QUALITY ASSURANCE AT THE UV – PLANS AND VISIONS



Burjassot, December 9th, 2015



Are QA managers from Mars?

[From: J. Huisman, *The value(s) of Quality (Assurance)* http://www.eua.be/Libraries/eqaf-2015/plenary-1_jh.pdf?sfvrsn=0]

> VNIVERŠITAT ID VALÈNCIA UNITAT DE QUALITAT



- **1.- Past.** Quality Assurance (QA) in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).
- **2.- Present.** Accreditation of degrees.
- **3.- Future.** New challenges.



1.- Past. QA in the EHEA

Bologna Declaration (1999)

- Easily readable and comparable degrees based on two main cycles
- Promotion of citizens employability
- International competitiveness/attractiveness of the EHEA
- Establishment of a system of credits (ECTS)
- Promotion of mobility
- **Co-operation in Quality Assurance**
- Promotion of the European dimensions



1.- Past. QA in the EHEA

Berlin Communiqué (2003)

"The quality of higher education has proven to be at the heart of the setting up of a European Higher Education Area."

Message from Salamanca (2001)

"Quality is the basic underlying condition for trust, relevance, mobility, compatibility and attractiveness in the European Higher Education Area."



Is QA really necessary? Our pharmacists, our physicians, our lawyers are already excellent, aren't they?

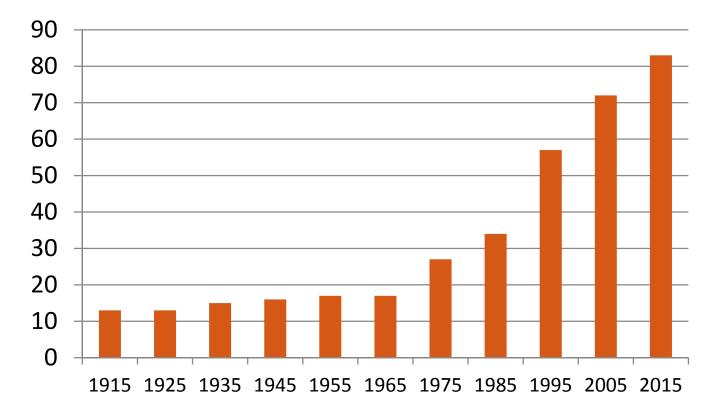


Message from Salamanca (2001)

"Inherent quality does not suffice, it needs to be demonstrated and guaranteed in order to be acknowledged and trusted by students, partners and society at home, in Europe and in the world."



Spanish Universities





But Quality does not need to be demonstrated by a 500-year-old University, such as UV !



Changes on the Degrees offered

Faculty of Pharmacy

1985

Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy

2015

Degree in Pharmacy Degree in Food Science and Technology Degree in Human Nutrition and Dietetics Degree in Gastronomic Science



New Official Master's Degrees

Faculty of Pharmacy

2015

Master's Degree in Tropical Parasitic Diseases Master's Degree in Research in and Rational Use of Medicines Master's Degree in Food Quality and Safety Master's Degree in Personal and Community Nutrition Master's Degree in Public Health and Health Management

+ additional changes (240 vs 300 credits)



Main objectives:



IMPROVEMENT



Relevant goals, no doubt, but... how to measure quality in education? And who should measure it?



European Standards and Guidelines for the QA in the EHEA (ENQA, 2005)

1.- Internal QA: Universities



2.- External QA: Agencies







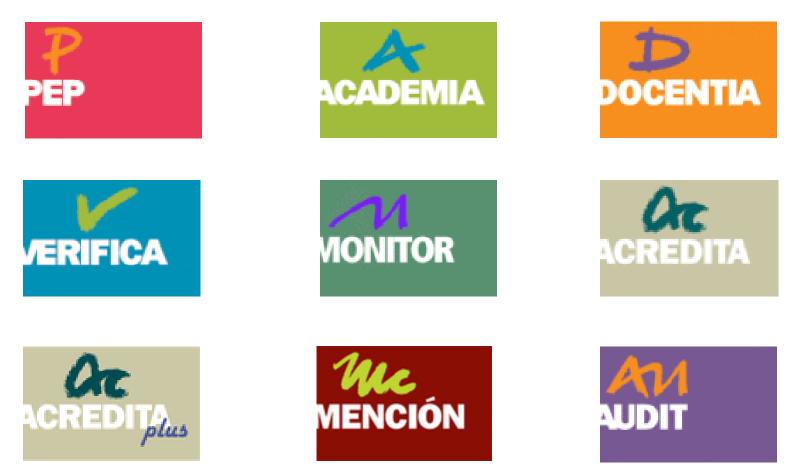


Berlin Communiqué (2003)

