20 Μαΐου 2019

Φορέας Διασφάλισης και Πιστοποίησης της Ποιότητας της Ανώτερης Εκπαίδευσης (ΔΙΠΑΕ)
Λεωφόρος Λεμεσού 5
2112 Λευκωσία

Παρακαλώ βεβαιώστε συνημμένη την απάντηση του Τμήματος στις παρατηρήσεις / εισηγήσεις της Εξωτερικής Επιτροπής Αξιολόγησης του Προπτυχιακού Προγράμματος Ευρωπαϊκών Σπουδών με την 23 Φεβρουαρίου 2019.

Αναπληρωτής Καθηγητής Παναγιώτης Χριστιάς
Πρόεδρος Τμήματος Γαλλικών και Ευρωπαϊκών Σπουδών
Higher Education Institution’s response

- Higher education institution:
  UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

- Town: Nicosia

- Program of study (Name, ECTS, duration, cycle)
  **In Greek:** ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΕΣ ΣΠΟΥΔΕΣ (Προπτυχιακό)
  **In English:** FRENCH AND EUROPEAN STUDIES (BA)

- Languages of instruction: Greek, French, English, German

- Program’s status
  New program: ..................
  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 and 2016” [N. 136 (I)/2015 and N. 47(I)/2016].

A. Guidelines on content and structure of the report

- The Higher Education Institution based on the External Evaluation Committee’s evaluation report (Doc.300.1.1) must justify whether actions have been taken in improving the quality of the program of study in each assessment area.

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**

_The program is offered in the form of parallel courses per semester; it might be considered to transform it in a modular program which would be very handy as it makes the building of the structure and its sequences much easier._

**Response of the Department of French and European Studies**

The University of Cyprus course structure takes the form of parallel courses. However, since on the one hand the Department of French and European Studies’ courses are often non-linear and without prerequisites, and are often subdivided into specific tasks measured by specific assessments, and since on the other hand the program does offer pedagogical differentiation with a wide range of courses to chose from, it already covers some of the main characteristics of modular courses.

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**

_The committee underlines that an 8 semesters BA can create adaptation problems with many other European universities._

**Response of the Department of French and European Studies**

Being a Department with many academics exchanges, we have not seen adaptation problems with other European universities. On the contrary, our 8 semesters BA holders are often directly accepted in a second year MA degree (Master II), whereas 3rd-year Erasmus incoming students are often offered to attend our MA courses, which is accepted by the sending institution in the contract.
2. Study program and study program’s design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.8, 1.9)

The Evaluation Committee made no comments, remarks nor recommendations for points 1.1, 1.2, 1.8, 1.9.

3. Teaching, learning and student assessment (ESG 1.3)

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
1.3.1: the program should be reinforced by hiring professors specialized in European Studies

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
The Department fully agrees with the remark and, following the Evaluation Committee recommendation, the Chairman of the Department requested from the University Governing Bodies a new position in European Studies. Document appended hereafter.
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
1.3.10: as two professors will retire during the five next years, it is very important to guarantee they will be replaced immediately.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
The Evaluation Committee recommendations are all sent to the Higher Governing Bodies of the University, which are vested with the power to implement such general policy rules.

4. Teaching Staff (ESG 1.5)

The Evaluation Committee made no comments, remarks nor recommendations for points 1.1, 1.2, 1.8, 1.9.

It noted, however, that despite the fact that "the group of teachers is relatively small (p. 8), it has to take care for four tracks for four years for the bachelor (p. 5), and two masters and two PhD. programs, all the more remarkable how satisfied students are with the courses taught" (p. 6).

5. Students (ESG 1.4, 1.6, 1.7)

The Evaluation Committee made no comments, remarks nor recommendations for points 1.4, 1.6, 1.7.

It noted, however, that despite the fact that "the group of teachers is relatively small (p. 8), it has to take care for four tracks for four years for the bachelor (p. 5), and two masters and two PhD. programs, all the more remarkable how satisfied students are with the courses taught" (p. 6).
6. Resources (ESG 1.6)

The Evaluation Committee made no comments, remarks nor recommendations for points 1.6.

7. Additional for distance learning programs (ALL ESG)

N/A

8. Additional for doctoral programs (ALL ESG)

N/A

9. Additional for joint programs (ALL ESG)

N/A
**B. Conclusions and final remarks**

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**

As the main part of the staff, especially the full professors, is composed of French Literature and Linguistics professors, the committee suggests recruiting new teaching staff to strengthen the European Studies dimension of the program in order to balance it.

