

Annual Report of the Accreditation Commission for the Year 2002

February 2003

Compiled by Jan Lachman

1. Introduction

The work of the Accreditation Commission (hereafter called only AC) is laid down in the relevant provisions of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education Institutions, as amended and supplemented, and further elaborated in the Statutes of the AC, as well as the activities of its work groups, which are subject to their own rules approved by the AC in conformity with the Statute.

2. Composition of the AC and its Work Groups

◦ Composition of the AC

Since the preceding year, the composition of the AC has changed in the following manner: In accordance with Governmental Resolution No. 532 of 22 May 2002, Prof. Ing. Vladimír Křístek, DrSc. finished working in the AC, as of 31 August 2002. Prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Ph.D. became new member of the AC on 1 Sept. 2002. Pursuant to the aforesaid Resolution, Professors Berger, Mareš, Stránský, and PhDr. Kratochvíl were appointed to a second six-year term of office. The said Governmental Resolution thus put an end to the period where part of the members of the AC would serve their first term of office for less than 6 years, i.e. 2 or 4 years.

Name and Surname	Place of Employment
Chairman:	
Prof. RNDr. Miroslav Liška, DrSc	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Brno University of Technology (VUV v Brně)
Vice-Chairman	
Prof. Ing. Milan Sojka, CSc.	Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University in Prague
Members:	
Prof. Dr. Tilman Berger	Ebenhart-Karls-Universität Tübingen
Dr. Marie-Elizabeth Ducreux	Centre de Recherches Historiques Paris
Prof. JUDr. Alena Winterová, CSc.	Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague
Prof. PhDr. Alena Macurová, CSc.	Philosophical Faculty (Faculty of Arts and Philosophy) of Charles University in Prague
Ing. Vlastimil Juppa	
Prof. PhDr. Jan Štěpán, CSc.	Philosophical Faculty (Faculty of Philosophy and Arts) of Palacký University in Olomouc
PhDr. Petr Kratochvíl, CSc.	Institute of Art History, Academy of Sciences CR Prague
Prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Ph.D.	Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno
Prof. Ing. Jan Uhlíř, CSc.	Faculty of Electrical Engineering of Czech Technical University in Prague
Prof. PhDr. Jiří Mareš, CSc.	Faculty of Medicine of Charles University in Hradec Králové
Prof. Ing. Miroslav Tvrđý, DrSc.	Faculty of Metallurgy and Material Engineering, VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava
Doc. Ing. Antonín Stratil, DrSc	Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics of Academy of Sciences CR, Liběchov
Ing. Petr Richter	Higher Professional School Čáslav

Prof. MUDr. Pravoslav Stránský, CSc.	Faculty of Medicine of Charles University in Hradec Králové
Prof. Ing. Oldřich Pytela, DrSc.	Faculty of Chemical Technology of University of Pardubice
Prof. PhDr. František Šmahel, DrSc.	Prague Centre of Medieval Studies
Prof. Dr. Ing. Jiří Sobota	Fachhochschule Wiesbaden
Prof. RNDr. Boris Vyskot, DrSc.	Institute of Biophysics of Academy of Sciences CR Brno
Prof. RNDr. Petr Hájek, DrSc.	Institute of Computer Science of Academy of Sciences CR Prague

° **List of Permanent Work Groups of the AC**

a) whose Chairman is a Member of the AC

Biology and Ecology
Economics
Philology and Literary Arts
Philosophy, Theology, and Religion
Social Sciences (formerly Sociology and Political Science)
History
Chemistry
Medicine and Health Care
Mathematics and Informatics
Education, Psychology and Kinanthropology
Law and Security Studies
Technical Professions
Arts and Art Sciences
Agriculture, Forestry and Food Industry
Non-university Higher Education Institutions

b) whose Chairman is not a Member of the AC

Pharmaceutical Professions
Physics
Geography
Geology
Veterinary Professions
Military Professions