"The primary responsibility for quality assurance in higher education lies with each institution itself"

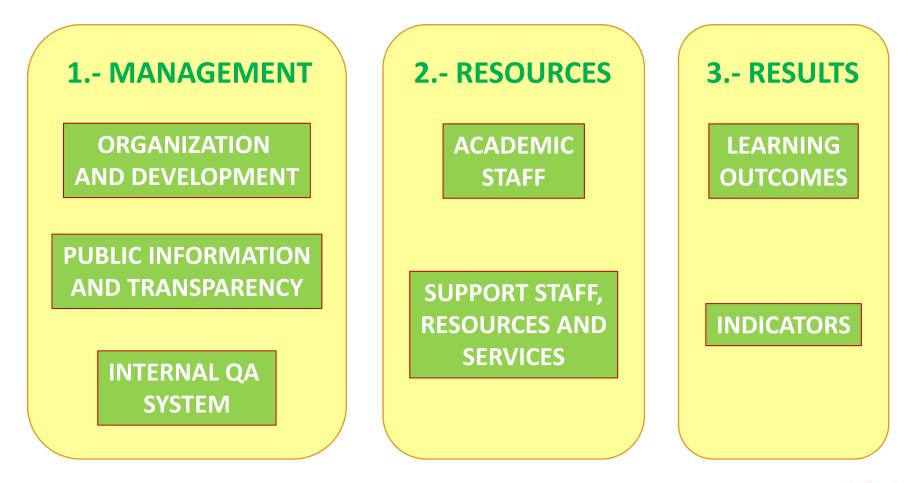
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PROGRAMMES FROM ANECA





Dimensions and Criteria

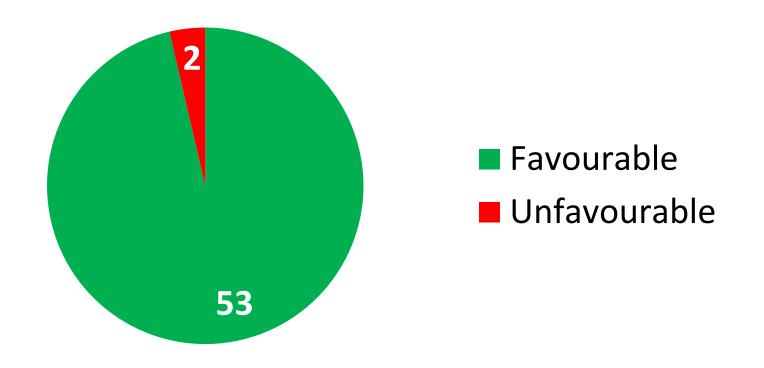


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A+. Excellent	The standard is met and, in addition, it is a remarkable example of good practice.
A. Satisfactory	The standard is completely met.
B. Adequate	The standard is met, but several improvement areas have been detected.
C. Sufficient	The standard is met at a minimal level, but mandatory improvement areas have been detected.
D. Insufficient	The standard is not met at a minimal level.



