The 3rd National Conference and the 10th Institutional Seminar on Quality Assessment of University Systems (QAUS-2016)

Tehran, Iran. April 26-27th April 2016

In this two-day conference which was held in Tarbiat Modares University (Tehran) the principles of the quality management and accreditation in higher education institutions, specifically the implementation of evaluation in educational groups were discussed.

People from different educational and employment background attended this conference among which the presence of the officers of the office of quality supervision and evaluation of the curriculum of the Farhangian University was significant. The keynote speakers who gave lectures were Dr. Abbas Bazargan, a faculty member of the Department of Educational Management and Planning, University of Tehran, Dr. Mohammad Saeed Taslimi the Deputy Minister of Science, Research and Technology, and Mr. Rafael Llovori head of Institutional and International Relations of the Spanish Quality Assurance Agency.

Targeting different issues in the failure of the quality assurance in Iranian Universities, Dr. Bazargan continued to point to the fact that the internal evaluation of the universities must be collaborative, addressing all the academic and administrative staff and even students. In this kind of evaluation, the collaborative model is preferred to the management or imperative model.

Pointing to the fact that Iran lacks a national quality evaluation body, he highly valued the actions that University of Tehran has taken in this regard and introduced the foundation of the quality evaluation center of University of Tehran as primary steps towards quality assurance in the country.

In addition to the papers whose abstracts were presented in the conference, Dr. Javad Hatami, the Vice-Chancellor for Education of Tarbiat Moddares University and the scientific chairman of the conference announced that 90 papers were sent to the secretariat of the conference and among those, only 40 papers were chosen to be printed as posters and 19 papers were selected to be presented in the conference.

The presence of Mr. Rafael Llovori and his lectures on the status of the quality assurance bodies in Europe and their network structure was one of the good features of this conference. Other privileges of this conference were different workshops that were held simultaneously with the main stream of the conference. Dr. Bazargan's workshop with the purpose of familiarization of evaluation processes in educational groups was one of the succeeding workshops to mention.