° **In the year 2002, the composition of the following work groups underwent changes:**

for Biology and Ecology: Doc. Mgr. Marek Šebela, PhD., Faculty of Natural Sciences, Palacký University in Olomouc, became a new member (AC meeting 02-02, 12-13.3. 2002);
for Chemistry: Prof. Pavel Hobza, DrSc., J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry of Academy of Sciences CR, became a new member, replacing Prof. Söhnel, who resigned;
for Agriculture and Food Industry: Prof. Ing. Karel Voříšek, CSc., Faculty of Agronomy of Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, became a new member (AC meeting 02-02, 12-13.3.2002); Doc. Ing. Zdena Wittlingerová, CSc., Faculty of Forestry of Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, became a new member (AC meeting 05-02, 23-24.9.);
for Mathematics and Informatics: Doc. RNDr. Jiří Wiedermann, DrSc., Institute of Computer Science of Academy of Sciences CR, became a new member (AC meeting 02-02, 12-13.3. 2002);
for Philology and Literary Arts: Doc. PhDr. Eva Mrhačová, Faculty of Arts, University of Ostrava in Ostrava, became a new member (AC meeting 03-02, 23-24.4.);
for Social Sciences: Prof. PhDr. Jan Keller, CSc., Medic-Social Faculty of Ostrava University in Ostrava, and Doc. PhDr. Oldřich Matoušek, CSc., Philosophical Faculty of Charles University in Prague, became new members (AC meeting 05-02, 23-24.9.);
for Technical Professions: Doc. Ing. Alois Materna, CSc., VŠB-TU of Ostrava, Faculty of Civil Engineering, became a new member (AC meeting 05-02, 23-24.9.);

for Economics: Membership ended for Prof. Ing. Jiří Dvořák, DrSc., VŠMIE Prague; Prof. Ing. Jiří Vojtíšek, CSc., School of Hotel Management Prague; Prof. Ing. Vladimír Pilný, CSc., University of Economics in Prague; Prof. Ing. Jiří Vysušil, CSc. deceased; new members: Doc. Ing. Jiří Havel, CSc., Faculty of Social Sciences of Charles University in Prague; Doc. Ing. Jan Pour, CSc., Faculty of Informatics and Statistics of University of Economics in Prague; Prof. Ing. Jaromír Veber, CSc., Faculty of Business Administration, University of Economics in Prague (AC meeting 05-02, 23-24.9.);

for Education, Psychology and Kinanthropology:

Membership ended for Prof. PhDr. Václav Hošek, DrSc., Faculty of Physical Education and Sport, Charles University in Prague; Prof. Jan Hora, Academy of Performing Arts in Prague; Prof. PaedDr. Jiří Kotásek, CSc., Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University in Prague; Doc. PhDr. Jaroslav Kysučan, CSc., Pedagogical Faculty of Palacký University in Olomouc; Doc. PhDr. Jiří Pelikán, CSc., Philosophical Faculty of Charles University in Prague; PhDr. Miluše Sedláková, CSc., Institute of Psychology, Academy of Sciences CR Prague; Prof. PhDr. Vladimír Smékal, CSc., Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno; Prof. PhDr. Zdeněk Helus, DrSc., Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University in Prague; new members: Doc. PhDr. Petr Macek, CSc., Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno; Prof. PhDr. Antonín Rychtecký, DrSc., Faculty of Physical Education and Sport of Charles University in Prague; Doc. PaedDr. Iva Stuchlíková, CSc., Pedagogical Faculty of University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice; PhDr. Jaroslav Šturma, Paprsek Children's Centre (Dětské centrum Paprsek) Prague; Prof. PhDr. Marie Vítková, CSc., Faculty of Education of Masaryk University in Brno; Doc. PhDr. Eliška Walterová, CSc., Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University in Prague (AC meeting 05-02, 23.-24.9.);

for Medicine and Health Care: membership ended for Prof. MUDr. Jiří Valenta, DrSc., Faculty of Medicine of Charles University in Plzeň; new members: Prof. MUDr. Miloš Velemínský, CSc., Faculty of Health and Social Studies of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice; Prof. RNDr. Lubomír Dobiáš, CSc., Medic-Social Faculty of Ostrava University in Ostrava; Doc. MUDr. Staša Bartůňková, CSc., Faculty of Physical Education and Sport of Charles University in Prague; Doc. MUDr. Jaroslav Opavský, CSc., Faculty of Physical Culture of Palacký University in Olomouc (AC meeting 05-02, 23-24.9.).