Results at the UV

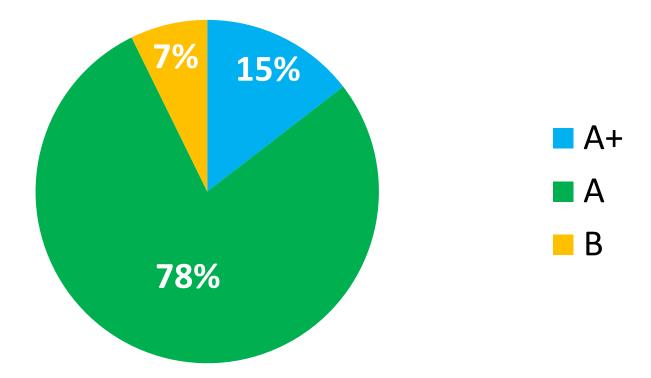






Results at the UV

Support staff, resources and services







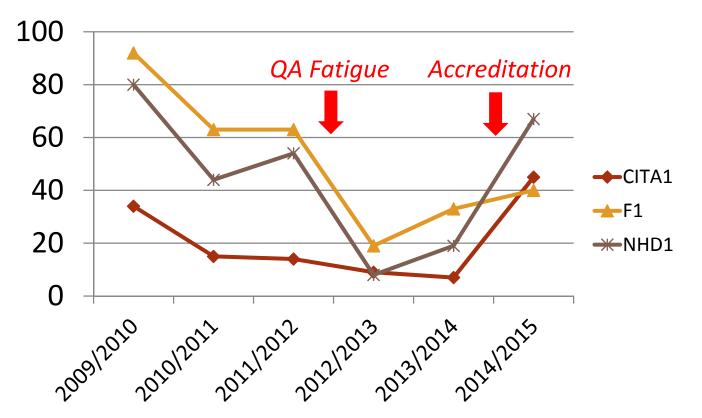
Catalyst for Improvement

- Teachers' coordination.
- Discrepancies between the information published on webs.
- The academic guide of every module is not always complete.
- Adaptation of the study programme for different graduates.
- Surveys with too low participation.
- DOCENTIA is not implemented.
- Information about employability is not enough.
- ..



Catalyst for Engagement

Questionnaires (2nd Semester Survey)





QA programmes to be developed in the near future

- DOCENTIA: Certification of the Design and Implementation of the QA System for Teaching.
- AUDIT: Certification of the Implementation of SGIC.
- ACREDITA: Accreditation of Degrees and Doctorates.
- ACREDITA PLUS: International Certification of Quality.
- Quality Management of Support Services ...



Is this sustainable? Not at all! Efforts become too heavy.



Sustainability

"Our model of accreditation of degrees (is an) expensive process in its development"

"the convenience of finding more efficient formulas"

"It is regulated the **institutional accreditation of faculties**, as an alternative to the model of accreditation of degrees established nowadays".

(Real Decreto 420/2015 de creación, reconocimiento, autorización y acreditación de universidades y centros universitarios)



Anyway, all this is just bureaucracy and more bureaucracy. Is it related to what happens in the classroom? I don't think so.



Quality Assurance vs Quality Enhancement Bureaucracy vs Teaching/Learning Yerevan Communiqué (2015)

"Implementation of the structural reforms is uneven and the tools are sometimes used incorrectly or in bureaucratic and superficial ways."

"Enhancing the quality and relevance of learning and teaching is the main mission of the EHEA."



Revised Version of the European Standards and Guidelines for the QA in the EHEA (ENQA, 2015)

1.3.- Student-centred learning, teaching and assessment.

Standard:

Institutions should ensure that the programmes are delivered in a way that encourages students to take an active role in creating the learning process, and that the assessment of students reflects this approach.



The teacher:

- respects and attends to the diversity of students and their needs, enabling flexible learning paths;
- considers and uses different modes of delivery, where appropriate;
- flexibly uses a variety of pedagogical methods;
- regularly evaluates and adjusts the modes of delivery and pedagogical methods;
- encourages a sense of autonomy in the learner, while ensuring adequate guidance and support from the teacher;
- promotes **mutual respect** within the learner-teacher relationship;
- has appropriate procedures for dealing with students' complaints.
- Where possible, assessment is carried out by **more than one examiner**;





EHEA: http://www.ehea.info/

European Standards and Guidelines for the QA in the EHEA:

• 2005 Version:

http://www.enqa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/ESG 3edition-2.pdf

• 2015 Version:

http://www.ehea.info/Uploads/SubmitedFiles/5 2015/151153.pdf

External agencies: <u>www.aneca.es</u>, <u>www.avap.es</u>

QA at the UV: www.uv.es/uq

Teaching innovation at the UV: <u>www.uv.es/sfpie</u>



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