AICE Newsletter

December 2017

Message from the Editor:

Greetings from everyone at AICE.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year on behalf of AICE, the Association of International Credential Evaluators. I look forward to an exciting new year continuing to set standards in the credential evaluation profession. In November we looked back at 2017, and in this issue I would like to look to 2018 and what the future holds for AICE in the upcoming year.

AICE members are planning several exciting events and developments for 2018. The 2018 AICE Symposium is well on its way in the preparation process, and we look forward to seeing everyone at this memorable event in Orlando. More information is available in the Notable Events section of this issue. The roster of distinguished panelists for this year’s event has almost been finalized, and will be announced soon on the AICE website. I’m delighted and humbled by the renown of the individuals contributing to this event.

Elsewhere in the field, AICE members are already scheduled to present sessions at the AACRAO Annual Meeting in Orlando (prior to
the AICE symposium) as well as at the NAFSA Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Endorsed members will undoubtedly continue to support the profession by attending and exhibiting at state and regional events, and we will continue our commitment to playing a vital role in the credential evaluation industry and the international education field. Rather than touting these plans as something new, I'm proud to instead quote the AICE Standards document in defining the requirements for an expert evaluator, as “On-going commitment to research and education.” As the only organization with set standards in credential evaluation, we are on track for an exciting year, as we continue to support the internationalization of our communities.

Having read this far, I hope you share my confidence in this profession and recognize that the challenges facing our industry are temporary, but our resolve is permanent. Since it's inception in 1998, AICE has been strong, determined, and prepared for what's ahead. I welcome your participation in the future editions of this newsletter and in the organization as a whole.

Sincerely,
Aleks Morawski
Chair of Scholarship and Publications, Association of International Credential Evaluators (AICE)®
Director of Evaluation Services, Foreign Credits, Inc.

Notable Events:

- Sponsorship opportunities for the 2018 AICE Symposium are now available! Please contact AICE at info@aice-eval.org.
- The AICE Symposium Planning Committee continues to work on the 2018 AICE Symposium, to take place on March 28-29, 2018 in Orlando, FL, immediately following AACRAO’s 104th Annual Meeting. This symposium will strive to answer questions, generate discussion, and update the AICE Standards on the topic of institutional accreditation, specifically comparative regional academic accreditation. Stay tuned for upcoming information on the 2018 Symposium. For questions, comments, and to help in the planning process, please contact Alexander Agafanov.
alexander@globelanguage.com or Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert Jasmin@AICE-Eval.org. AICE invites all to attend a reception on the evening of March 28th prior to the day-long Symposium on March 29th.

AICE® Forum Highlights

This section includes topics discussed at the monthly AICE® Forum in December, 2017.

Australia

Australian Institute of Family Counseling – Advanced Diploma of Counseling and Family Therapy

ACEI shared a credential from Australia that, based on the minimum admission requirements, represents the third year of post-secondary education. However, it was accompanied by a letter from Edith Cowan University confirming that this credential grants access to their Master
of Education program, which ordinarily requires a four-year bachelor of education degree. Although Edith Cowan University (ECU) is autonomous and can set their own admission standards and exceptions, several forum participants indicated they would not treat this credential as equivalent to a four-year degree based only on the letter from ECU.

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**China**

**CDGDC & CHESICC**

Several AICE Endorsed Members received questions about a rumor that CDGDC would cease offering certain services after January 1, 2018. These rumors were dispelled by contacting the institutions directly. For the record: CDGDC verifies university degrees and transcripts. CHESICC verifies secondary documents. They overlap when it comes to post-secondary documents; that is, both also verify post-secondary transcripts. CHESICC, however, does not verify university degrees. Both CHESICC and CDGDC will send the verified reports directly to the third party (e.g. evaluation service, university).

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**Brazil**

**Faculdade Teologica Crista do Brazil**

FCE shared documents from the above religiously-oriented institution to question the ability to evaluate them as having the equivalent of
regional academic accreditation. The institution is not listed in any of the common resources on the education system of Brazil, not does it have a web presence. With the assistance of other AICE members, several versions of the school name in Portuguese were researched, concluding that through the due diligence of the evaluators involved, this institution is found to lack regional academic accreditation.

Armenia

Yerevan State University – Bachelor diploma and MD diploma

ACEI shared documents demonstrating a Bachelor (Bakalavr) diploma in Medical science, a 5-year full-time program, followed by a 2-year MD degree, which required the Bachelor for admission. Together, these programs represent 7 years of post-secondary medical education. However, the unified medical degree in Armenia was always a 6-year credential. The functional outcome of the Bachelor’s degree does not permit for the independent practice of medicine. Therefore, it can not by itself be considered a first professional degree. The 2-year MD has some differences in terminology pertaining the functional outcome, but essentially allows for the practice of medicine. Conclusions were mixed whether to consider this equivalent to a Doctor of Medicine degree in the United States, adopting a wait-and-see approach to determine if this is becoming a trend in medical education in Armenia.
To join us for the next AICE Credential Forum on January 18, 2018, please contact info@aice-eval.org.

Upcoming Events

February 17-25, 2018 Aleks Morawski of Foreign Credits (AICE Endorsed Member) will participate in the AACRAO Cuba Project, an intensive week-long research project traveling to Cuba for research on the Cuban educational system, policies, and practices at all levels, from day care to university and postgraduate education.

Publications

- NAFSA released a new publication: Managing a Successful International Admissions Office, edited by Dr. David L. DiMaria, on March 1, 2017. AICE Endorsed Member Aleks Morawski (Foreign Credits Inc.) contributed by authoring the chapter on Foreign Credential Evaluation. This publication can be ordered from NAFSA.
- AACRAO’s newer (2016) publication: The AACRAO International Guide: A Resource for International Education Professionals. Endorsed Members Beth Cotter and Jasmin Saidi contributed to this publication (section on Diploma Mills and Outsourcing International Credential Evaluations with a Historic Perspective). You may order this publication online or by post. Here’s the link.

Resources

NAFSA 2017 Annual Conference Presentations related to International Enrollment Management are available for free download from the ACE Network Library Click Here.

Blogs
ACEI hosts “ACEI -GLOBAL,” a blog on education-related topics: Visit Blog!

For more information

Visit the AICE Website at www.aice-evaal.org or contact info@aice-eval.org.

Submission of events, notifications, research items, and original content to the AICE Standard can be sent directly to amorawski@foreigncredits.com.