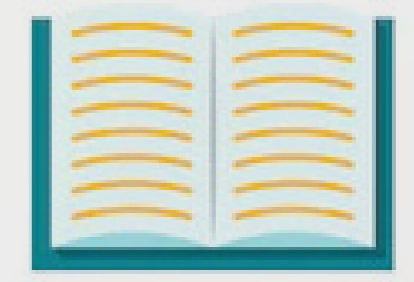


MFHEA challenges related to peer review experts (ESG 2.4)



External Quality Assurance (EQA) audits in Malta are carried out by panels of external peer review experts, that include at least one student member.

How the MFHEA creates a pool of experts:

- Invitation to take part in annual training for peer review experts with sufficient knowledge of English
- Training session that includes a mock audit (evaluation of SAR, interviews, report writing)
- Candidates that successfully complete the training become members of the MFHEA pool of experts.
- Foreign peer reviewers can be added to the pool based on their expertise and experience in EQA

Challenges:

- attract local peer reviewers as Malta is a small academic community with many licensed providers
- attract student peer reviewers
- involve employers/professional practitioners
- CPD for existing peer reviewers



Selection of peer reviewers for EQA audits:

- Proposal of experts
- Approval by the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC)
- Invitation of the chosen experts
- Signature of declaration of non-conflict of interest
- Provider has the right to object to the members of the panel
- Briefing and induction meeting for approved experts
- Signature of the contract

Challenge:

- Limited pool of local peer reviewers for small institutions

Involvement of student reviewers in EQA and accreditation of programmes:

- Institutional and programme EQA process includes at least one student peer reviewer
- Programme accreditation does not yet involve a student reviewer

Challenge:

- Involve student reviewer in the process of accreditation of programmes at MQF/EQF level 5 and above.

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