

SUMMARY

of the Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development expert's report on the institutional audit results conducted in the State University of Management.

1. The mission of AQA is to support independently on a regular basis Russian public and non-public higher education institutions in the development of educational quality to meet the best national and international quality assurance practices and standards. The Agency contributes to the increase of quality awareness among higher education stakeholders and stimulates the competitiveness of Russian higher education institutions on the international scale. To this end, the Agency carries out audits of the academic performance of higher educational institutions.

2. The audit procedure is worked out by the AQA in accordance with the standards set up by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). The procedure complies with the requirements applied to the complex evaluation of a HEI¹. The objectives of the AQA academic audit are:

- to contribute to the promotion of high quality in education;
- to ensure that students, employers and other interested parties can have readily access to easily understood, reliable and meaningful information about the extent to which the programs of study, awards and qualifications offered by the institution meet national expectations in respect of academic standards and quality;
- to ensure that if the quality of programs or the standards of awards are found not to be in compliance with the norms set, the Agency immediately forms recommendations to the HEI for ensuring rapid action to improve the programs and standards and supervises the improvement process;
- to secure accountability for the use of funds gathered from different sources and received by institutions.

¹ Guidance materials on academic audit of higher educational institutions to assure educational quality and its implementation.- M.: AQA, 2006. – 34p;

Higher educational quality assurance standards and guidance. - M.: AQA, 2006. - 25 p.;

Rules and regulations on higher education quality assurance and standards. - M.: AQA, 2006. - 11 p.

The Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development (AQA),
Leningradsky pr. 80, Block G, of.202(20)/125190, Moscow, Russia/ Tel.+7-495-663-93-88

3. The academic audit is carried out by a group of experts of equal status who assess methods used by a HEI to assure the quality of education and the level of standards. Due to the fact that the quality of education shows the effectiveness of educational opportunities available for students to help the latter in doing a full course of studies and getting a degree, the approval of the quality of education means that the teaching process, academic support, student academic performance assessment and other educational opportunities fully comply with the anticipated aims.

4. The academic audit consists of the following stages: AQA representatives' and experts' fact finding, preliminary visit to an HEI; AQA experts' analysis of the HEI documentation on internal quality assurance; AQA experts' working visit to carry out the academic audit; reporting and the publication of a final statement containing the received information and data, experts' decisions and recommendations.

5. On the academic audit completion experts:

- make a statement on the HEI's effective management of the quality of academic programs, the level of the awarded qualifications and the HEI's ability to keep the tendency in the near future;
- make a statement on the level of accuracy, integrity, completeness, and openness of the data published by the HEI regarding the quality of academic programs and the level of standards of the awarded qualifications;
- ensure that the HEI provides the anticipated quality of higher education and the level of standards of the awarded qualifications;
- confirm that the HEI implements its Mission;
- confirms that the HEI leads its academic activity and implements programs in accordance with the current legislation;
- confirm that the HEI carries out its obligations properly and issues educational documentation of the appropriate type;
- give the Supreme Advisory Council of the Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development recommendations on issuing the HEI an AQA Education Quality Assurance Certificate.

6. The academic audit was carried out by the Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development (AQA) at the State University of Management (hereinafter referred to as the university, the SUM) in November 2007. The aim of the audit was to provide the information about the quality of educational programs run at the university, as well as the information about the work of the university regarding its right to issue diplomas and award qualifications.

7. The university was founded in April 1919 and was called Moscow Industrial and Economic Practical Institute providing training of economists for the industry and consumers' cooperative societies, financiers, experts in economy and in the organization of work. In 1930 the HEI was renamed into Moscow Industrial and Economic Institute since its basic aim was to train engineer-economists (broad specialists) for main industries of the national economy. In the 60's the institute started to prepare specialists in management, and in the 70's – specialists for the organization of production management. During this period fundamental and applied scientific research in management was carried out. Due to this fact in 1975 the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the USSR renamed the institute into the Moscow Institute of Management. In the mid 80's and the following years the HEI initiated training for new specialties in management: Economics and Management, Management, Marketing, State and Municipal Management, Management in the Social Sphere. In 1991 the Council of Ministers of the USSR transformed the Moscow Institute of Management into the State Academy of Management. The Academy initiated the opening of new directions in management education meeting the needs of the market economy, and organized a wide-ranged professional training for industrial, social, state and municipal management. In 1998 the academy was granted the status of a university and renamed into the State University of Management.

