

Doc. 300.2.2

# Institution Response (Institutional Evaluation)

Date: *Date*

- **Higher Education Institution:**  
Pafos Innovation Institute
- **Town:** Pafos
- **Institution Status:** New Institution

**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 2019” [N. 136 (I)/2015 to N. 35(I)/2019].**

## 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**

[Click here to add text.](#)

#### **1.2 Other facilities**

[Click here to add text.](#)

### **2. Student welfare services**

1. The EEC noted that " there is no mobility office (Erasmus+) and this should be implements (p 9)

Dr. Vera Lipton is a full-time faculty member at the PII; she will dedicate her time, among other responsibilities, to international student and mobility office. The Erasmus Plus program is of great interest to PII. The PII will be eligible to apply for Erasmus + program and grants only after accreditation. Upon accreditation, the PII will apply to participate in the Erasmus + program

### **3. Infrastructure**

[Click here to add text.](#)

## 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's development strategy and connecting with society

The long-term strategy of the PII is intricately intertwined with the challenges of the Middle East. The PII's five-year strategy is to offer programs in the fields of water, energy and food security, as well as an advanced management programs including data, entrepreneurship and technological innovation, and to create a hub that will deal with such major challenges of the region. The Institute aspires to be a catalyst for the broad and groundbreaking exchange of knowledge between people who have not met thus far and who, given the opportunity, can advance and implement and game-changing ideas together.

The EEC noted: "Links to society in Cyprus, Middle East and the 'Arab countries need to be explored further." (pg. 14).

To our understanding, the MBA program which focuses on entrepreneurship and innovation, and future programs in the field of water, energy, could have great appeal to students from Arab (Islamic) countries. We believe that particularly during a period of local and international religious and national tensions, the Pafos Innovation Institute could create a center of creativity and learning where people who strive towards progress and innovation can meet and engage in professional and personal dialogue.

The EEC noted that the funding of the program needs to be more clearly defined

Please see sec. 7

Relationship with the Municipality of Pafos:

An agreement between the Municipality of Pafos and the PII was signed in September 2019. (The agreement is attached in Annex 1). As the agreement indicates, the campus and the buildings of the PII are owned by the Municipality of Pafos and the PII rents them from the municipality, in a long-term lease of 15 years.

The municipality is not involved in financing the institute, only in efforts of marketing the program as sec. 8.1 indicates: "the parties undertake to collaborate in the effort to raise donation and financial support for the institutes and in the efforts of marketing its program in the region."



## 2. Quality Assurance

### **Sub-Areas**

**2.1 System and quality assurance strategy**

**2.2 Ensuring quality for the programmes of study**

[Click here to add text.](#)

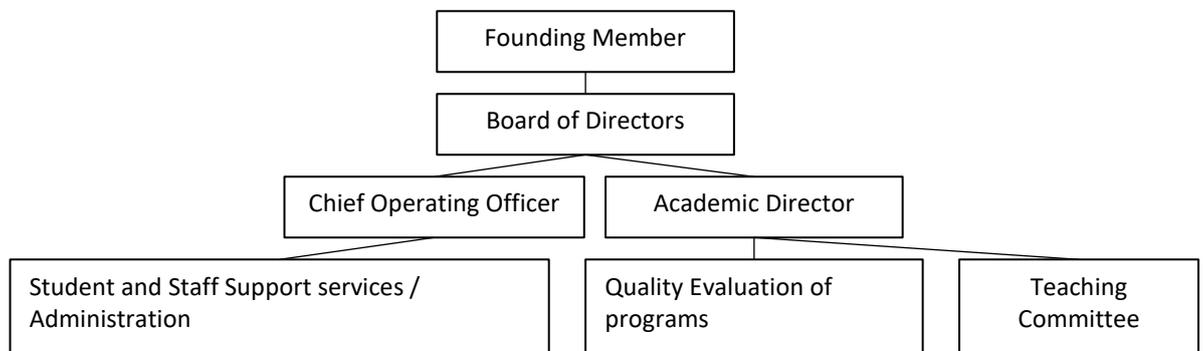
### 3. Administration

The EEC noted that : There need to be a clear administrative structure in running the institute

As the institution grows it will have an academic structure that will include a president, provost, academic committee of all full professors along with the already existing board of directors to supervise the activities of the PII.

The present administrative structure is as follows, and the Articles of Association of the PII is attaches in annex 2.

- Founding Member: The Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya.
- Provisional President: Prof. Uriel Reichman, President & Founder of IDC Herzliya.
- Board of Directors: Mr. Oudi Recanati, Prof. Uriel Reichman, Prof. Rafi Melnick, Mr. Thanos Alecos Michaelides, Mr. David Fattal.
- Academic Director: Prof. Rafi Melnick
- Provisional Provost: Prof. Rafi Melnick
- Provisional Chief Executive Officer & Chief Operation Officer: Dr. Karni Lotan Marcus
- Quality Evaluation Committee: Prof. Dov Pekelman, Prof. Amnon Lehavi, Prof. Elazar Berkovitch
- Teaching Committee: Prof. Niron Hashai, Prof. Varda Liberman, Prof. Dov Pekelman.



The academic development of the PII will be guided and supervised by Prof. Uriel Reichman, the Founder & President of IDC and a member of the Board of Directors of the PII; Prof. Rafi Melnick, the Provost of IDC, the Academic Director of the PII and member of the Board of Directors of the PII; Prof. Dov Pekelman, the Dean of the Business School of IDC and member of the Quality Evaluation Committee of the PII.

## 4. Learning and Teaching

### Sub-Areas

4.1 Planning the programmes of study

4.2 Organisation of teaching

## 5. Teaching Staff

1. The EEC noted that: "there are no permanent faculty in Cyprus"

Please note that Dr. Vera Lipton, is a permanent full time academic faculty member located in Cyprus. Dr. Lipton is the local coordinator of the MBA program. In addition, faculty listed in the application are "part time permanent faculty" of PII. We confirm that as the program develops, the number of full time permanent faculty will grow accordingly. Enclosed please find 3 employment commitments (Annex 3).

## 6. Research

[Click here to add text.](#)

## 7. Resources

The PII's funding program is based on a tuition of 15,000 EUR per student (in the parallel program at IDC the tuition is 25,000 \$). Based on this tuition and based on an estimation of 50 students for the MBA program, the total sum of 750,000 EUO, sustains the operation of the PII and scholarships to students as follows: The cost of the academic faculty, based on teaching hours is 345,000 EUR for the MBA program. Additional administrative expenses are 155,000 EUR per year. The total of 750,000 EUR, with the deduction of all operational expense create a surplus of 250,000 EUR for scholarships.

In addition, once the PII is formally accredited as a higher education institution and obtains accreditation for the MBA program, the PII will apply for international grants to support scholarships for students who will arrive, inter alia, from developed Arab countries. The PII will also market the program in order to raise donations to facilitate the implementation of its five-year strategy.

## B. Conclusions and Final Remarks

As the program develops, the administrations and processes will be duly implemented, as the CYQAA requires.

Attached please find the agreement between pII and the Municipality of Pafos (Annex 1)

## D. Higher Education Institution Academic Representatives

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Signature</i>
Fullname	Position	

**Date:** 10.2.2020

