

Hult International Business School celebrates final of the Hult Global Case Challenge in New York City



Hult Global Case Challenge champions of 2011, University of Cambridge are presented with a cheque to implement their winning idea.

ON 28 APRIL 2011, SENIOR STAFF FROM THE LONDON CAMPUS OF HULT INTERNATIONAL Business School joined representatives from the School's five global campuses, the six regional winning teams, former President Bill Clinton (who delivered a keynote address) and an esteemed panel of judges, for the final of the Hult Global Case Challenge in New York City. The Hult Global Case Challenge (HGCC) is an international case competition open to college and university students worldwide, run in partnership with a different charity each year and supported by the Clinton Global Initiative. The aim of the challenge is to formulate innovative answers to the world's biggest problems, by challenging the world's brightest business students to come up with their own solutions. This year the aim was to accelerate access to clean water and sanitation, and the winning idea was made available to Water.org with a cash grant of of US \$1 million (donated by Hult International Business School).

Regional competitions were held simultaneously in Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai, and Shanghai on 5 March 2011 in order to determine the five global finalists. A sixth team was selected from an online competition as the popularity of the competition

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meant that regional events were oversubscribed. In total more than 150 teams from universities, business schools and colleges around the world competed in the regional rounds, and many more submitted videos for the online competition. In the end, the victorious team was from the University of Cambridge; their solution involved using existing widespread mobile phone use in developing countries as a platform to implement an incentive plan to fund development and maintenance of clean water infrastructure. Film star and Co-founder of Water.org, Matt Damon stated that “The Hult Global Case Challenge and the Clinton Global Initiative are perfect partners in spurring game changing ideas that deliver cost-effective solutions.”



Some of the ideas presented by participating teams.

About Hult International Business School:

Hult International Business School (formerly known as the Arthur D. Little School of Management) is a global business school with campuses in Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai, and Shanghai. The School offers a range of business-focused programs including MBA, Masters and Undergraduate degrees. Hult’s one-year MBA program is ranked in the top 30 in the world by The Economist and among the top 100 by the Financial Times.

For more information please visit www.hult.edu.



A panel of judges.

BAC launches new secure certificates

BAC HAS RECENTLY LAUNCHED A NEW SYSTEM OF SECURE ACCREDITATION certificates for our accredited institutions, to guard against fraud. The certificates have several built-in security features including a holographic image, unique identification number, microtext and watermarking. For information on how to verify whether an accreditation certificate is genuine please visit: www.the-bac.org/accreditation/verify

You can also find out whether an institution currently holds BAC accreditation by checking our college directory at: www.the-bac.org/colleges



The new accreditation certificate comes with a range of secure features. Please click on the above image to find out more.

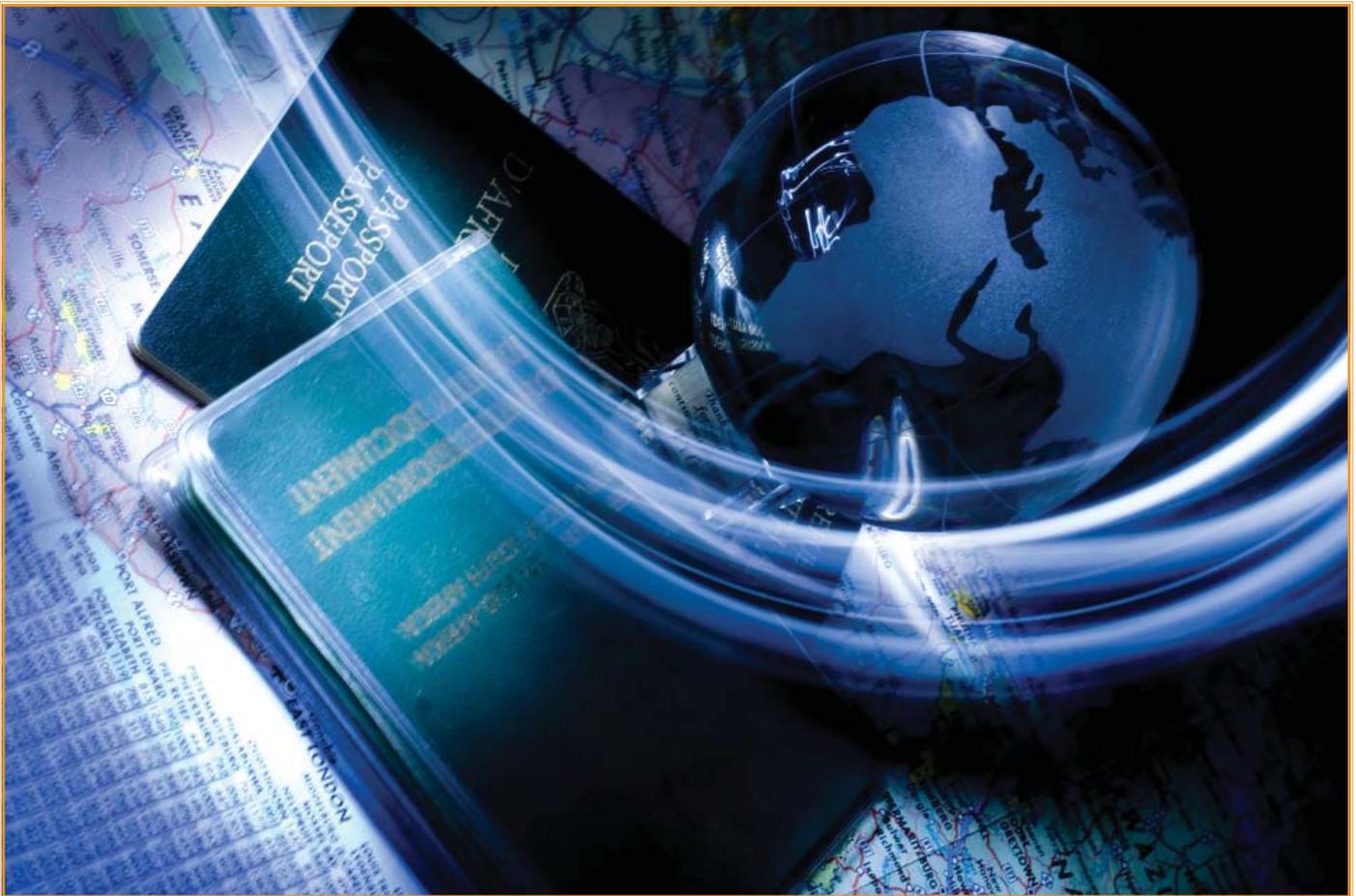
BAC to appear before House of Commons Select Committee