8. The university is a state educational institution of higher professional education. It provides academic programs for secondary, higher, and additional professional education in accordance with the current legislation:

- The Law of the RF “On Education” amended on July 6, 2006 № 104-FL;
- The Law of the RF “On Higher and Post-Graduate Professional Education” amended on July 18, 2006 № 113-FL;
- Model regulations on a higher professional educational institution (higher educational institution) confirmed by the resolution of the RF Government on June 26, 1993;
- The University Charter approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation on November 9, 2001;
- The License (registration number № 0319, series A 000334, valid up to April 30, 2008) issued by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation on January 31, 2003 giving the right to provide educational services;
- Certificates on the state accreditation of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation of May 5, 2003, registration number № 0891, series A 000937 valid up to April 9, 2008;
- specialty state educational standards for higher professional education stated in the license.

9. In accordance with the current license the SUM runs 32 educational programs of higher professional education: 5 – educational programs for the Bachelor’s Degree, 25 – programs for the specialist training, 2 – programs for the Master’s Degree. The university has the right to issue educational documentation of the state type to graduates who have proved the completion of an academic program at the final state examination.

10. There are 1387 lecturers in the university that run the educational programs for higher professional education. 949 teachers (68,4%) have an academic degree or title, 293 lecturers (21,1%) are Doctors of Science or Professors, 656 members of staff (47,3%) are PhDs and/or associate professors. The university has 10 RAS academicians and 1 correspondent RAS member; 20 winners of the RF Government Prize. There were 19327 students in 2007: 10347 full time students, 4169 people doing full time – correspondence studies, 4811 students at correspondence courses). There are also 255 foreign students from 28 countries at the SUM.

11. Currently the SUM has 21 institutes and 5 departments. The institutes are²: Institute of Innovation and Logistics (4); Institute of Management in Power Engineering (4); Institute of Management in Chemical Industry and Metallurgy (3); Institute of Business in Civil Engineering and Project Management (4); Institute of Management in Transport (3); Institute of The State and Municipal Administration (7); Institute of Business-Law (4); Institute of Management Information Systems (7); Institute of National and World Economy (9); Institute of Sociology and Personnel Management (6); Institute of Financial Management (5); Institute of International Business (2); Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship in Social Sphere (5); Institute of Tourism and Market Development (3); Institute of Taxes and Tax Management (3); Institute of New Economy's Management Issues (8); Institute of Marketing (2); Institute of Foreign Languages (5); Institute of Training for Scientific-Pedagogical Staff; Institute of Advanced Training for Public Service and National Economy Officials; Institute of Correspondence Studies. Departments: Department of Master's Programs; Preparatory Department; Department of Advanced Courses for the Teaching Staff; Department of UNESCO “Management in Organizations of Not Governmental Sector”; The Russian-Dutch Department of Marketing. The university has two branches in Obninsk and Kaliningrad.

12. The university occupies a leading position among scientific and methodological centers in the management education. It is also one of the biggest economic HEIs in Russia specializing in training of management staff and in this respect it is unique not only among Russian HEIs but also among the foreign ones. On the whole the university can be viewed as a scientific-

² The figure given in the brackets corresponds to the number of chairs at an institute or department.
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www.akkork.ru

entrepreneurship HEI. Since its foundation the university has prepared about 100 000 specialists for various branches of the economy.

13. The Mission of the university is to provide the necessary conditions for the realization of one of the basic rights of Russian citizens – the right to education, to prepare highly qualified specialists meeting the requirements of the society. The university considers education as a means for personal development and emphasizes the close connection of the aims of education with the requirements of the labor market. The strategic aims of the university are:

- to meet an individual's needs in intellectual, cultural, and moral development by means of higher and postgraduate professional education;
- to meet the needs of the society and the state in qualified specialists with higher education and in highly qualified staff leading scientific and pedagogical activity;
- to train, retrain and provide advanced training for specialists, highly qualified staff involved into management, scientific and pedagogical activity;
- to carry out fundamental and applied scientific research including educational issues, consulting activity mainly in the sphere of economy and management;
- to provide methodological supervision to HEIs of the Russian Federation running training for similar specialties;
- to develop creative activity of the teaching staff and students; to apply research results in the educational process; to form a sense of pride in citizenship in students, their ability to work and live in the modern world;
- to accumulate, keep, and increase moral, cultural, and scientific values;
- to educate the society and increase its educational and cultural level;
- to establish, maintain, and actively develop mutually beneficial contacts with foreign educational institutions and international organizations.

14. The Mission of the university is based on the idea of keeping the leading position among other scientific and methodological centers in the sphere of management education; high teaching and learning quality assurance; widening national and international scientific cooperation; infrastructure improvement; increasing opportunities for admission to the SUM; diversification and profit increase; influx of non-governmental investments ; cooperation with prominent scientists and their work at the university; increasing the role of the university in Russia and strengthening contacts with foreign partners; further increase of the SUM recognition as well as consolidation of the university management system.

