

# Decision Regarding Institutional Accreditation Estonian Information Technology College

11/09/2013

**The Quality Assessment Council of the Estonian Higher Education Quality Agency decided to accredit the Estonian Information Technology College for seven years.**

## Assessment Committee

Gillian King– Chair	Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (UK)
Janno Jõgeva	Student, University of Tartu (Estonia)
Paolo Enrico Camurati	Politecnico di Torino (Italy)
Tapani Antero Äijänen	JAMK University of Applied Sciences (Finland)
Rain Rebane	Elion Ettevõtted AS (Estonia)

## Component Assessments

Organisational management and performance	Conforms with requirements
Teaching and Learning	Conforms with requirements
Research, development and/or other creative activity	Conforms with requirements
Service to society	Conforms with requirements

## **Strengths, areas for improvement and recommendations**

### **Strengths**

- *The College has a clear vision of its role in Estonian society, of its mission and goals, and it is successful in implementing them.*
- *The College has established a distinctive and strong position in the Estonian higher education landscape.*
- *The College has strong links with its stakeholders, including employers, alumni and professional associations, who are regularly engaged in the development activities of the College.*
- *The College has innovative, output-oriented curricula which are developed based on practical needs ensuring the competitiveness of its graduates in the labour market.*
- *The College has a modern attractive learning environment, including ICT and educational technology resources.*
- *The organisation of studies is flexible. The Study Information System and organisation of internships work well. Students are motivated.*
- *Students with disabilities are provided with excellent learning conditions and are offered comprehensive support.*
- *The College graduates are valued in the labour market and employers are satisfied with their qualifications.*
- *The College has developed an appropriate infrastructure for implementing innovation and development projects.*
- *The College has developed a system for introducing and popularising its field of activity. Public-oriented activities are well planned and highly appreciated by different target groups (including potential students and employers).*

### **Areas for Improvement and Recommendations**

- *If the organisation grows, the College should improve its management structure and consider establishing formal advisory bodies to support the management function of the rector.*
- *Based on the specifics of IT, it is important to ensure that curriculum development would be coherent and respond quickly to changes in the environment. To ensure continuity of curriculum development, the process should be more systematic and the division of responsibilities among different parties should be more precise.*
- *The College should plan measures in its new development plan which would expand the international dimension, including students' international mobility.*
- *The College dropout rates are lower when compared to similar specialties in other higher education institutions, but they are still high. The dropout rates can be reduced by providing applicants and students with clear and realistic information about the content of studies and the requirements for students.*

- *The College should sharpen its focus regarding research and development. The College development plan should set clear objectives for research and development, performance indicators and target values, and the results should be measured on a regular basis.*

[Assessment Report](#)

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