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## Policy for Assurance of Quality

The main mission of the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) is to evaluate, promote and further develop the quality and standard of veterinary medical establishments and their teaching within, but not limited to, the member states of the European Union.

In order to achieve these aims a structured profession-specific evaluation system has been developed (European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training - ESEVT) with joint responsibility together with the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE).

EAEVE is committed to reinforce cooperation between member establishments and act as a forum for discussion in order to improve and harmonize veterinary education. The internationalization of Establishments is facilitated through information, staff, student and teaching materials exchange between members.

EAEVE is committed for quality assurance of veterinary training as published in its mission statement. To reach this goal all major documents are made available and public, a structured internal quality assurance system is run by EAEVE and the Association applied for an external quality control.


All activities of are fully transparent; a list of Evaluated, Approved and Accredited Establishments is maintained.

EAEVE has the full responsibility for its activities and outcomes; procedures and methods, as well as experts' nomination are clearly defined.

EAEVE runs a no-conflict-of-interest mechanism in the case of all participants of the evaluation and decision making process. All participants have to sign a no-conflict-of-interest statement declaring that they have no direct connection or personal interest in regard to the faculty or school to be visited, and be replaced if any potential conflict of interest exists. All signed statements are archived in the head office.

### ***Internal quality assurance***

A strong internal quality assurance system is the basis of accountability, transparency and reliability of the EAEVE. Being an association involved primarily in evaluating and assessing teaching quality and outcome assessment of its member establishments, EAEVE submits itself regularly to an internal process of quality assessment and assurance control. To that end, a standing Committee on Internal

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Quality Assessment (CIQA) was created in 2009 and is regularly active since. CIQA consists of 5 members not involved in any other EAEVE governance bodies and is independent.

Results of internal quality assessment are followed up and implemented by EAEVE. Recommendations and statements of CIQA are thoroughly discussed by the ExCom and at the GA of EAEVE. As a rule, the suggested improvements are implemented without delay.

System wide analysis performed every four years provides important material for structured analyses across the higher education in veterinary Medicine and on the compliance of the Establishments with the EU directives.

All stakeholders and Association members recognise that EAEVE activity has provided important improvements in Veterinary Higher Education; the positive outcomes of evaluation and maintenance of requested standards are considered very important points by states, stakeholders and public.


### ***External quality assurance***

EAEVE went through one formal external review by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) in 2013 and its outcomes were implemented in the recent years. A formal cycle of review procedures is anticipated for the future. Nevertheless, currently all actions and procedures of EAEVE are continuously monitored by several international organisations: by our partners within the International Accreditors' Working Group (UK, US, Australian and South African accrediting agencies), by the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE), by the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX), by the Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (SANTE) and the Directorate General Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (GROW) of the European Union. FVE, the main stakeholder of the profession regularly evaluates the evaluation activity of EAEVE.

### ***Publicity***


All documents and results of the evaluations done by EAEVE and the activity of the Association are publicly available on the homepage, so not only the evaluation processes, the Standard Operation Procedures, the different guidelines, rules, self evaluation reports, final reports and results but most documents of the Association can be reached.

Knowing that a well working quality assurance system is the precondition of the widely accepted work of EAEVE in the veterinary academic society, we are

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continuously developing quality assurance. Topics related to quality assurance are always on the agenda of the Education Conference, which is a consistent part of the annual General Assemblies. Internationally known invited speakers summarise their opinion and the participants can thoroughly discuss the issue. All member schools are invited to share their idea on development of quality assurance, with all suggestions and improvements being welcomed for the benefit of the European System of Evaluation of Veterinary Training and of the profession in general.

The payment of membership fees and evaluation fees shall constitute the basic funding of the Association. Furthermore, the Association may receive grants from organisations and donations from individuals with a view to financing its activities and all other contributions as authorised by the law. All donations will be a noted matter of public record. Apart from Director and Secretariat, all subjects involved in EAEVE activities, are voluntary, this allows adequate and appropriate resources, both human and financial to carry out the work.

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Original document (Revision 0)

SOP EAEVE/serial number	Prepared by:	Reviewed by:	Approved by:
Name	CIQA	CIQA	ExCom
Date	September 2016	October 2016	25 January 2017
Signature			

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1				
2				
3				
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