

Alphabet Soup of International Credential Evaluation

- Presented by: **Aleksander Morawski**
Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert
Robert Watkins
- April 1, 2019
- Session ID 1287

Session Rules of Etiquette

- **Please silence your electronic devices.**
- **Please complete the session evaluation using the AACRAO mobile app.**
- **If you must leave the session early, please do so as discreetly as possible**
- **Please avoid side conversation during the session**

Thank you for your cooperation!



Introduction

- Credential evaluation – The state of the profession, how it came about, and who the relevant players are.
 - Identify relevant actors in the field, and their respective acronyms
 - See where you fit in – in the Alphabet Soup of International Credential Evaluation
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Learning Outcomes of this session:

- Learn the relevant players in credential evaluation
 - Understand the history of the field of international evaluations
 - Learn to decode the acronyms and understand organizational roles
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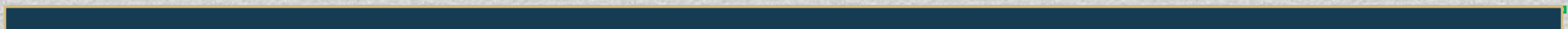
Topic One - Current State of Credential Evaluation

- **Presenter:**

Aleks Morawski

Director of Evaluation Services

Scholaro





- Who does evaluations?

- Academic institutions
- Private agencies
- Employers
- Licensing boards
- Individuals – translators, faculty
- Research organizations – AACRAO, NAFSA, AICE, Etc.

- Can't the government just do it?
- There is no federal or state regulation of credential evaluation services. The U.S. Department of Education does not endorse or recommend any individual credential evaluation service.
- Credential evaluations are not free. The cost will vary according to the complexity of the case and the amount of documentation you can provide.
- Credential evaluations are done on an individual, case-by-case basis and take into consideration various factors. You can expect that different institutions and credential evaluation services might evaluate your credentials differently, according to their criteria.

<https://sites.ed.gov/international/recognition-of-foreign-qualifications/>

Three competent authorities for recognition matters:

- *The admitting school or higher education institution*, for students who seek to study in the United States and who are presenting credits or qualifications earned abroad;
- *The hiring employer*, for individuals seeking work and who are presenting degrees or other qualifications earned abroad; and
- *State or territorial licensing boards*, for individuals seeking to practice regulated professions in a jurisdiction of the United States and who are presenting degrees or other qualifications earned abroad.

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ous/international/usnei/us/edlite-visitus-forrecog.html>

There are two national associations of credential evaluation services that have published standards for membership, affiliations to national international higher education associations and are frequently linked to and used by federal agencies, state agencies, educational institutions and employers.

- Association of International Credentials Evaluators (AICE)
- National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES)

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ous/international/usnei/us/workrecog.doc>

- Who provides research in international credential evaluation?

- AACRAO
EDGE, Training, Publications
- NAFSA
Publications, Conferences, Training
- Evaluation Agencies
- Professional Organizations
NCAA, NAIA, AICE, TAICEP
- Individuals



Evaluation Outcomes:

- Admission
- Employment
- Licensure/professional qualification
- Evaluation Report: Judgment

- Why doesn't AACRAO just tell me what it means and what I should do with it?
- AACRAO IES (International Education Services) becomes AACRAO International
 - Committed to the professional development of international admissions and credential evaluation staff. The premier provider of professional development, training, and current research on foreign educational systems, including AACRAO's Electronic Database for Global Education (EDGE).

<https://www.aacrao.org/resources/AACRAO-International>

105th AACRAO ANNUAL MEETING

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Topic Two – History of the profession

- **Presenter:**

Robert Watkins

Special Assistant to the Director, Graduate and International Admissions Center

University of Texas, Austin

Professional Member Organizations

- AACRAO-American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers: 1910
 - AAR-American Association of Registrars becomes AACRAO in 1949 with addition of Admissions professionals
 - NAFSA-National Association of Foreign Student Affairs: 1948 Students & Scholars organization that added International Admissions in 1964 forming ADSEC (Admissions Section)
 - By 1990s NAFSA decided the acronym would NOT stand for anything and it became NAFSA: Association of International Educators
 - ADSEC became RAP (Recruitment Admissions and Preparation) about that time and then evolved into IEM (International Enrollment Management)
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More Professional Associations Join In

- EAIE-European Association of International Educators: 1989 including ACE (Admission and Credential Evaluation) which evolved into the current Admission & Recognition Expert Community
 - TAICEP-The Association of International Credential Evaluation Professionals: 2013
 - NACAC-National Association for College Admission Counseling: 1910
 - OACAC-Overseas Association of College Admission Counseling: 1937
 - OACAC changes its name to IACAC-International Association of College Admission Counseling: 2016
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International Education Research

- The National Council for the Evaluation of Foreign Educational Credentials (The Council): 1955 composed of key players in international education (ACE-American Council of Education, IIE-Institute for International Education, CGS-Council of Graduate Schools, College Board, AACC-American Association of Community Colleges, NAFSA and AACRAO with AACRAO-AID an Observer)
 - The Council reviewed drafts of forthcoming publications in the field of international education (admission & placement) and approved author-inspired Placement Recommendations (PRs)
 - The Council existed from 1955-2006 and inspired the concept of Credential Advice in EDGE
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International Education Research Publications

