

Issue 97

February 2020

## Naric North: Early Bird delegate rate deadline extended until 13 March

The Early Bird delegate rate deadline for *Naric North*, the UK NARIC one-day conference for Scotland and the North - in Glasgow on 12 May - is being extended by two weeks, until 13 March: [book now](#) to secure an Early Bird rate of £125 per person (normal rate £145).

The twin-focus of *Naric North* will reflect current and growing concerns. Firstly, the need to diversify student recruitment, to spread risk and develop sustainability, will be addressed by expert workshops exploring key growth markets - and in particular, Africa. [READ MORE](#)



## QUATREC project: recommendations for faster recognition

The results and conclusions of the Erasmus+ project *Comparing qualifications for reliable recognition – QUATREC* were presented at a one-day conference in Riga on 20 February.

UK NARIC managing director Paul Norris *[pictured below with other participating delegates]* took part and led a working group on *Using learning outcomes in recognition procedures*. [READ MORE](#)



## Look out for new UK NARIC member survey in March

Look out for a new member survey – we will email you in March with an invitation to take part.

## Ex-Met Police forgery expert features at London fraud training day

The UK NARIC 2020 [training calendar](#) has details of all confirmed UK NARIC training and events for the first half of the year.

New Training Days have been introduced for 2020, with re-focused and extended content. More time is being built in to all our one-day events for practical exercises and activities.

Ex-Met Police officer and fraud detection expert John Greetham joins the programme for the *Fakes, forgeries and fraud* day on 12 March.

John *[pictured right]* was based at Heathrow for 10 years, working closely with immigration teams. [READ MORE](#)



## Half-day training dates upcoming in London

We have a number of half-day training dates coming up in London:

*Evaluating International Qualifications and Degrees of Deception - Combating Education Fraud* on 24 March; *Education in India, Pakistan & Bangladesh* and *Education in MENA* on 25 March; *Education in China* and *Education in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines* on 26 March.

If you are a UK NARIC member, then you may have complimentary training places that can be used to attend half-day training workshops for free. [READ MORE](#)

We value your feedback on how you use UK NARIC data and resources - this informs UK NARIC's research and information development plans.

In response to your previous feedback, in the past 12 months, we have updated key qualifications for international student recruitment and increased our information on both existing markets such as China and growth markets such as [READ MORE](#)



## 75% cannot spot a fake certificate - admissions poll

UK NARIC recently surveyed university admissions teams to understand better the approaches they take to verifying international qualifications and dealing with fraudulent applications – responses were received from 17 countries.

Key findings include - only 25% of respondents felt confident they could spot fake qualification documents without outside assistance; 88% said they recruit students from countries that might be considered 'higher risk' (using UK Home Office criteria); 14% said they don't verify overseas qualification documents at all; and 30% considered potential loss of their Tier 4 licence [READ MORE](#)

## New UK NARIC evaluation processes for refugee cases

UK NARIC has introduced new procedures to support the provision of qualification comparisons for individuals with refugee status in the UK [*recently highlighted at a Positive Action Event in Swansea: pictured above, volunteer translators at the event*].

In recent months we have implemented a number of changes to both our application system and our evaluation processes to accommodate the variances encountered in applications from refugees - in particular, incomplete documentation.

UK NARIC has played a leading role in recent international initiatives on refugee recognition, such as the *European Qualifications Passport for Refugees (EQPR)*, and in 2018-19 also operated the *Syrians in Jordan (SIJ) project*. [READ MORE](#)



## UK NARIC welcomes delegation of 50 from four MENA countries

A delegation of more than 50, from four MENA countries, visited UK NARIC on 31 January [*pictured left*] for a day of networking and knowledge-sharing on the UK education system [READ MORE](#)



## Potential for Open Badges discussed at London event

UK NARIC and digital credential specialists *DigitalMe* hosted a successful half-day event about Open Badges in London on 20 February at Europe House [*pictured there, left: event co-organiser Lambros Pardale of the UK National Europass Centre*]. [READ MORE](#)