Composition of permanent work group - members representing

Year	Universities	Academy of Sciences CR	Other institutions	Foreign members	Total
1999	146	21	19	9	186
2000	171	20	14	6	205
2001	171	20	15	5	205
2002	166	21	15	6	208

3. AC Meetings in the year 2002

3.1. Statistical data of the meetings

	AC Meetings	Venue	No. of AC members attending
1.	22-23 Jan.	Brandýs nad Labem	19
2.	12-13 March	Pelhřimov	18
3.	23-24 April	Přelouč	16
4.	18-19 June	Strážnice	17
5.	24-25 Sept.	Telč	20
6.	5-6 Nov.	Velké Meziříčí	18
7.	10-11 Dec.	Kostelec nad Černými Lesy	17

◦ **Applications for State Approval**

A total of 72 applications had been submitted to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport by the end of the year 2002, thereof 16 in 1999, 23 in 2000, 22 in 2001, and 11 in 2002. Of these 72 applications, 7 requested setting up of university-level institutions; the other applicants aimed at non-university higher education institutions. To date, the Accreditation Commission has dealt with 70 applications, recommending 30 of them for state approval and for accreditation of the relevant study programmes; 40 applicants were not recommended. In the course of the application process, a total of 15 applicants withdrew their applications and 2 applications are at various stages of negotiation.

Applications on the agenda in the year 2002:

The AC recommended for state approval (state permission):

Mezinárodní baptistický teologický seminář se sídlem v Praze (a.s.) /International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague (Company)/

Vysoká škola manažerské ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Praze (a.s.) /Institute of Management Economics and Informatics (Company) in Prague/

Západomoravská vysoká škola se sídlem v Třebíči (o.p.s.) /West Moravian College in Třebíč/

Středočeský vysokoškolský institut se sídlem v Kladně (s.r.o.)- Central Bohemian College Institute in Kladno (Ltd.) /Vysoká škola J.A. Komenského se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) (dříve o.s.) /J.A. Komenský College in Prague (Ltd.)/(formerly requested a change in legal status, otherwise the application is identical)

ARC-Vysoká škola politických a společenských věd se sídlem v Kolíně (s.r.o.) /ARC-College of Political and Social Sciences in Kolín (Ltd.)/ (2nd application)

Vysoká škola ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of Economics and Informatics in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/ (4th application)

The AC did not recommend for state approval:

Vysoká škola ekonomicko-správní Jablonec nad Nisou (o.p.s.) /Institute of Economics and Administration Jablonec nad Nisou/

ARC-Vysoká škola politických a společenských věd se sídlem v Kolíně (s.r.o.) /ARC-College of Political and Social Sciences in Kolín (Ltd.)/ (1st application)

Institut evropských a regionálních studií se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of European and Regional Studies in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/

EUROPEON se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (a.s.) /EUROPEON in České Budějovice (Comp.)/

Vysoká škola Porta Bohemica se sídlem v Litoměřicích (o.p.s.) /Porta Bohemica Institute in Litoměřice/

Vysoká škola veřejné správy se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) /Institute of Public Administration in Prague (Ltd.)/

Vysoká škola spediční a správní se sídlem v Přerově (s.r.o.) /Institute of Forwarding and Administration in Přerov (Ltd.)/

Vysoká škola krizového managementu a insolvence se sídlem v Brně (s.r.o.) /Institute of Crisis Management and Insolvency in Brno (Ltd.)/

Vysoká škola tělesné výchovy a sportu Palestra se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) /Institute of Physical Education and Sports in Prague (Ltd.)/

Vysoká škola regionálního rozvoje se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) /Institute of Regional Development in Prague (Ltd.)/ (1st application as Vysoká škola veřejné správy se sídlem v Praze - Institute of Public Administration in Prague (Ltd.))