- World Education Series (WES) by AACRAO with support from NAFSA— dating from the 1950s these were single author country study volumes that were reviewed by The Council and included PRs; a committee of NAFSA and AACRAO members decided which countries to study though always guided by US Government money (USIA-United States Information Service)
 - JCOW-Joint Committee on Workshops these began in the 1950s also and involved a group of authors researching in-country and publishing their findings after Council review and PRs.
 - JCOW evolved into PIER (Projects in International Education Research) by the late 1970s/early 1980s
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International Research Coordination

- The PIER and WES committees combined by the late 1980s into the PIER/WES committee which continued to determine countries, regions for study and authors to produce them after a competitive review process still funded by the Government up to the very late 1990s and into the present century
 - Then NAFSA pulled out of the research and publication process by the mid-to late 1990s leaving it with AACRAO which handed the PIER/WES committee functions over to a standing AACRAO committee known as IPAC (International Publications Advisory Committee) which still exists today though with different tasks
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International Education Research Currently

- By the middle of the first decade of the 21st Century print publications were clearly not the future and hardly cost-effective especially with the Government no longer funding international education research
- The Council also dissolved at this time with no obvious replacement
- Gloria Nathanson, then Vice President For International on the AACRAO Board requested and received permission to form a new body to review international research and provide placement guidance should AACRAO actively take on research endeavors
- Meanwhile, Dr. William J. Paver was creating a database he had been contemplating while Assistant Dean of Graduate Admissions at UT-Austin and, once retired, created EDGE (Electronic Database for Global Education)

New Modes of Research & Guidance

- EDGE rolled out by 2005-06 and was now an AACRAO product
 - Credential Advice in EDGE would replicate the old Council Placement Recommendations
 - The Content in EDGE country entries and the Credential Advice would be reviewed by the International Education Standards Council (IESC)
 - IESC initially consisted of three members, later expanded to six including credential evaluation service professionals
 - EDGE is dynamic unlike static print volumes and has high content capabilities beyond country entries
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Other Research Contributors

- IERF-International Education Research Foundation: THE COUNTRY INDEX (1970); NEW COUNTRY INDEX Volumes 1 (2004) and 2 (2011) currently revising; includes IERF Recommends for credentials
 - ECE-Educational Credential Evaluators: numerous publications generally not including credential advice though later ones do
 - WES-World Education Services: WES News & Reviews (WENR) newsletter containing articles on educational systems as well as sample credential evaluations
 - Others: ACEI-Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute has a blog about overseas education; Scholaro: database similar to EDGE
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Associations Conduct Training

- AACRAO has a Summer and Winter Institute as well as Annual Meeting and other conferences with sessions dedicated to international education topics; AACRAO On the Road; Webinars
 - NAFSA Annual Conference sessions and Regional Conference sessions contain much international education information though less regarding Admission and Credential Evaluation at the national level
 - AICE-Association of International Credential Evaluators offers training through Symposia, Webinars, and a Credential Forum
 - ECE holds webinars, credential evaluation workshops, and has the ECE CONNECTION which is an online newsletter with information
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Topic 3. The Global ABC's

- **Presenter:**

Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert

President & CEO

Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc. (ACEI)

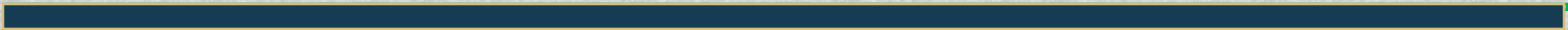




- A global profession

Credential evaluation is done everywhere – many foreign organizations research education systems and provide resources

- EAIE
- APAIE
- NUFFIC
- NORRIC



Pop Quiz!



Which one of these acronyms refers to a credit system in Europe?

- a) DAAD
- b) EAIE
- c) ECTS
- d) ENIC
- e) EQPR

Correct Answer:

Which one of these acronyms refers to a credit system in Europe?

- a) DAAD
- b) EAIE
- c) **ECTS (European Credit Transfer & Accumulation System)**
- d) ENIC
- e) EQPR

General Terms

- MOE (Ministry of Higher Education)
- HEIs (Higher Education Institutions)
- College (in some countries refers to upper secondary level studies)
- Course (in some countries, e.g. UK, refers to the program of study)
- Recognition (method of determining the status of an educational institution and the validity of its educational programs)
- Academic Record (document listing subjects/coursework completed, with hours/units/credits and final exam results/grades/marks, similar to US transcript)

International Organizations

- IAU (International Association of Universities) <https://www.iau-aiu.net/>
- IIE (Institute of International Education) <https://www.iie.org>
- OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development) <http://www.oecd.org>
- PISAstudy (Programme for International Student Assessment)
<http://www.oecd.org/pisa/>
- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)
<https://en.unesco.org>
- UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council) <https://www.unhcr.org>

