



Agentur für Qualitätsicherung durch
Akkreditierung von
Studiengängen

Additional Report to the University of Surrey's report on the accreditation of the „Sustainability Management“ master's programme

offered jointly by the University of Surrey, Corvinus University (Budapest), Kaunas University of Technology and University of Applied Science Lippe und Höxter

Visit to Höxter on 20 June 2007

Peer:

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Coordinator: Volker Husberg, Geschäftsstelle AQAS

Akkreditierungsbeschluss

Auf der Basis des Berichts der von der University of Surrey eingesetzten Gutachtergruppe und des ergänzenden Berichts von Herrn Prof. Bottlinger, FH Trier, und der Beratungen der Akkreditierungskommission in der 28. Sitzung vom 20./21.8.2007 spricht die Akkreditierungskommission folgende Entscheidung aus:

1. Der Master-Studiengang **„Sustainability Management“** mit dem Abschluss **“Master of Science“** wird unter Berücksichtigung der einschlägigen Beschlüsse des Akkreditierungsrats **ohne Auflagen akkreditiert**.
2. Es handelt sich um einen **nicht-konsekutiven** Master-Studiengang.
3. Die Akkreditierungskommission stellt für den Studiengang ein **stärker anwendungsorientiertes** Profil fest.
4. Die Akkreditierung wird im Einklang mit der Akkreditierung durch die University of Surrey für den Zeitraum vom 1. September 2008 bis zum 31. August 2013 ausgesprochen.

20.08.2007

Sollte der Studiengang zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt anlaufen, kann die Akkreditierung auf Antrag der Hochschule entsprechend verlängert werden.

Die Akkreditierung wird unwirksam, wenn der akkreditierte Studiengang nicht innerhalb von zwei Jahren nach dem Wirksamwerden der Akkreditierungsentscheidung eröffnet wird. im Sinne des Beschlusses des Akkreditierungsrats „Entscheidungen der Akkreditierungsagenturen: Arten und Wirkungen“ i.d.F. vom 22.06.2006.

As an addition to the report of the panel of experts based on the visit to Kaunas University of Technology on 27 February 2007, AQAS wished to explore some questions that were directly linked to the part of the programme offered by the Fachhochschule Lippe und Höxter.

The visit took place on 20 June 2007.

On behalf of AQAS Prof. Bottlinger explored the following issues:

- a) the profile of the programme
- b) personnel resources for the modules offered in Höxter
- c) facilities in Höxter (such as library, computer pools, etc.)
- d) the state of the e-learning support offered by the FH Lippe und Höxter
- e) the support of the students' industrial placement
- f) the state of the memorandum of agreement

The representatives of the programme gave a presentation of the programme followed by a walk through laboratories and facilities relevant to the programme. Prof. Bottlinger talked to representatives of the institution's management and to programme coordinators of the four venues.

The management of the Fachhochschule assured the peer of their commitment and support of the programme. The vice-president stated that there are sufficient personnel resources for the program. Financial support for the library and for technical equipment will provide a good basis for the planned program. The quality management system of the Fachhochschule is well-structured and established. Depth and practicability of the multi-faceted quality management system were found to be convincing and will be supportive of the planned master's program.

Profile, curriculum and industrial placement:

The master's programme is an application-oriented programme. It meets the requirements of the German Qualification Framework for master's programmes.

Issues discussed with the representatives of the programme included among others access to the programme. Applicants with a variety of academic backgrounds are admitted into the programme. The programme coordinators underlined that they expect that the programme will benefit from this variety of entry qualifications and that possible problems have the attention of the coordinators. It is expected, that participants will select eligible lectures according to their prior knowledge and so maximise the benefit from the program.

Like the other venues Höxter has a strategy and a reliable network to support students in their search for adequate industrial placements. Support of the students is adequately provided. Experiences from other programmes run in Höxter are positive as regards students' industrial placements. The Institute for Sustainability has adequate industrial cooperations to support industrial placements for the students.

Conditions of approval set in the panel's report have all been addressed as have most of the recommendations.

Resources:

The laboratories and the library at Höxter are in full agreement with the requirements of the programme. Adequate software and work places are available to students.

The number of staff was found to be adequate to deliver the programme. As pointed out in the panel's report the qualifications of staff, their experience and their fields of expertise are appropriate to deliver the four modules that Höxter supplies.

e-Learning:

Höxter has taken the role of provider of the e-learning platform that supports teachers and learners of the programme. The decision whether to use the platform available in Höxter or to change to a new platform has yet to be made. The discussion showed, that there are clear concepts as to the content and technical requirements of the platform. The peer is therefore convinced that the platform for the support of the programme will be ready at the start of the programme next winter term.

Cooperation:

Cooperation of all partners is secured. A Memorandum of Agreement will be signed later in the year. As the coordinators have applied for funding to the Erasmus Mundus programme a confirmation of their partnership had to be submitted which ensures a sound basis for future cooperation and the protection of the students enrolled in the programme in all four venues.