

Letter of Intent

between

Comisión Nacional de Acreditación, CNA-Chile

and

Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programs in Germany

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into by the Comisión Nacional de Acreditación, Santa Lucía 360, Santiago, Mesa Central 26201100, hereinafter referred to as CNA-Chile,

and

the Foundation for the Accreditation of Study Programs in Germany, Adenauerallee 73, 53113 Bonn, Germany, hereinafter referred to as the Accreditation Council.

Preliminary remarks:

CNA-Chile assesses and promotes the quality of higher education through: the accreditation of universities, institutions for continuing vocational education, and autonomous technical academies. The Comisión de Acreditación strives to be an organization that contributes to the development of excellence in higher education in Chile through the public certification of the processes and outcomes of its institutions and programs, as well as through the development of a culture of continuous improvement that is known and recognized nationally and internationally for its excellence and the transparency of its achievements in addressing socially relevant issues.

The Accreditation Council regulates and organizes the German accreditation system. Through its activities, it contributes significantly to ensuring and developing the quality of study and teaching in Germany and thus to the realization of a common European Higher Education Area.

CNA-Chile and AR

CNA-Chile and the Accreditation Council have comparable tasks and goals in quality assurance in higher education. They hereby wish to establish a closer relationship as equal partners in order to develop cooperation mechanisms for mutual benefit.

Article I: Objectives of the Memorandum of Understanding

CNA-Chile and the Accreditation Council agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate for mutual benefit and to pursue a strategic alliance to further develop external quality assurance in both countries and improve the quality of higher education in Chile and Germany.

Article II: Areas of Cooperation

CNA-Chile and the Accreditation Council declare their mutual interest in strengthening the quality of higher education in Chile and Germany, which implies that both are familiar with their respective national quality assurance systems and promote the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of evaluation and accreditation of higher education institutions and/or their degree programs.

CNA-Chile and the Accreditation Council intend to cooperate:

- a) to exchange information and expertise, as appropriate. This shall include:
 - Key documents and additional information, as appropriate, and in particular those jointly prepared by higher education institutions in Chile and Germany
 - Information on study programs and institutions in which both contracting parties have an interest, subject to any overriding confidentiality provisions to which the contracting parties are subject
 - Information regarding evaluations or other activities related to joint study programs at higher education institutions in both countries

Further joint quality assurance measures, depending on the legal possibilities of the contracting parties, may be initiated in a second phase once a common knowledge base has been established, e.g.

- b) to offer opportunities for the professional development of employees of both contracting parties, as appropriate
- c) to collaborate on quality assurance projects
- d) to collaborate on joint research of mutual benefit
- e) to collaborate in other mutually agreed-upon areas for the mutual benefit of both parties.

These steps define the framework for the collaboration. Additional agreements that specify the terms of the contract in greater detail may follow.

Article III

CNA-Chile and the Accreditation Council agree to establish a working group to implement the provisions of this agreement. The presidents of the two institutions shall co-chair these working groups together with a representative

from the respective country who is an expert in the field of program accreditation and institutional quality. The representative shall be appointed by the respective contracting party.

Article IV: Term of the Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of signature and shall remain in effect for five years. Each party has the right to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding with three months' notice. This Memorandum of Understanding may be extended by mutual agreement.

Article V: Amendment of the Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in the spirit of friendly cooperation. Its provisions may be amended by mutual consent of the parties.

Article VI: Responsibilities

The President of CNA-Chile (at the time of signing, Professor Alfonso Muga Naredo) and the Chair of the Accreditation Council (at the time of signing, Professor Dr. Reinhold R. Grimm) are responsible for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding. This responsibility may be delegated to designated employees of the contracting parties for specific areas.

Article VII: Resources

Both contracting parties shall bear their own costs incurred in the implementation, unless otherwise agreed for specific projects. For certain areas of cooperation, efforts may be made to secure third-party funding.

Article VIII: Schedule for Projects and Activities

Joint projects and activities may include internships for members of both institutions, as well as the exchange of advisory and working tools, legal regulations, and topics of mutual interest regarding the development of both institutions. Details regarding projects and activities shall be attached to the Memorandum of Understanding agreed upon by the individuals listed in Article VI, where the terms of the agreement and responsibilities are further specified.

Signed in Bonn on November 30, 2016

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Professor Alfonso Muga Naredo
President
CNA-Chile
Chile

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Professor Dr. Reinhold R. Grimm
Chairman
Accreditation Council
Germany