Africa

- AAU (Association of African Universities) <https://www.aau.org>
- EAEC (East African Examinations Council)
- KCSE (Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education)
- KNEC (Kenya National Examinations Council)
- NECO (Nigerian Examination Council) <http://www.mynecoexams.com/results/>
- SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) <http://www.saqa.com>
- SARUA (Southern African Regional Universities Association) <http://www.sarua.org>
- WAEC (West African Examinations Council) <http://www.waecnigeria.org>
- WASSCE (West African Senior Secondary School Examinations)
<http://www.waecdirect.org>



Asia

- AICTE (All-India Council for Technical Education) <https://www.aicte-india.org/>
- APAIE (Asia-Pacific Association of International Education) <https://www.apaie2019.org>
- CDGDC (China Academic Degree & Graduate Education Development) <http://www.chinadegrees.cn/cn/>
- CHESSIC (China Higher Education Student Information & Career Center) <https://www.chsi.com.cn/en/>
- HSC (Higher Secondary Certificate) [India]
- HKDSE (Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education)
- SSC (Secondary School Certificate) [India]
- SPM (Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia) [Malaysia Secondary School Certificate]
- UGC (University Grants Commission) [India] <https://www.ugc.ac.in/>

Australia & New Zealand

- ACT SSC (Australian Capital Territory Senior Secondary Certificate)
- AHEG (Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement)
- ASQA (Australian Skills Quality Authority) [accredits all voc'l programs)
- ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) [provides a standardized score for Australian Senior Secondary students seeking admission to universities)
- MyeQuals (official platform for transcript retention for Australian & NZ universities) <https://www.myequals.edu.au/>
- NSW HSC (New South Wales [Australia] Higher School Certificate)
- NTCET (Northern Territory [Australia] Certificate of Education & Training)
- NCEA (New Zealand National Certificate of Educational Achievement)
- NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority)
- QCE (Queensland [Australia] Certificate of Education)



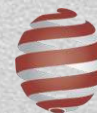
Europe

- Bologna Process (stipulates a Europe-wide educational structure of 3 cycles (Bachelor, Master, Doctoral and use of ECTS credits to increase transparency and mobility of students transitioning within Europe)
- CAE (Cambridge Advanced English)
- CIMEA (Information Centre on Academic Mobility & Equivalence, Italy)
- DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst) [German Academic Exchange Service] <https://www.daad.de/en/>
- EAIE (European Association for International Education) www.eaie-org
- ECTS (European Credit Transfer & Accumulation System)
- EHEA (European Higher Education Area)
- ENIC Network (European Network of National Information Centres)
- EQF (European Qualification Framework)



Europe (cont./)

- EQPR (European Qualifications Passport for Refugees)
- GDPR (General data Protection Regulation)
- GDN (Groningen Declaration Network)
- GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education) [UK]
- IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education)
- Lisbon Recognition Convention <https://www.enic-naric.net/the-lisbon-recognition-convention.aspx>
- NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centres)
- NOKUT (Nordic National Recognition Information Centres)
- NUFFIC (The Dutch Organization for Internationalization in Education)
- SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority) [UK]
- SCQF (Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework) [Scotland, UK]
- QCF (Qualifications Credit Framework) [UK]



North America

Canada

- CICIC (Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials)
- CEGEP (*Collèges d'enseignement général et professionnel*) [Colleges of General & Professional Education/Quebec]
- NACC (National Association of Career Colleges) [Canada/Voc'1 & Tech]
- VET (Vocational & Educational Training)

Caribbean

- CXC (Caribbean Examination Council)
- CAPE (Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination)
- CAAM-HP (Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine & other Health Professions)

North America (cont./)

Central America

- CSUCA (Consejo Superior Universitario de Centroamericana) [Central American Universities Council]
 - SICAR (Sistema de Carreras y Posgrados Regionales (Regional Career & Postgraduate Systems)
 - SICEVAES (Sistema Centroamericano de Evaluacion y Acreditacion de Educacion Superior) [National Association of Career Colleges) [Central American Systems of Evaluaiton & Accreditation of Higher Education]
 - Consejo Centromerican de Acreditacion de Educacion Superior (Central American Council of Accreditation of Higher Education)

North America (cont./)

Mexico

- CENEVAL (*Centro Nacional de Evaluacion*) [National Center of Evaluation]
- COPAES (*Consejo para la Acreditacion de la Educacion Superior*) [Higher Education Accreditation Council]
- INEE (*Instituto Nacional para la Evaluacion de la Educacion*) [National Institute for Evaluation of Education]
- SEP (*Secretaria de Educacion Publica*) [Secretary of Public Education]
- UNAM (*Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico*) [National Autonomous University of Mexico]

South America

Brazil

- CONAES (*Comissão Nacional de Avaliação de Educação Superior*) [National Commission of Evaluation of Higher Education]
- COPAES (*Consejo para la Acreditación de la Educación Superior*) [Higher Education Accreditation Council]
- CAPES (*Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior*)]

Peru

- SUNEDU (*Superintendencia Nacional de Educación Superior Universitaria*) [National Higher Superintendency for Higher Education]

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Thank You!

Aleksander Morawski

morawski@scholar.do.com

Jasmin Saidi-Kuehnert

jasmin@acei-global.org

Robert Watkins

robert.watkins@austin.utexas.edu

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