Vysoká škola ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of Economics and Informatics in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/ (3rd application)

Number of applications submitted in 2002	11
Number of applications discussed by the AC	18
Legal form of companies under discussion a.s./s.r.o./o.p.s.	3/12/3
Agreement/disagreement with the granting of state approval	7/11
Regional representation of negotiated applications	Prague-6, Brno Region-1, Vysočina-1, Olomouc Region-1, Budějovice Region-4, Central Bohemian Region- 3, Ústí Region-1, Liberec Region-1

° **Accreditation of Study Programs discussed in 2002**

Applications	Doctoral Studies		Master's Studies/Follow up of Master's Programme		Bachelor's studies	
	approval	non-approval	approval	non-approval	approval	non-approval
Higher Educ. Institutions (HEI)						
Accreditation Prolonged Accreditation (proposal of limited accreditation)*	351 (7)	6	598/633 (67/9)	2/13	680 (25)	25
HEI&Universities acc. § 81					3	1
HEI requesting non-university level status					3	1
Universities & Institutes of the Academy of Sciences acc. § 81	127	2				

*In the case of some programmes the AC proposed limitations while prolonging accreditation.

Application	Follow up PhD Studies		Bachelor's studies	
	approval	non-approval	approval	non-approval
Private HEI				
Accreditation of study programmes for applications for state approval	1		5	12
Accreditation for existing institutions	2	1	2	3
Accreditation of broadened study programmes for certain branches of study			3	5

° 16 applications for accrediting the fields of appointment proceedings for associate professors or the appointment of professors were discussed. The AC recommended 8 of the first and 7 of the second. 1 of the second was not recommended.

3.2. Information from AC meetings

The issues "Accreditation of Study Programmes", "Applications for Extension of Accreditation" and "Miscellaneous" were on the agenda of all AC meetings; the item "Accreditation of the Fields of Habilitation and Appointment Proceedings" was on the agenda of the second, fourth, sixth and seventh meetings in 2002.

Agenda of Meeting 01-02:

- ° Application for grant of state approval : ARC-Vysoká škola politických a společenských věd se sídlem v Kolíně (s.r.o.) /ARC – College of Political and Social Sciences in Kolín (Ltd.)/, Vysoká škola ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of Economics and Informatics in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/ Vysoká škola ekonomicko-správní Jablonec nad Nisou (o.p.s.) /Institute of Economics and Administration Jablonec nad Nisou/;
- ° Application to set up a Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Hradec Králové.

Conclusions:

The AC did not approve the granting of state approval for the given applicants, nor did they approve the establishment of a Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Hradec Králové.

Agenda of Meeting 02-02:

- ° Application for grant of state approval: Středočeský vysokoškolský institut se sídlem v Kladně (s.r.o.) /Central Bohemian College in Kladno (Ltd.)/, EUROPEON se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (a.s.) /EUROPEON in České Budějovice (Comp.)/, Mezinárodní baptistický seminář se sídlem v Praze (a.s.) /International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague (Comp.);
- ° Application of the Vysoká škola hotelová v Praze /Institute of Hotel Management in Prague/ and the Bankovní institut vysoká škola v Praze /Banking Institute College in Prague/ for the accreditation of a follow-up Master's study programme;
- ° Annual report of the AC for 2001;
- ° Requirements for application for accreditation of lifelong learning forms of study.

Conclusions:

The AC, among others, approved a grant of state approval for Středočeský vysokoškolský institut se sídlem v Kladně (s.r.o.) /Central Bohemian College in Kladno (Ltd.)/, Mezinárodní baptistický teologický seminář se sídlem v Praze (a.s.) /International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague (Comp.); the AC did approved a grant for EUROPEAN se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (a.s.) /EUROPEON in České Budějovice (Comp.)/. The AC approved the accreditation of the follow-up Master's study programme for Vysoká škola hotelová v Praze /School of Hotel Management in Prague/, and did not approved the accreditation for Bankovní institut vysoká škola v Praze /Banking Institute College in Prague/.