**Response of the Department of French and European Studies**

Following the Evaluation Committee recommendation, the Chairman of the Department requested from the University Governing Bodies a new position in European Studies. Document appended below (and above § 3).
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
The German part of the program is under the responsibility of a teacher sent by the DAAD. A better solution would be to recruit a German Dozent. There could me more Romanic dimension by opening Spanish and Italian tracks.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
As for the Romanic dimension of the Programme, which would be too complex to develop at current staffing levels, the Department takes these suggestions very seriously into account and assures it will take them into consideration, provided also that the number of interested students rises.

As for the German Dozent, this issue has already been raised and addressed by the Departmental Board, after a German Greek-speaking Dozent left the Department, resulting in alerting the University’s instances about the matter. Document appended below.
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
The committee suggests that there should be more attention to methods and theoretical approaches.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
Following the Evaluation Committee recommendation, the Departmental Board at its 5/2018-2019 meeting of the Departmental Council on 13 May 2019 unanimously decided to make the FES 350 Comparative Literature course compulsory.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
As a general conclusion, the committee strongly recommends to attract more administrative and academic staff.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
For the academic staff recruitment, see above.
For the administrative staff recruitment, the Chairpersons of the Department have repeatedly asked for a second secretary, since the handling of six diplomas calls for an increased administrative support. Last request appended.
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
As a general conclusion, the committee strongly recommends to develop the Mediterranean dimension of the European program to create a real niche inside European Studies.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
The Department is fully aware of the importance of the Mediterranean dimension of its programme in European studies. It had already dealt with this issue a) in the research field with the organisation of an international conference attended by our students « Méditerranée: Ruptures et continuité » (Nicosia, 20-22 Oct. 2001), co-publishing its Proceedings with the University Lumière Lyon-II in the series Travaux de la Maison de l'Orient méditerranéen 37, 2003, 223 p. b) in teaching, as the Mediterranean dimension is dealt with in some of the courses. Very recently, this particular dimension has been at the core of an Erasmus Mundus application for an International Master's Program in Mediterranean Studies – [IMAP-MED] (See appended document below).

Letter of Intent

I, the undersigned,

Marios DEMETRIOU, representing the following legal person:

Full official name: University of Cyprus (UCy)
Official legal form: Public University
Statutory registration number: 88 by Law 144 of 1989
Full address: University Avenue, 2229 Agia Tereza, Cyprus
PO Box 20337, CY 1678

Intent with this Letter to provide a written expression of the mutual interest of the following Parties:
University of Cyprus – Department of French and European Studies

and

University of the Peloponnese

for the purpose of submitting the proposal for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree project entitled International Master's Program in Mediterranean Studies – [IMAP-MED]. This Letter also outlines the structure of cooperation between the two interested Parties and underlines the relationship of the University of Cyprus as an “associated partner” to the rest of the Consortium.

The Department of French and European Studies of the University of Cyprus will provide guest lectures to the Consortium members.

Additionally, the University of Cyprus, as an associated partner, may disseminate the [IMAP-MED] programme for student recruitment purposes in a national and international context. For the purpose of successful delivery of the [IMAP-MED] program, other cooperation structures might be discussed and agreed between the two interested parties, and upon approval of the aforementioned project proposal for funding.

A copy of this letter of intent shall be annexed to the proposal application to underline the cooperation structure between the University of Cyprus and the University of the Peloponnese as well as the Consortium partners.

Dated at Nicosia, Cyprus, on 18/2/2003.

[Signature]

Marios Demetriou
NAME, SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

[Stamp of Partner]
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

Academic qualities of the staff and personal involvement and engagement are very high. A good atmosphere prevails between the academic staff, the students and the administrative staff. The leading practices are good, as is the coherence of the program.

Some of the courses are quite interesting and inspiring, especially when they are connected with research.

The amount of publications of the academic staff is quite impressive and the new library is a very important asset.

The number of students which obtain good marks at the Pancyprian exams, is increasing, due to the good reputation of the department in Cyprus and abroad, programs and a very efficient policy of public relations, especially through visiting all the high schools of the Island.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

The Department of French and European Studies highly values the Evaluation Committee’s appreciation. It has taken all necessary measures and decisions to meet its recommendations and reaffirms its commitment to ensure high academic quality in the current international requirements of a cultural European Studies BA program.

C. Higher Education Institution academic representatives

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Panagiotis Chrysis</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fryni Da</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>May Chreb</td>
<td>Internal Quality Committee</td>
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Date: 21 May 2019