

# AUDIT OF VAASA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Tekijät **Eva Werner, Touko Apajalahti, Jade Brouns, Tero Janatuinen, Sirpa Moitus and Hanna Väättäinen. Self-evaluation of Vaasa University of Applied Sciences edited by Tarja Kettunen.**

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## 1 HEI creates competence

### - Auditointiryhmän arvio

*The evaluation area I assesses the procedures which support student-centred, working-life oriented planning, implementation and enhancement of education, which is based on research or artistic activities.*

**The evaluation area I as a whole is at the level good.**

**The audit team identified the following as the main strengths and recommendations:**

#### **Strengths**

- VAMK has a well-managed and participatory process for developing its degree programmes. Both the curricula development and the renewal process of education are strongly supported by the feedback from internal and external stakeholders.
- VAMK's student-centred approach is demonstrated in teachers' engagement to keep a close relationship with students and regularly gather student feedback. The student union VAMOK has a strong voice in the institutional dialogue.
- VAMK takes care of students' support and wellbeing through well-developed tutoring, individual coaching, and support services. Group tutoring has been developed as an effective method of mentoring and supporting students.

#### **Recommendations**

- VAMK should pay attention to ensuring more balanced learning experiences for students regarding international learning environments and integration of working life experiences into teaching.

- To improve the coherence of the descriptions of learning outcomes, VAMK should harmonise the way of writing learning outcomes across all curricula.
- VAMK should further develop and expand the provision and forms of continuous learning to create added value for the renewal and upskilling of the labour force and companies of the region.