



Doc. 300.2.2

Institution Response (Institutional Evaluation)

Date: 07/04/2026

- **Higher Education Institution:**
Institute of Professional Studies (IPS) at UCLan
Cyprus
- **Town:** Larnaca
- **Institution Status:** Currently Operating

The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws” of 2015 to 2021 [L.136(I)/2015 – L.132(I)/2021].

A. Guidelines on content and structure of the report

- *The Higher Education Institution (HEI) based on the External Evaluation Committee's (EEC's) evaluation report (Doc.300.2.1) must justify whether actions have been taken in improving the quality of the Institution in each assessment area.*
- *In particular, in the section building facilities, student welfare services, infrastructure, the HEI must respond on the comments and scoring of the EEC.*
- *Under each assessment area, the HEI must respond on, without changing the format of the report:*
 - *the findings, strengths, areas of improvement and recommendations of the EEC*
 - *the deficiencies noted under the quality indicators (criteria)*
 - *the conclusions and final remarks noted by the EEC*
- *The HEI's response must follow below the EEC's comments, which must be copied from the external evaluation report (Doc. 300.2.1).*
- *In case of annexes, those should be attached and sent on a separate document.*

BUILDING FACILITIES - STUDENT WELFARE SERVICES - INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Building facilities

1.1 Plans and licenses

The Institution sincerely thanks the External Evaluation Committee for their thorough review and constructive observations regarding our facilities. We are pleased that the Committee highlighted the excellent condition, accessibility, and compliance of the buildings, as well as the careful maintenance and planning standards applied. We value this recognition of the quality and suitability of our infrastructure for supporting our academic mission.

We would like to confirm that the operational license, including the fire brigade inspection certificate, has already been submitted. The remaining documents including certificates for electrical and mechanical installations, gas, lifts, and visual/seismic inspections are currently being processed and will be uploaded digitally to CYQAA in due course.

We appreciate the Committee's guidance and remain committed to maintaining full compliance and transparency in our documentation.

1.2 Other facilities

The Institution thanks the External Evaluation Committee for their review and is pleased to note that all observations regarding the other facilities were satisfactory.

2. Student welfare services

The Institution sincerely appreciates the External Evaluation Committee's detailed assessment of our student support services and facilities. We are pleased to note that the Committee found all aspects—special access for students with disabilities, recreational areas, academic and financial support, counselling services, career services, links with industry, mobility arrangements, student clubs, and access to library and IT resources fully satisfactory.

We appreciate the Committee's acknowledgment of the quality, accessibility, and comprehensiveness of the support provided to our students, which reinforces our commitment to ensuring a supportive and inclusive learning environment.

3. Infrastructure

The Institution thanks the External Evaluation Committee for their review and is pleased to note that all observations regarding the Infrastructure were satisfactory.

1. Institution's Academic Profile and Orientation

Sub-Areas

- 1.1 Mission and strategic planning**
- 1.2 Connecting with society**
- 1.3 Development processes**

The Institution expresses its appreciation to the External Evaluation Committee (EEC) for its thorough review and constructive feedback.

We are pleased to note that the Committee's findings accurately reflect our academic profile, mission, and strategic orientation, as well as the strengths of the Institution. We particularly value the recognition of our commitment to practice-led, vocational education, our strong alignment with labour market needs, and our close collaboration with industry and society.

We also sincerely thank the Committee for its insightful recommendations. The Institution fully accepts these suggestions and is committed to taking the necessary steps to implement them. In particular, we will proceed with the development of more formalised medium- and long-term strategic planning documents, strengthen the use of quantitative data to support decision-making, and explore the adoption of a comprehensive digital student information management system.

We view these recommendations as valuable opportunities for further enhancement and continuous improvement, and we remain committed to maintaining and advancing the quality and relevance of our academic provision.

2. Quality Assurance

Sub-Areas

2.1 System and quality assurance strategy

2.2 Ensuring quality for the programmes of study

We acknowledge that the Committee's findings accurately reflect the current position of the Institution, including the positive impact of our association with the University of Central Lancashire, the current status of student mobility, and the defined role of research within our vocational orientation. We are also pleased that the Committee has recognised the strengths of our quality assurance framework, including its clear structure, effective implementation, and the valuable contribution of external stakeholders.

We thank the Committee for its thoughtful recommendations and confirm that the Institution fully accepts them. We are committed to further strengthening the systematic collection, analysis, and digital management of quality-related data, particularly in areas such as student performance, progression, and graduate outcomes. In addition, we will proceed with further formalisation of documentation and reporting processes related to quality assurance, with the aim of enhancing transparency and supporting long-term strategic planning.

We view these recommendations as an important opportunity to further strengthen our quality culture and ensure the continuous development and sustainability of the Institution.

3. Administration

We recognize with appreciation that the Committee's conclusions accurately depict the effectiveness of our administrative structure, governance arrangements, and alignment with the Institution's mission, legal framework, and academic profile. We particularly value the recognition of our clear governance structures, the effective separation of academic and administrative responsibilities, and the strength derived from our integration with UCLan Cyprus. We are also encouraged by the acknowledgement of our committed administrative staff and the robustness of our procedures regarding academic integrity and misconduct.

