



Center for Learning Innovations &
Customized Knowledge Solutions



“In Conversation with CLICKS Series”

Quality Assurance in the Era of Transformation: Embracing New Trends in Higher Education

19TH February 2025

17:00-19:15 UAE Time

Online Via  ZOOM



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**ARAB TEACHING
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CONSORTIUM**

WEDNESDAY

17:00-19:15 UAE TIME

Online Via  zoom

AGENDA

19.02.2025

WELCOMING NOTE 17:00-17:10

Dr. Narimane Hadj-Hamou,
CEO, CLICKS

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 17:10-17:45

*Global Perspectives on Quality Assurance:
Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities*

Vicki Stott, Chief Executive, The Quality Assurance Agency, UK and President of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)

PANEL DISCUSSION 17:45-19:10

Agile Quality: Transforming External Quality Assurance to Align with the Needs of Emerging Trends in Higher Education

KEY TAKE-AWAYS AND EVENT CLOSING 19:10-19:15

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Overview

As part of the In-Conversation with CLICKS' series, the upcoming virtual event titled *"Quality Assurance in the Era of Transformation: Embracing New Trends in Higher Education"* will bring together experts, higher education practitioners, and policymakers to explore the transformative shifts in quality assurance (QA) and external quality assurance (EQA) in higher education. The sessions reflect CLICKS' commitment to establishing platforms that bring together regional and international experts and leaders to provide strategic directions, share and promote best practices, and facilitate knowledge exchange.

The event, open to the higher education community regionally and globally, will discuss the various opportunities and challenges arising from emerging trends such as the increasing emphasis on skills-based education, how artificial intelligence is reshaping QA, the growth of non-traditional universities and alternative pathways to education, the expanding involvement of diverse stakeholders in quality assurance, and the widespread adoption of lifelong learning models.

The session will feature distinguished speakers, including president's & directors of accrediting agencies and prominent thought leaders, who will share invaluable insights into how their agencies and QA systems are adapting to these trends. They will also outline the strategic priorities being set to uphold quality and foster innovation in the rapidly evolving higher education landscape.

Objectives

1. To examine how emerging trends, including AI and technology developments, skills-based education, sustainability and alternative credentialing, are reshaping quality assurance practices in higher education.
2. To discuss regional and global developments and their implications for QA and EQA frameworks, aligning with national and institutional priorities.
3. To equip higher education institutions with strategies for developing agile and adaptive QA systems that address the demands of a rapidly evolving educational landscape.
4. To provide insights into fostering sustainable, innovative, and stakeholder-driven quality assurance practices that uphold excellence in a transformative era.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Global Perspectives on Quality Assurance: Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities

VICKI STOTT

Chief Executive, The Quality Assurance Agency, UK and President of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)

In this presentation, Vicki Stott explores key trends, challenges, and opportunities in global higher education quality assurance. Drawing from QAA's extensive experience in the UK, this session highlights two significant shifts: the transition towards a tertiary education model and the digital transformation of education, particularly the rise of artificial intelligence (AI).

The move towards a tertiary education quality framework can be seen by recent developments in Scotland and Wales. This shift promotes flexibility delivery models and lifelong learning, but also poses challenges related to standardisation and scale.

The second major trend, the digitalisation of education, underscores the growing influence of AI on learning and assessment. The use of Generative AI tools poses a challenge to traditional notions of academic integrity, prompting institutions to rethink assessment strategies and develop critical AI literacy among students. The presentation will consider how quality assurance approaches can be fit for an AI-integrated future whilst also supporting the maintenance of academic standards.

As higher education undergoes these transformations, quality assurance agencies must remain adaptive, ensuring that emerging challenges become opportunities for enhancement. By working together and sharing practice, agencies can continue to protect and enhance the quality of education for all learners around the world.



VICKI STOTT

Chief Executive, The Quality Assurance Agency, UK
and President of the International Network for Quality
Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE)

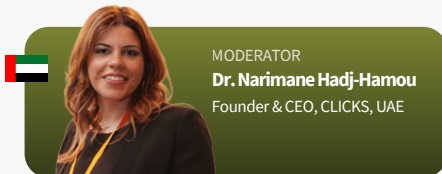
PANEL DISCUSSION

Agile Quality: Transforming External Quality Assurance to Align with the Needs of Emerging Trends in Higher Education

This panel discussion will explore how external quality assurance (EQA) is adapting to emerging trends such as artificial intelligence, sustainability, and the inclusion of student voices to ensure higher education institutions (HEIs) remain agile and responsive. Panelists will discuss the role of EQA in fostering a dynamic higher education ecosystem, the responsibilities of universities in aligning with these changes, and strategies for fostering communication and collaboration to better serve students.

Key Aims:

1. To analyze how external quality assurance frameworks are evolving to address emerging trends such as AI, sustainability, and learner-centric models.
2. To discuss the critical role of EQA in maintaining the agility and responsiveness of the higher education ecosystem.
3. To examine the responsibilities of universities in fostering ongoing communication and collaboration with QA bodies to enhance student outcomes.
4. To provide practical recommendations for higher education institutions to align their QA practices with the demands of a rapidly changing educational landscape.





Center for Learning Innovations &
Customized Knowledge Solutions

The Center for Learning Innovations and Customized Knowledge Solutions (CLICKS) since 2012 has been working across the region and beyond in helping higher educational institutions of all types address strategic issues pertinent to governance, quality assurance, teaching and learning, strategy formulation, technology integration among others.

In line with its six areas of expertise

- 1) Leadership development and Governance
- 2) Strategy Development
- 3) Quality Assurance and Accreditation
- 4) Innovative Learning and Teaching
- 5) Research
- 6) Student Support and Academic Advising

CLICKS has been involved in training and consulting for over 180 higher education institutions and has developed a robust portfolio of professional development programs ranging from webinars, short courses and workshops to certificate programs. In addition, to its diverse range of industry specific fit-for-purpose consultancy services.

CLICKS works with several international partners to deliver its programs and services. In addition, the center is actively engaged in establishing dynamic platforms where people come together to discuss issues of relevance to the sector; this includes the establishment of the MENA Higher Education Leadership Forum in 2013, the initiation of the In-conversation with CLICKS virtual panels in 2020, The Zairi International Awards for Excellence in Higher Education in 2021, the Arab Consortium for Teaching and learning launched in 2024 among others.

ABOUT CLICKS





CLICKS

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