QUALITY ASSURANCE AND UNIVERSITY RANKINGS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

Country and Institutional Contexts

Editors
Koo Yew Lie
Sarjit Kaur
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7 Sustaining and Strengthening Higher Education in International Islamic University Malaysia: The Role of Quality Assurance Exercises

SHUKRAN ABDUL RAHMAN AND AINOL MADZIAH ZUBAIRI

Introduction

The focus of the current quality assurance frameworks appears to fit well with the structure of the efforts by many higher learning institutions including higher learning institutions in Malaysia. The delivery of academic services designed according to the set standard by university academic systems helps promote a university's quality initiatives. It is essential in strengthening the roles of an higher learning institution, and shaping its direction to face the increasingly challenging demands towards higher learning institution. The exercise of quality assurance helps a higher learning institution to substantiate, and in turn strategically strengthen its role as a higher learning institution especially in managing its functions in carrying out the university's mission and attaining its vision. In this regard, many higher learning institutions have adopted the many available quality-related systems including the ranking and rating systems. There are a number of pertinent impacts and issues which are associated with this exercise. This chapter presents an evaluation of institutional level study of the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), which has been participating in, and benefiting from, a number of quality assurance related systems.

Institutional Background

The IIUM was established in the year of 1983 with the aim of producing fully functioning persons who will be good citizens and, of benefit to their respective communities. The academic programmes and student activities at the university are designed to support the university educational philosophy which aims to equip students with necessary knowledge, skills, abilities and other desirable attributes, relevant to the needs of the society and world of work. As one of the leading universities in Malaysia, IIUM has set these objectives to ensure that the