We thank the Committee for its valuable recommendations and confirm that the Institution fully accepts them. In particular, we will explore ways to further formalise and strengthen the inclusion of the student voice within our processes as the student body grows. Additionally, we are committed to advancing the digitalisation and integration of administrative systems, especially in areas such as student records, admissions, progression tracking, and data management.

We view these recommendations as important opportunities to enhance our administrative effectiveness and to further support the Institution's sustainable development and continuous improvement.

4. Learning and Teaching

Sub-Areas

4.1 Planning the programmes of study

4.2 Organisation of teaching

We are satisfied to see that the Committee's assessment aligns with the quality and effectiveness of our learning and teaching approach, as well as its alignment with our mission as a practice-led higher education institution. We particularly value the recognition of our strong connection to labour market needs, the practical orientation of our programmes, the flexibility offered to our students, and the supportive learning environment fostered by our teaching staff. We are also encouraged by the acknowledgement of high student satisfaction, small class sizes, and strong graduate employability outcomes.

We thank the Committee for its valuable recommendation and confirm that the Institution fully accepts it. We are committed to continuing investment in the upgrading of specialised laboratory equipment and the expansion of practical facilities, proceeding in a phased, step-by-step manner over time, and prioritising developments based on feasibility and institutional needs in order to further enhance the overall learning experience.

We view this recommendation as an important opportunity to further strengthen the quality of our provision and to support the continuous development of our teaching and learning environment.

5. Teaching Staff

We appreciate that the Committee's observations accurately capture the strength and suitability of our teaching staff profile, as well as their alignment with the Institution's mission and the vocational nature of our programmes. We particularly value the recognition of the expertise and professional experience of our teaching staff, as well as the effective contribution of industry professionals as part-time special teaching staff. We are also encouraged by the acknowledgement of the supportive learning environment fostered through close interaction between staff and students.

We thank the Committee for its valuable recommendation and confirm that the Institution fully accepts it. We are committed to continuing to support the professional development of our teaching staff, with particular emphasis on emerging technologies, digital pedagogy, and innovative teaching methods relevant to vocational education.

We view this recommendation as an important opportunity to further enhance the quality of teaching and ensure the continuous development of our academic staff.

6. Research

We welcome the Committee's findings, which clearly reflect our research profile and its alignment with the Institution's mission, scale, and vocational orientation. We particularly value the recognition of our participation in externally funded research projects and the important role of our collaboration with UCLan Cyprus in enhancing our research capacity.

We thank the Committee for its valuable recommendation and confirm that the Institution fully accepts it. We are committed to further strengthening our research approach by prioritising applied research, knowledge transfer, and collaboration with external partners, particularly in sectors aligned with our academic programmes, such as agriculture.

We view this recommendation as an important opportunity to further develop our research activities in a manner that supports our mission and contributes to the needs of society and the economy.

7. Resources

We are glad to acknowledge that the Committee's findings faithfully represent the adequacy, sustainability, and effective management of our resources, as well as their alignment with the Institution's mission and strategic objectives. We particularly value the recognition of our financial stability, responsible budgetary planning, and the significant support derived from our integration with UCLan Cyprus, which enhances our infrastructure, facilities, and overall institutional capacity. We thank the Committee for its valuable recommendations and confirm that the Institution fully accepts them. We are committed to further strengthening the systematic assessment of resource utilisation, particularly in relation to student growth projections and the development of new programmes. In addition, we will continue to plan for the phased replacement and renewal of equipment where necessary, and to invest in digital systems and resource planning tools to enhance efficiency and support data-driven decision-making.

We view these recommendations as important opportunities to further strengthen our resource management and to ensure that our infrastructure and planning remain aligned with the Institution's future development and growth.

B. Conclusions and Final Remarks

The Institution expresses its sincere appreciation to the External Evaluation Committee (EEC) for its comprehensive conclusions and thoughtful final remarks.

We are pleased to note that the Committee's evaluation recognises the Institute of Professional Studies as a well-established and effectively functioning institution, delivering high-quality, practice-led vocational education aligned with its mission and societal role. We particularly value the acknowledgement of our strong alignment with labour market needs, the high employability of our graduates, the quality of our teaching and learning, and the strategic advantage provided through our integration with UCLan Cyprus.

We are grateful for the Committee's constructive recommendations, which we consider highly valuable in supporting our ongoing development. The Institution fully accepts these recommendations and will take the necessary steps to further strengthen digital systems, enhance data management practices, and continue to develop structured engagement with stakeholders in support of our future growth and effectiveness.

With regard to the documentation and certification requirements, we confirm that the Institution will ensure that all necessary documentation and certificates for the separate laboratory building, as well as the updated documents related to the main building, are duly prepared and submitted.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the Committee for their kind words regarding the cooperation, preparation, and engagement of our staff and students during the visit. We remain committed to continuous improvement and view the Committee's feedback as an important contribution to the further enhancement of the quality and impact of the Institution.

D. Higher Education Institution Academic Representatives

Name	Position	Signature
Floros Voniatis	Director of the Institute	
Konstantinos Voniatis	Director of Academic Affairs and Operations	
Stella Komodromou	QA Expert	
Michalis Giatrou	Course Leader of Automotive School and Welding Certification	
Athanasia Angelou	Course Leader of Agriculture School	

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