Specific features of the application for the accreditation of Bachelor and Master's study programmes, which are to be provided in the form of the "distance studies" or a combination of "distance studies" and "daily (full-time) studies" study programmes:

The lifelong learning form of study is a specific manner of providing and acquiring university degrees. It makes use of the fact that the students participate in direct contact with the teaching process only on exceptional occasions and usually merely to acquire skills required by the plan of study. The institutions providing this form of study need to have the corresponding facilities, which involves, in the first place, the elaboration of a methodology of study, creating or providing study material and other supports that will guide the student to independent study. Further, there needs to be in existence the corresponding manner of communication with lecturers and tutors and also communication with the relevant institution as such. It needs further to be proved that the "distance studies" form of study will provide and ensure an identical body of knowledge as "daily (full-time) studies" form.

The content of applications by universities for accreditation of such a study programme is given in § 79 of Act No. 111/1998 and the subsequent decree of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports No.42/1999.

The Accreditation Commission requires and will judge the following:

1. Information on the content of the study programme, its layout (modular, by subjects) and follow-up, interlinks with other programmes, etc.

2. Clearly formulated rules and conditions for the creation of study plans, the mastery of which shall lead to results identical to those of “daily (full-time) studies” form.
3. Stipulation of the scope of contact tutorials and other direct teaching possibilities offered to students in individual academic years.
4. Proposal for the length of study and justification of this in relation to the proposed standard time of study.
5. Possibilities of communication with the tutor via the internet.
6. Tutorial notes on the syllabus of lectures, including test questions and problems drawing attention to the substance of topics under examination, where to place stress, where to concentrate attention.
7. A detailed manner of checking on the independent form of study through essays, projects, laboratory protocols, etc. (according to the character of subjects).
8. The organisation of studies (including description of the departments in charge of the preparation and organisation of studies).
9. Survey of the complete set of teaching facilities. Characteristics of study literature and other teaching aids for the students, including possibilities of using modern information technology. Samples of study texts for the students and possible other multi-medial aids for a given study programme.
10. Professional qualifications of the tutors and their research work (the need of the tutors to respect the usually older persons interested in the “distance studies” form of studies).
11. Facts on the implementation of the declared scientific, research, developmental, artistic and other creative activity in relation to “distance studies” or combined forms of the relevant study plans.

Agenda of Meeting 03-02:

- Application to set up a Faculty of Safety Engineering at the VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava;
- Application for state approval of the Vysoká škola J.A. Komenského v Praze (s.r.o.) /J.A.Komensky College in Prague (Ltd.)/ (see note on p. 5 of the application dealt with in the year 2002) and the Vysoká škola Porta Bohemica se sídlem v Litoměřicích (o.p.s.) /Porta Bohemica College in Litoměřice/;
- Application for accreditation of Bachelor’s study programmes at the professional higher education institutions (PHEI) that aim to establish non-university higher education institutions: VOŠ Čáslav (Higher Professional School Čáslav), VZŠ Praha 5 /College of Nursing of Prague 5/, VOŠ České Budějovice /Higher Professional School České Budějovice/.

Conclusions:

The AC approved a grant of state approval for the Vysoká škola J.A. Komenského v Praze (s.r.o.) (formerly “o.s.”) /J.A.Komensky College in Prague (Ltd.)/ and did not approve a grant of state approval for the Vysoká škola Porta Bohemica se sídlem v Litoměřicích (o.p.s.) /Porta Bohemica College in Litoměřice/; they further agreed to the accreditation for Bachelor’s study programmes at the VOŠ Čáslav /Higher Professional School Čáslav/, VZŠ Praha 5 /College of Nursing of Prague 5/, and VOŠ České Budějovice /Higher Professional School České Budějovice/. The AC agreed to the setting up of a Faculty of Safety Engineering of the VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava.

Agenda of Meeting 04-02

- Withdrawal of the right to hold doctoral degree and appointment procedures for the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University in Prague.
- Application for the accreditation of Bachelor’s study programmes at the VOŠ Jihlava /Higher Professional School Jihlava/.