The university submitted the following documentation to the AQA:

- documentation on the university inner check (statement on the SUM self-examination);
- documentation on the inner check of 14 educational programs selected for the academic audit (statements on the results of specialty self-examination).

15. During their preliminary and working visits to the university the AQA experts were given access to the internal documentation. There was documentation on the structure of the university management, its strategies and policies, staff selection and advanced training, student support. The experts also studied statements on the quality of teaching, educational services, information on the organization of the educational process, Bachelor and Master Degree programs, the implementation of the joint-programs, corporate publications, and were given additional documentation on the examination of separate disciplines.

16. The fact finding preliminary visit to the university was in June 2007. Questions on the internal examination of the university and student streaming were discussed. Documentation on internal evaluation at the preparation stage of the academic audit is the main source of information about the university for the AQA and is the grounds for the evaluation of the methods applied by the HEI to assure program quality and standard level. The university doesn't have to issue a separate document and can submit to the Agency any documentation on its recent inner examinations under the condition that this documentation contains all the information necessary for the academic audit. The AQA and the university agreed that 13 educational programs of higher professional education were to be evaluated: 030602 Public Relations; 032001 Documentation and Documentary Support of Management; 040201 Sociology; 080102 World Economy; 080103 National Economy; 080105 Finance and Credit; 080109 Business Accounting, Analysis and Audit; 080111 Marketing; 080116 Mathematical Methods in Economics; 080503 Anticrisis Management; 080504 State and Municipal Administration; 080507 Enterprise Management; 080801 Applied Informatics in Management; 080500 Management. In September 2007 the AQA got the documentation on the inner examination (see section 11), the description of the above mentioned programs, as well as the documentation which the university considers to be important for better understanding of the actual state of affairs.

17. The preliminary visit took place in October 2007. During the visit questions that occurred when analyzing the documentation on the inner examination and other documentation submitted by the university were discussed by the experts together with the university administration, staff representatives, and students. The results of the discussions allowed the AQA and the university to approve of the examined programs, evaluate the volume of the anticipated work, and to set the principles of cooperation between the AQA, its experts, and the HEI. The university confirmed

the list of specialties and students chosen for the examination. The AQA representative met with students' representatives and gave instructions on the rules of providing information to the AQA. At the end of its visit the AQA submitted the program of the academic audit to the university and asked for a number of additional documentation.

18. The working visit of experts to the SUM took place in November 2007. During the visit the experts met lecturers and students within the framework of the academic audit as well as the academic audit of separate programs. The experts are thankful to everyone who found time to discuss questions connected with the quality of education management and the level of educational standards in the university.

19. On the basis of the data and information received as a result of the academic audit carried out at the State University of Management, the experts came to the conclusion that:

- the university has the structure that allows it to provide the stated quality of education; it has worked out and applies the procedures that assure the quality of education, its stability and improvement, guarantee the compliance with the standards of diploma issuing and qualification awarding;
- the university successfully controls the quality of education on the HEI level as well as on the level of separate programs; the university is capable of detecting any situations threatening the quality of a program, taking precautions, and making corrections;
- in the near future the university can guarantee and maintain the quality of education, comply with the standards of awarding qualifications;
- the information published by the university on the quality of the academic programs and the level of standards of the awarded qualifications is full, precise, and true.

20. On the basis of the above mentioned statement the experts are sure that:

- the SUM successfully manages the quality of academic programs and the level of standards of the awarded qualifications and will be able to continue to do it in the near future;
- the information published by the SUM on the quality of the academic programs and the level of standards of the awarded qualifications is full, precise, and true.

21. On the basis of the above mentioned statement the experts confirm that the SUM provides the stated quality of higher education.

22. On the basis of the above mentioned statement the experts confirm that the SUM provides the necessary conditions for the realization of one of the basic rights of Russian citizens – the right to education; considers education as a means for personal growth, an individual's self-realization in practical activities and studies; tightly connects the aims of education with the

requirements of the labor market; prepares highly qualified specialists capable of contributing to the economy and the life of the society, thus implementing its Mission.

23. On the basis of the above mentioned statement the experts confirm that the SUM:

- leads its academic activity and implements programs of higher and additional professional education in accordance with the current legislation;
- carries out its obligations properly and issues educational documentation of the appropriate type.

24. On the basis of the above said the experts recommend the Advisory Council of the Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and Career Development to issue the State University of Management an AQA certificate.