



EUA, 10 April 2003

PRESS RELEASE

1st Meeting of the Alumni Forum EUA's Institutional Evaluation Programme

At the first Alumni meeting of the European University Association's Institutional Evaluation Programme (University of Bristol, UK 29 March 2003), there was widespread agreement about the significance of the self-evaluation as a strategic tool and a formative phase for universities.

EUA members highlighted the positive impact of the [EUA Institutional Evaluation](#) on their institutions and noted its usefulness as a lever that university leaders can use to effect change. Participation in this EUA membership service has given some of these institutions opportunity to develop the internal capacity to organise self-evaluations and to adapt the process to the evaluation of faculties.

Henrik Toft Jensen and Albreto Amaral, respectively Chair and Vice-Chair of the Programme Steering Committee, elicited the participants' views on the type of activities that they would wish to see develop further. Their suggestions spanned a spectrum of activities such as:

- Exchange of views and formal presentations on Quality Assurance trends in Europe
- Benchmarking exercises
- Discussing best practices in specific areas

Besides an obvious interest in quality both as an internal activity and a process of accountability for universities across Europe, participants expressed interest in discussing within this group such diverse topics as intellectual property rights, recognition of professional qualifications, the impact of universities on their regions and researchers' mobility.

Henrik Toft Jensen closed this meeting by noting the high interest expressed by participants to continue to work as a group and invited them to meet again at the EUA conference which will be held in Cluj, Romania, on 25-26 October 2003.

The EUA Institutional Evaluation Programme is focused on increasing the capacity of universities to integrate an effective quality culture and to develop a dynamic process of change. More than 80 universities in 30 countries have already participated in this programme. For more information and an application form please contact EUA, in Brussels

University represented	Year evaluated	Country
Universität Klagenfurt	1999	Austria
Université de Liège	1998, 2002, 2003	Belgium
Université de Franche Comte	2003	France
University of Crete	2000	Greece
University College Dublin	1997	Ireland
University of Algarve	2002	Portugal
University of Nis	2002	Serbia
University of Novi Sad	2002	Serbia
University of Maribor	1997	Slovenia
London Metropolitan University (Formerly North London University)	1998	United Kingdom

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