Evaluating New Types of Transnational Models: Is This Institution Recognized?

NAFSA: Association of International Educators

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Chris J. Foley
Indiana University-Purdue
University Indianapolis
cfoley@iupui.edu

Margit Schatzman
Educational Credential
Evaluators, Inc.

margit@ece.org



Why are we discussing this topic?

- Transnational education
- Joint degrees
- Institutional affiliations
- Modes of instruction, including distance, on-line, television, correspondence, etc.
- Accreditation organizations
- Quality assurance systems
- Study abroad
- Transfer credit

The Good Old Days ...

Institutional recognition was based on

- Approval by the Ministry of Education to operate
- Conferral of degree-granting authority
- Governmental recognition to operate as a higher education or professional institution

What is new under the sun?

Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya (UPC) & Fundacio Politecnica de Catalunya - Spain

| Questions | Facts |
|--|---|
| Who is in control of the program? | The University is recognized. |
| Who issues the document? | The Fundacio offers the program and issues the documents. |
| Is the Fundacio a division of the University? | Web site provides link to Fundacio. |
| What is the significance of the wording of the degree? | Master is a title for an unofficial degree program. |

Universidad Abierta – Mexico & Branch in Chicago, USA

| Questions | Facts |
|---|---|
| Who issues the document? | The Secretary of Education in the Mexican state indicated that the recognition only pertains to institutions in that state. |
| Who owns the institution? | Operations outside of the state are not authorized. |
| Under whose authority does the institution operate? | |



TRANSCRIPT

NAME :

NRIC / PASSPORT NO. :

(DIBLOMA IN I

PROGRAMME : DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (DBMD2 0328A)

PROGRAMME DURATION:

7 April 2003 to 2 October 2003

EXAMINATION RESULTS

| Principles of Business Management | | A |
|---|------|---|
| Business Accounting & Finance | | A |
| Business Law | | C |
| Fundamentals of Information Technology | | A |
| Organisational Behaviour | HQC. | В |
| Principles of Marketing & Production Management | | C |
| Principles of Economics | | A |
| Business Statistics | | A |
| | | |

AWARDED: DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

The Diploma in Business Management is specially designed to impart comprehensive managerial skills and knowledge to participants and equip them with an understanding of business operations in a changing business environment.

| MARKS | GRAI | DING |
|---------------|------|---------------|
| 80% and above | A | Distinction |
| 70% - 79% | В | Credit |
| 60% - 69% | C | Good |
| 50% - 59% | D | Pass |
| Below 50% | F | Fail |
| 50% and above | D@ | Pass on resit |
| Below 50% | F@ | Fail on resit |

Registrar Examination (IVIOIS)

26 November 2003 Date



25 June 2004

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This letter serves to inform you that is a full-time student taking the Advanced Diploma in Business Management programme jointly conducted by the University of Bradford (UK) and the Management Development Institute of Singapore (MDIS).

Ms Wang had completed the following modules during her course of studies:

MODULES

GRADES AWARDED

| Marketing Management | С |
|---|---|
| Financial Management | В |
| Business Information Systems | D |
| Business Economics | C |
| Management of Human Resource & the Practice of Management | В |
| Production & Operations Management | C |

| GRADE | MARKS | | | 10 |
|--------------------|-------------|---|---|----|
| A – Distinction | 80% & Above | | | |
| B - Credit | 70% - 79% | | | |
| C - Good | 60% - 69% | | | |
| D - Pass | 50% - 59% | | | |
| F - Fail | Below 50% | | | |
| D@ - Pass on resit | Above 49% | | | |
| F@ - Fail on resit | Below 50% | 4 | 4 | |

Please contact the undersigned at 6419 3158 if you need further clarification to the above.

Lee Ling Choo Assistant Manager Examinations Unit

A partner of









Management Development Institute of Singapore & University of Bradford - UK

| Questions | Facts |
|--|---|
| Who issues the diploma? | Credential is jointly issued by the University of Bradford and MDIS. |
| Who is responsible for teaching, setting and marking examinations? | MDIS is not a degree- granting institution in Singapore. |
| Who is responsible for faculty selection and supervision? | University of Bradford is a recognized degree-granting institution in UK. |

American University of Central Asia – Kyrgyz Republic

| Questions | Facts |
|---|--|
| In which format are the documents issued? | The documents are issued in both the Kyrgyz and US formats. |
| Under whose authority does the institution operate? | The institution is licensed by the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic. |
| | The institution's programs are accredited by the Ministry of Education. |

Universidad de Navarra – Spain

| Questions | Facts |
|---|--|
| Is the program designed for foreigners? | Not a regular national degree -more like a titulo propio. |
| Are domestic students allowed to enroll in the program? | Institutes de Artes Liberales is a unit of the university. |
| Does the program lead to a regular degree? | Program for foreigners & Spanish students. |
| | Education beyond basic native language training. |
| | University-issued grade report - correct format and correct terminology. |

University of Warwick – UK & Kenya

| Questions | Facts |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Who are the faculty? | University of Warwick is a recognized degreegranting institution in the UK. |
| Who designs examinations? | University of Warwick faculty teach and examine students in Kenya. |
| Who administers examinations? | |

International University - Panama

| Questions | Facts |
|---|---|
| How much importance do we place on claims of association? | International University of Panama is a recognized degree-granting institution. |
| | Universal University is not a recognized degree-granting institution. |

American University in Bulgaria

| Questions | Facts |
|--|---|
| Who accredits the university? | Candidate for accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and chartered by the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria. |
| Who has ultimate authority over the institution? | |

Questions to consider... Legal Considerations

- Which entity is responsible for bestowing degree-granting authority in a country?
- Does legislation exist that allows degree-granting authority to be controlled by an entity outside of the country?
- Can a degree-granting institution in one country award degrees earned in a second country?
- If so, under which circumstances?

Quality Control

- Which country is responsible for quality control of a degreegranting institution?
- Which entity is responsible for quality control of a degreegranting institution?
- Can a degree be considered recognized even if it is offered at an institution that does not have degree-granting authority? If so, under which circumstances?
- Is the mode of instruction significant? Distance, television, correspondence, on-line, evening, etc.

Credentials

- Is the credential one that is authorized to be awarded in the country?
- If the credential is not authorized to be awarded in the country, what is its legal status in the country?
- Can the credential be used for employment purposes, but not for further education?
- Who issued the document?
- Is the document in the normal format of the recognized institution?

A sample policy...

Two requirements for a degree to merit recognition as a valid academic qualification:

- The degree-awarding institution must be officially recognized as degree-granting by the authorities who have jurisdiction over tertiary education in the country in which the institution operates.
- The degree-granting institution must have taught the student who received the degree if the degree represents completion of a taught degree program. Alternatively, the institution must have set, administered, and marked (graded) the examinations passed by the student if the degree represents completion of examinations based upon self-study.

Discussion

What must be considered when establishing transnational programs that are likely to be recognized in other countries?

Thank you for your attention!

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