

UNICA Rectors' Seminar: Quality in Pursuit of Excellence

Centre for Advanced Academic Studies, University of Zagreb, Dubrovnik,
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"consistent with the principle of institutional autonomy, the primary responsibility for quality assurance in higher education lies with each institution itself (...)"

Communiqué of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Higher Education, Berlin, 19 September 2003

Universities are reshaping policies and implementing **more and more formalized quality assurance procedures** in order to achieve **higher efficiency and accountability**. Yet, the quality indicators are multi-dimensional and their plurality often makes it **difficult to set priorities**. How to establish **quality systems**? Can non-academic quality paradigms relate to the **mission and core values** at universities? What is the **role of university leadership** in developing a **quality culture**?

With the help of **keynote speakers**, the UNICA Rectors' Seminar 2011 will examine these questions, as well as other fundamental aspects related to quality assurance at universities.

Andrejs Rauhvargers is Secretary General of the Latvian Rectors' Conference. He has served as Deputy State Secretary at Latvian Ministry of Education and was closely involved in the establishment of the higher education quality assurance system in Latvia and its coordination with neighbouring countries Estonia and Lithuania. He served as president of the European of Network Academic Recognition Centres (ENIC) from 1997 to 2001 and as president of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Lisbon Recognition Convention from 2001 to 2008. In 2006 Andrejs Rauhvargers was awarded the EAIE Constance Meldrum Award for innovation, leadership, and inspiration in international higher education.

Antony Spanos is a Senior Management Consultant, a senior assessor at European Foundation for Quality Management and President of the European Business Ethics Network's assessors committee. Anthony has served both as a top executive and a consultant. Co-founder of the Management Consultant Bureau EuroExcellence. This team has supported, with a 100% success rate, over 70 organizations in Greece and Cyprus to obtain European Quality Awards.

Jacques Lanarès is Vice-Rector of the University of Lausanne, in charge of the Development of Teaching, Quality and Interface between science and society. He chairs the Quality Network for Swiss Higher Education institutions (board of vice presidents in charge of quality and of quality executives from all Swiss universities). He has created and developed the Teaching Support Unit of the University of Lausanne. He is expert for Quality matters in Higher Education for the European University Association (EUA), the French agency for Quality in Higher Education (AERES), the Irish Universities Quality Board (IUQB) and the World Bank.

Target group: The Seminar is open to Rectors/Presidents and Vice-Rectors/Vice-Presidents of UNICA member universities. **The programme, the registration form and information on practical issues** are available on the UNICA website: <http://www.unica-network.eu/event/unica-rectors-seminar-quality-in-pursuit-of-excellence>



Dubrovnik, called "the Pearl of the Adriatic", is one of the most prominent destinations in the Adriatic area. This ancient city is surrounded by a 3-kilometre monumental wall with a system of towers and turrets. The unique features of Dubrovnik secured the city a place on a UNESCO World Heritage List as early as in 1979.