KANSALLINEN KOULUTUKSEN ARVIOINTIKESKUS
NATIONELLA CENTRET FÖR UTBILDNINGSUTVÄRDERING
FINNISH EDUCATION EVALUATION CENTRE

AUDIT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

Authors **Bernard Coulie, Klara Bolander Laksov, Petri Heinonen, Petri Suomala, Signe Tolstrup Mathiasen, Mirella Nordblad & Niina Nurkka. Self-assessment of the University of Helsinki Päivi Aronen, Johanna Kolhinen & Anne Lepistö (eds.)**
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The premise and implementation of the audit

- Assessment of the audit team

The Finnish Education Evaluation Centre (FINEEC) has conducted the audit of the University of Helsinki. The work of FINEEC is based on the principle of enhancement-led evaluation and producing impactful information that contributes to the enhancement of education.

The purpose of the FINEEC audit framework is:

- to evaluate whether the quality work in the HEI meets European quality assurance standards,
- to assess whether the quality system produces relevant information for the implementation of the strategy and the continuous development of the HEI's activities, and whether it results in effective enhancement activities,
- to encourage internationalisation, experimenting and a creative atmosphere at HEIs, and
- to accumulate open and transparent information on quality work at Finnish HEIs.

The principles of the audit framework are described in the audit manual.

The implementation of the audit

A five-member audit team carried out the audit. The members of the audit team were:

- Professor **Bernard Coulie,** Honorary Rector, UCLouvain, Belgium (Chair)
- Professor **Klara Bolander Laksov,** Director of the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, Stockholm University, Sweden
- **Petri Heinonen,** Senior Advisor, UPM, Finland

- Professor **Petri Suomala**, Vice President for Education, Aalto University, Finland
- **Signe Tolstrup Mathiasen**, Student, Lund University, Denmark

Mirella Nordblad from the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre acted as project manager of the audit and Niina Nurkka as back-up project manager. The audit is based on the material submitted by the higher education institution, a self-assessment report, additional material requested by the audit team, and the audit team's online visit to the institution between 26 and 28 October 2021. The audit team also had access to essential digital materials and systems. The main stages and timetable of the audit were:

Agreement negotiation	5 December 2019
Appointment of the audit team	24 February 2021
Submission of the audit material and self-assessment report	24 June 2021
Audit visit	26–28 October 2021
Higher Education Evaluation Committee's decision on the result	26 January 2022
Publication of the report	26 January 2022
Concluding seminar	8 February 2022
Follow-up on the enhancement work	2025

Evaluation criteria

Evaluation areas I–III are each assessed as one entity using the scale *excellent, good, insufficient*.

The level *excellent* means that the HEI shows evidence of long-term and effective enhancement work. The HEI's enhancement activities also create substantial added value for the HEI, its stakeholders, or both. The HEI presents compelling examples of successful enhancement activities.

The level *good* for evaluation areas I–III is described in appendix 1.

The level *insufficient* means that the HEI shows an absence of or major shortcomings in systematic, functioning and participatory procedures in the evaluation area (I–III). There is no clear evidence of the impact of quality management in the enhancement of activities.

In order for the HEI to pass the audit, evaluation areas I–III should reach at least the level *good*.