



The **STANDARD**

AICE

a monthly newsletter by AICE

AICE Newsletter

August 2017

Message from the Editor:

Greetings from everyone at AICE.

In many professions, as well as for students, August unofficially is the last month of Summer, at least for me, based in Chicago, with a four-season climate. It is also business as usual for professional credential evaluators, whose workload is determined by varying application deadlines, and not by academic calendars. August, however, is a particularly busy time for the staff university admissions and international education programs. This is the time when final registration-related issues must be settled, last-minute problems handled swiftly, and culminates in new student orientations and campus arrival.

Welcoming new students on campus is a very important job of a university administrator. In the case of undergraduates, this is often the first time they are leaving their family home. This experience is compounded for international students, because in addition to leaving home, they face a language barrier, culture shock, and a myriad of regulations they must follow as international students. Therefore, conducting a successful international student orientation and providing support when students first arrive at US campuses is an important role of international educators, and one not seen first hand by those of us who work in professional evaluation agencies.

I would like to dedicate this newsletter to the international educators who are tasked with welcoming new international students on their campus in August and September for the Fall term. We recognize that this is one of the busiest times in your year, and we salute you for the work that you do. I would also like to share a video from University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire's international student move-in day: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltbOggIKJmU> It is great to see the staff and community members working together to welcome international students.

To credential evaluators everywhere, we are an integral step in helping international students in their journey to obtain a US education. But during this month, I commend everyone welcoming students to their campuses.

Sincerely,
Aleks Morawski

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

Notable Events:

- AICE will be exhibiting at the [TAICEP](#) (The Association of International Credential Evaluation Professionals) Annual Conference in Rome, Italy, September 5-7, 2017. Please visit AICE Endorsed Member Aleks Morawski (Foreign Credits Inc.) who will be representing AICE as the Chair of Scholarship and Publications.
- At the invitation of the US Department of Education, Melanie Gottlieb, Deputy Director of AACRAO, and Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert, Chair of AACRAO's IESC, President of AICE, and President & CEO of ACEI, presented a session at the ENIC-NARIC meeting on June 26th in Copenhagen, Denmark. Please [click here](#) for Jasmin's reflection on the US and European perspectives on three-year Bologna Bachelor's degrees.
- AICE became a signatory to the Groningen Declaration at the organization's 2017 Annual Meeting in Melbourne, Australia, April 26-28, 2017, and is now proudly listed as a signatory on the Groningen Declaration website [see more](#).

AICE and ACEI President Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert attended the event and signed the declaration on behalf of AICE and ACEI "to move our profession forward." For her reflection and explanation of the declaration, please [click here](#).

- The AICE Symposium Planning Committee started work on the 2018 AICE Symposium, to take place on March 28-29, 2018 in Orlando, FL, immediately following the 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.
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AICE® Forum Highlights

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



Australia

Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand

Can membership be considered equivalent to a US Bachelor's degree? AICE members discussed whether or not these qualifications qualify for a US Bachelor's degree

equivalence, using logic similar to that applied to the Institutes of Chartered Accountants in India

and Pakistan. While membership on its own does not warrant academic credit, more research is required for the examinations.

Ethiopia

Bachelor's degree

The Ethiopian Bachelor's degree was reduced from 4 to 3 years of study around 2003. AICE members used principles from the 2017 Symposium on three-year degrees to determine if a combined three-year bachelor's and two-year master's from Ethiopia qualify for a Bachelor + Master equivalence.



Cuba

Diploma de Bachiller en Teología y Biblia (Baccalaureate Diploma in Theology and Bible Studies)

SDR shared documents from an unaccredited, non-academic program to illustrate how using the terminology "Bachiller" does not mean the program is academic and recognized. An

important observation was shared, namely that Cuban documents are highly regulated and issued on government format, and that secondary school programs require specific coursework like "Marxist-Leninist Philosophy" and "Scientific Atheism", which were missing from the documents in question.

Spain

Titulo Universitario Propio (de Master)

ACEI has noticed an increase in evaluation applications from Spaniards holding the Titulo Universitario Propio de Master degree versus the Titulo Universitario Oficial. It had been a general understanding that the Titulo Universitario Propio was favored by international students, and not pursued by Spaniards as it does not provide access to doctorate degree programs at universities in Spain and is not accepted for employment for government sector jobs. A consensus was reached not to alter our evaluation approach to these credentials, regardless if the holder is a Spanish national or an international student.





Egypt

Supplementing Graduation Certificates with Licensure

Evaluators reviewed a sample Egyptian Syndicate of Engineers membership card and a supplemental confirmation of graduation from an engineering program. Under SDR's guidance, an Egyptian academic transcript was analyzed, noting the certification, followed

closely by public institutions in Egypt.

Publications

The NAFSA IEM Spotlight newsletter for Summer 2017 featured articles by several AICE members:

- [“AICE 2017 Symposium Report: Setting U.S. Admission Standards for Three-Year Degrees”](#)– AICE Endorsed Member Beth Cotter (Foreign Credential Evaluations, Inc.)
- [“The Three-Year Indian Degree Conundrum”](#) – Ujjaini Sahasrabudhe, University of Southern California and AICE Endorsed Member Aleks Morawski (Foreign Credits, Inc.)
- [“A Report on the Three-Year Bologna Bachelor’s Degrees Presentation at the ENIC-NARIC Meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark”](#) – AICE Endorsed Member Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert (ACEI)
- 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 orderd 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 on line 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-eval.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.

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