Conclusions:

The AC agreed to the withdrawal of the right to hold doctoral degree and appointment procedures for the Catholic Theological Faculty of Charles University in Prague and to the accreditation of one Bachelor's study programme at the VOŠ Jihlava /Higher Professional School Jihlava/.

Agenda of Meeting 05-02

- ° Application for grant of state approval for Vysoká škola spediční a správní se sídlem v Přerově (s.r.o.) /Institute of Forwarding and Administration in Přerov (Ltd.)/, Vysoká škola krizového managementu a insolvence se sídlem v Brně (s.r.o.) /School of Crisis Management and Insolvency in Brno (Ltd.)/ and ARC-Vysoká škola politických a společenských věd se sídlem v Kolíně (s.r.o.) /ARC-College of Political and Social Sciences in Kolín (Ltd.)/
- ° Background material for the assessment of non-university higher education institutions.

Conclusions:

The AC agreed to have state approval granted to the ARC-Vysoká škola politických a společenských věd se sídlem v Kolíně (s.r.o.) /ARC – College of Political and Social Sciences in Kolín (Ltd.)/; they did not agree to it being granted to the Vysoká škola spediční a správní se sídlem v Přerově (s.r.o.) /Institute of Forwarding and Administration in Přerov (Ltd.)/ and the Vysoká škola krizového managementu a insolvence se sídlem v Brně (s.r.o.) /School of Crisis Management and Insolvency in Brno (Ltd.)/; they further approved the background material for the assessment of Non-university Higher Education Institutions.

Agenda of Meeting 06-02

- ° Application for state approval by the Západomoravská vysoká škola se sídlem v Třebíči (o.p.s.) /West Moravian Institute in Třebíč/, Vysoká škola ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích /Institute of Economics and Informatics in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/
- ° Discussion on the report on the implementation of the assessment of the Faculty of Law of Palacký University in Olomouc of the year 1999.

Conclusions:

The AC agreed to have state approval granted to the Západomoravská vysoká škola se sídlem v Třebíči (o.p.s.) /Moravian Institute in Třebíč/ and to the Vysoká škola ekonomiky a informatiky se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích /Institute of Economics and Informatics in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/

Re: the Faculty of Law of Palacký University in Olomouc: 1) The Accreditation Commission stated, after discussing the report submitted by the Faculty of Law of Palacký University, that the resolutions of the 11th meeting of the AC in 1999 have not been implemented, especially in regard to staffing problems. 2) This statement is to be regarded as a recommendation in the sense of § 85, para 1 of Act No. 111/1998 on institutions of higher education, amendments.

Agenda of Meeting 07-02:

- ° Discussion on the report on the implementation of the assessment of the Faculty of Law of Palacký University in Olomouc for 1999 in the presence of the Rector of Palacký University and the Dean of the Faculty of Law;
- ° Application for state approval of the Institut evropských a regionálních studií se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of European and Regional Studies in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/, Vysoká škola regionálního rozvoje se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) /Institute of Regional Development in Prague (Ltd.)/ and the Vysoká škola tělesné výchovy a sportu Palestra Praha (s.r.o.) /College of Physical Education and Sport Palestra Prague (Ltd.)/;
- ° Application for accreditation of the Vyšší zdravotnická škola J. Podsedníka Brno /J. Podsedník School for Medical Services Brno/.

Conclusions:

Re: The Law Faculty of Palacký University: the AC suggested restricting the accreditation of the Master's study programme "Law and Juristic Science", the "Law" branch of studies, run by the Faculty of Law of Palacký University in Olomouc. The AC did not give consent to the granting of state approval to the Institut evropských a regionálních studií se sídlem v Českých Budějovicích (s.r.o.) /Institute of European and Regional Studies in České Budějovice (Ltd.)/, the Vysoká škola regionálního rozvoje se sídlem v Praze (s.r.o.) /Institute of Regional Development in Prague (Ltd.)/ and the Vysoká škola tělesné výchovy a sportu Palestra Praha (s.r.o.) /College of Physical Education and Sport Palestra Prague (Ltd.)/; they did not approve the granting of accreditation to the Vyšší zdravotnická škola J. Podsedníka Brno /J. Podsednik School for Medical Services Brno/.

