



**Council of Europe Forum
Strasbourg, September 2006**

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The use of outcomes of quality assurance

Outline of simple thesis

- Outcome 1: A country vision of high quality
- Outcome 2: An institutional vision of high quality
- Outcome 3: Supporting students in effective learning
- Outcome 4: A virtuous circle of enhancement

Simple thesis

- Who? How? Or Why?
- Why? And the pursuit of excellence
- The virtuous circle of enhancement

Simple thesis

- Market failure
- Public accountability
- Educational excellence

Illustration 1: A country-wide vision of high quality

- A sector which is flexible, accessible and responsive to the needs of learners, the economy and society
- A sector which encourages and stimulates learners to participate in higher education and to achieve their full potential

Illustration 1: A country-wide vision of high quality

- A sector where learning and teaching promote the employability of students
- A sector where learning and teaching is highly regarded and appropriately resourced
- A sector where there is a culture of continuous enhancement of quality, which is informed by and contributes to international developments.

Illustration 2: An institutional vision of high quality

- **Mission: to be a regional, innovative and inclusive University with strong national and international links; committed to excellence in teaching, knowledge transfer and research; and to serving the social, cultural and economic needs of the regional communities it serves**

Illustration 2: An institutional vision of high quality

- Two main quality drivers
 - planned strategic approaches to anticipate and respond to the students it recruits
 - a structured process of continuous review and reflection on current practice and provision

An integrated structure

- Quality and Enhancement Unit
- Senate Committee – the Learning and Teaching Board
- Vice-Principal (Learning and Teaching)

Illustration 2: An institutional vision of high quality

- Structured approach to student engagement
- Research basis
- On-going systems evaluation

Supporting effective university learning

- Nature of learning in higher education
- Deep and surface approaches
- Implications for 'teaching'

Illustration 3: supporting effective student engagement

- Student representation at all levels
- Training and support for students
- An independent body to support effective student involvement (sparqs)
- Student involvement in external quality processes
- Student involvement in national strategy and policy levels

The Enhancement Trinity

- Where are we now?
- Where do we want to be in the future?
- How are we going to get there?

Illustration 4: supporting the virtuous circle of quality enhancement

The Quality Enhancement Framework in Scotland

- Three key factors
 - External examining
 - Professional and Strategy Bodies
 - Benchmarks and Codes

Illustration 4: supporting the virtuous circle of quality enhancement

- Enhancement – facing subject review
- Expanded role of students
- Public information on quality
- External enhancement-led institutional review (ELIR)
- Sector-wide enhancement themes