

Decision Regarding Institutional Accreditation Tartu Health Care College

21/02/2013

The Quality Assessment Council of the Estonian Higher Education Quality Agency decided to accredit the Tartu Health Care College for seven years.

The Assessment Committee decided to recognise progress in the Organisational management and performance assessment area with an additional note of “worthy of recognition”, especially identifying the General management and Personnel management sub-areas.

Assessment Committee

Ruud Heijnen – Chair	Zuyd Hogeschool (The Netherlands)
Rille Pihlak	Student member (Estonia)
Ain Aaviksoo	Praxis Centre for Political Studies (Estonia)
Johanna Kaisa Heikkilä	Jyväskylän ammattikorkeakoulu (Finland)
Liis Rooväli	Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Estonia (Estonia)

Component Assessments

Organisational management and performance	Conforms with requirements
Teaching and learning	Conforms with requirements
Research, development and/or other creative activity	Conforms with requirements
Service to society	Conforms with requirements

Strengths, Areas for Improvement and Recommendations

Strengths

- *Tartu Health Care College (the College) is methodically mapping the developments and bottlenecks in its organisational management and performance. The information gathered is used to implement development and improvement activities on an institutional level as well as on the level of its sub-units. College's priorities are based on its strategic goals and are recognisable in its daily organisational performance.*
- *The College has a systemic approach toward professional development of its employees, and professional development of an individual is effectively linked to the institutional quality assurance system.*
- *Employers, alumni and students are very satisfied with the content of curricula provided by the College.*
- *The College building provides an excellent environment for teaching and learning as well as for research and development; necessary support structures and funding strategies are in place.*
- *Research and development activities are clearly focused, research and development projects are based on the needs of the labour market and society, and the quality of those projects is evaluated by a special committee.*
- *The College introduces its activities to the public on a regular basis and conducts health promotion events at schools to introduce the College to potential students and to the general public.*

Areas for Improvement/Recommendations

- *To better fulfil its potential, the College should direct its activities towards new target groups – for example, people older than traditional student candidates; in addition to major hospitals, also primary health care providers, smaller health care institutions, nursing providers, nursing homes and preventive health service providers – and towards regions outside the immediate vicinity of Tartu.*
- *The College should introduce more teaching methods that equip students with transferrable skills – for example, communication skills, analytical skills, and a sense of the importance of lifelong learning.*
- *The College should provide more elective subjects in English in order to increase international mobility and enhance students' foreign language skills.*
- *The College should develop more detailed guidelines for monitoring teaching and learning and assessing learning results.*
- *The College should transform its counselling system into a more uniform and clearly defined system, so that the different domains of activity would become unequivocally clear to students.*

- *The College should get more involved in potential problems and bottlenecks of Russian-speaking students.*
- *To be successful in research and development in the field of health care, the College should strengthen international cooperation.*
- *The College should develop a strategy that would facilitate research and development in cooperation with other professional higher education institutions and universities.*

Further information:

Assessment Report

Self-Evaluation Report