° In 2002, as in previous years, the meetings of the AC were regularly attended by a representative of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and representatives of the Council for Higher Education.

4. Proceedings of the work groups in 2002

4.1 Proceedings of the permanent work groups

The permanent work group held their activities according to adopted principles and held regular meetings. In accordance with the Government resolution No.532 of 22 May 2002, the work group for sociology and political science was renamed work group for social sciences.

4.2. Proceedings of special work group of the AC

At the 06-02 meeting of the AC the membership of a special workgroup for the assessment of non-university higher education institutions was approved: Ing. Petr Richter, Prof. Ing. Milan Sojka, CSc., Ing. Vlastimil Juppa, Prof. Ing. Leo Vodáček, DrSc., DrSc. Ing. Marie Vitáková, to make an evaluation of the Bankovní institut vysoká škola v Praze /Banking Institute College in Prague/ and the Vysoká škola hotelová v Praze /School of Hotel Management in Prague/. The work group for non-university higher education institutions has drawn up background material for the assessment of these private schools.

Further, the AC passed a resolution that assessment be carried out for the accredited activities of the Evropský polytechnický institut Kunovice /EPI/ /European Polytechnical Institute Kunovice (EPI)/, the Vysoká škola Karlovy Vary / VŠKV/ /Institute Karlovy Vary (VŠKV)/, the Soukromá vysoká škola ekonomických studií Praha /SVŠES/ /Private School of Economic Studies Prague (SVŠES)/, Vysoká škola Karla Engliša Brno /VŠKE/ /Karel Englis School Brno (VŠKE)/.

The AC appointed Milan Sojka chairman of the special work groups for the EPI, SVŠES and VŠKE and Petr Richter a member of these work groups. Another person appointed for membership in the special work group for the EPI is Jan Uhlíř. Milan Sojka is to submit proposals for the appointment of further members of the work group for the EPI and the membership of the work group for the SVŠES and VŠKE.

The AC appointed a work group for the VŠKV, consisting of Alena Winterová (Chairwoman), Dušan Hendrych, Pavel Holländer, Antonín Mokrý, Karel Eliáš, Otakar Osmančík, Josef Bejček, Petr Richter (members).

5. Miscellaneous

° Foreign Contacts of the AC

A report was drawn up by Pravoslav Stránský, member of the AC, for the meeting of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation in Washington on 13 March 2003, relating to the accreditation of our medical faculties in the U.S.A.

Milan Sojka provided information on the plenary meeting of members of the non-governmental organisation, in which representatives of Accreditation Commissions of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe (Central and Eastern Europe Network-CEE) are associated. It was held in

Vienna instead of the planned meeting in Prague on 19-20 October. In future there is to be a two-year interval between meetings; the commission is to meet every year. Prof. Sojka was elected chairman of the CEE. The meeting of the executive committee is to take place in Slovakia in 2003, and the plenary meeting is to be held in Prague in the year 2004. Negotiations have begun with Hungary and Slovakia on the mutual acknowledgement of accreditation procedure.

In June 2002 the AC became a member with full rights of the European Network for Quality Assurance-ENQA, a non-governmental organisation of EU countries. This is a significant event since only 5 similar commissions were admitted from non-member countries of the EU. Representatives of the AC had been regularly and actively participated in ENQA meetings even before admittance.

For some years the AC has been a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education-INQAAHE, until now, however, without active participation in annual meetings held outside Europe. For that reason a representative of the AC is to take part in the meeting in 2003, which will be held in Ireland.

Informal collaboration has been taking place with the Slovak AC with the participation of guests from Slovakia in AC meetings and vice versa. This collaboration has led to concrete outcomes in the form of participation of Slovak experts in the accreditation process of study programmes, primarily in the field of kinanthropology.

Jan Uhlíř attended a conference on global changes in Berlin from 1 to 4 Oct. 2002, where he presented a paper on structured study programmes in engineering studies at universities of technology in the Czech Republic, which can be found on the website of the AC.