTOCOPIES/SCANS/PRIMARY ORIGINALS IN LIEU OF SEALED DOCUMENTATION**

RETROACTIVE ACCREDITATION

- **A UNIVERSITY OR PROGRAM GAINS RECOGNITION SOMETIME DURING THE STUDENT'S PERIOD OF STUDY, BUT IT WAS NOT ACCREDITED AT THE TIME OF ENROLLMENT. WHAT DO YOU DO?**
- 1. ONLY SHOW CREDIT FOR COURSEWORK COMPLETED AFTER THE DATE OF OFFICIAL RECOGNITION**
 - 2. SHOW CREDIT FOR THE ENTIRE PROGRAM AS LONG AS IT IS ACCREDITED BY THE TIME THE STUDENT GRADUATES**
 - 3. LIMIT THE RETROACTIVE RECOGNITION TO A CERTAIN TIME PERIOD (E.G. FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO OFFICIAL RECOGNITION)**

13-YEAR SECONDARY FOLLOWED BY 3-YEAR BOLOGNA DEGREE

- YOU HAVE A STUDENT WITH A 13-YEAR SECONDARY DIPLOMA FOLLOWED BY A 3-YEAR BOLOGNA DEGREE. IS IT EQUIVALENT TO A 4-YEAR BACHELOR'S DEGREE?**

- 1. YES, WE CONSIDER YEAR 13 TO BE EQUIVALENT TO 1 YEAR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY**
- 2. NO, THEY ARE STILL ONE YEAR SHORT OF A BACHELOR'S DEGREE**
- 3. OTHER**

UKRAINE JUNIOR SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

- **THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF VARIANCE REGARDING UKRAINE JUNIOR SPECIALIST DIPLOMAS, IN TERMS OF BOTH LENGTH AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS. TO WHAT DO YOU EQUATE THESE?**

- 1. ASSOCIATE DEGREE**
- 2. ONE YEAR OF ADVANCED STANDING IN AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM**
- 3. DEPENDS ON LENGTH/ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

DOUBLE/JOINT DEGREES OFFERED BY TWO DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS

- **SIMPLE? YES. BUT HERE IS THE WRENCH... ONE IS ACCREDITED, ONE IS NOT! WHAT DOES YOUR INSTITUTION DO?**
- 1. ACCEPT. WE ASSUME THE ACCREDITED INSTITUTION IS MONITORING THE EDUCATION.**
 - 2. DON'T ACCEPT. THE ACCREDITED INSTITUTION CANNOT POSSIBLY ASSURE QUALITY AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION.**
 - 3. DEPENDS**

DISPUTED TERRITORIES

- **WHEN A STUDENT HAS EDUCATION COMPLETED IN A DISPUTED TERRITORY (TRANSNISTRIA, CRIMEA, ETC.) HOW DO YOU HANDLE THEIR PREVIOUS EDUCATION?**

- 1. WE WILL ACCEPT IT, SO LONG AS THERE IS AN ESTABLISHED GOVERNMENT INTACT WITH A GOVERNMENTAL BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATION OVERSIGHT**
- 2. NO. WE'D LOVE TO HELP, BUT WITHOUT A CLEAR STATUS AS A COUNTRY, WE CAN'T RECOGNIZE THOSE COURSES**
- 3. OTHER**

CONDONED PASS/CONDONED FAIL

- **INTERESTINGLY, BOTH OF THESE OPPOSITE PHRASES DESCRIBE THE SAME THING! HOW DOES YOUR INSTITUTION HANDLE COURSES FAILED, BUT GRANTED PASS STATUS...**

- 1. ELIMINATE CREDIT FOR THAT COURSE**
- 2. ALLOW CREDIT FOR THE COURSE BECAUSE THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO RETAKE IT**
- 3. OTHER**

RECOGNITION OF EXPERIENCE

- **DOES YOUR INSTITUTION RECOGNIZE CREDIT FOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (NOT COMPLETED AS PART OF A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION PROGRAM)?**

- 1. NOPE. NEVER EVER.**
- 2. SOMETIMES, DEPENDING ON DOCUMENTATION AND APPLICATION TO FIELD OF STUDY**
- 3. ALWAYS. LIFE EXPERIENCE IS VALUABLE, RIGHT?!**

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **MANY FIELDS OFFER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS, SOME OFFER COURSEWORK, SOME ONLY EXAMINATIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE FIELD OF ACCOUNTING, YOU HAVE THE ASSOCIATION OF CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS (ACCA), THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA (ICAI), CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANTS (CGA), ETC... DOES YOUR INSTITUTION RECOGNIZE CREDIT FOR THESE?**

- 1. YES**
- 2. SOMETIMES, DEPENDING ON ASSOCIATION**
- 3. NO**

ARE THERE ANY OTHER POINTS OF CONTENTION WE NEGLECTED?

- **OH YES... JUST ONE MORE...**

CHANGE MY MIND



INDIAN 3-YEAR BACHELOR DEGREE

HOW DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION EVALUATE THE INDIAN THREE-YEAR BACHELOR DEGREE?

- 1. A FULL BACHELOR DEGREE**
- 2. THREE-YEARS OF FULL TIME UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION**
- 3. OTHER**

THOUGHTS, QUESTIONS, DISCUSSION?

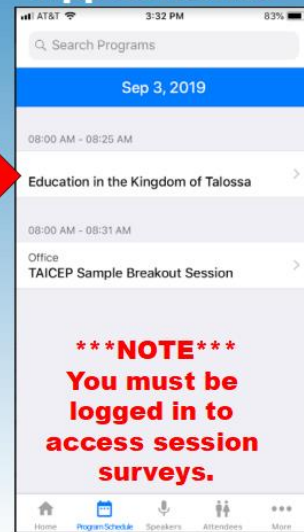


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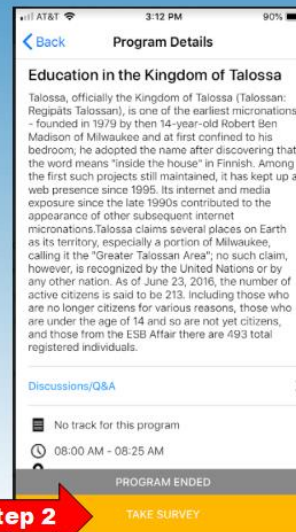
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