BAC's Senior Advisor (Quality Assurance and Governance), Professor Steve Bristow, is to give evidence to the Business, Innovation and Skills Committee's inquiry on 'The Future of Higher Education' on 24 May. He will form a panel with the Chief Executives of QAA and the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, and will provide a private sector perspective on the Government's upcoming White Paper on higher education (which is expected to include proposals for widening participation and increasing competition in higher education). In addition, the Committee will be focusing upon the role and future of state funding in higher education and the attempts to create a level playing field between universities and alternative providers. Representatives of private HE providers are also appearing before the Committee.

BAC will be submitting extensive written evidence to the Committee outlining the nature of private HE provision in the UK, and the quality assurance role that BAC has carried out over the last 27 years. For more information about the inquiry, and to view written evidence and transcripts of oral evidence please visit:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/business-innovation-and-skills/inquiries/the-future-of-higher-education/>

Recent Tier 4 announcements - information for institutions



ON 31 MARCH 2011 THE UK BORDER AGENCY RELEASED A 'STATEMENT OF INTENT' DETAILING CHANGES TO TIER 4 of the Points Based System. The two most substantial changes to the operation of Tier 4, which will be phased in over the next two years, are the requirement that all institutions must achieve HTS status and the move to establish a more coherent system of educational oversight for the public and private sectors. More detail on these is provided below.

All the changes however will have a significant effect on every private institution which recruits students from outside Europe, and so you should familiarise yourself fully with the detail of the statement of intent as well as the revised sponsor and policy guidance. These documents can be found on the UKBA website by following the links from the news story: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/march/65-student-visas

Highly Trusted Sponsors (HTS)

By **April 2012**, all institutions must have achieved Highly Trusted Sponsor status in order to continue to sponsor new Tier 4 students. Previously this status was only needed by providers of certain lower level or work-based courses. At present the **HTS scheme and its eligibility criteria remain unchanged**, although UKBA is expected to conduct a review of HTS in the summer of 2011. The current arrangements are described within the HTS guidance which is available here: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points/sponsoringmigrants/highly-trusted/

Educational oversight

The second major change is the move to a new system of 'educational oversight' for all Tier 4 sponsors, which

will be developed by the bodies that currently have responsibility for assessing standards in school-age and publicly funded education (including QAA and Ofsted). By the **end of 2012**, all institutions must have been reviewed by one of these educational oversight bodies in order to continue to sponsor new Tier 4 students. The policy detail to support the new system has not yet been finalised and so **institutions are not yet able to apply for review**. BAC is holding discussions with UKBA, Government education departments and the nominated educational oversight bodies, in order to secure a clear way forward for our accredited institutions and an appropriate role for BAC in their continuing assessment and support.

Interim CAS limits

BAC-accredited institutions which are HTS or A-rated Tier 4 sponsors but do not currently receive educational oversight by QAA, ISI, BSI, SIS, Ofsted or devolved equivalents will be allocated a limited number of CAS to use for the period from 21 April 2011 to 5 April 2012. The exact allocation will be equal to the number of CAS assigned which resulted in a successful visa application during the period from 1 March 2010 to 28 February 2011. B-rated sponsors will only be permitted to assign CAS to current students who require extended leave to remain, so will not be able to recruit new visa students.

BAC understands that both the major changes outlined above and the interim CAS limits represent a great challenge to many institutions. We are therefore working with partners in Government and across the sector to finalise as quickly as possible the arrangements by which our accredited institutions can demonstrate their commitment to both responsible recruitment and high educational standards, and so continue to make their valuable contributions to the education sector and economy of the UK.

More information will be published on the BAC website as it becomes available and regular updates will be sent to accredited institutions via email. In the meantime please direct any enquiries to info@the-bac.org.



Staff Profile: Alex Proudfoot, Communications Manager

THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER AT BAC ENCOMPASSES a wide range of tasks: from the design and maintenance of BAC's website, to the logo and letterheads on our stationery, to the text of our Accreditation Handbook, email bulletins to accredited institutions, public relations and dealings with the press, Alex Proudfoot, BAC's Communications Manager, has a hand in it all! Alex has worked for BAC since 2006, and was swiftly promoted to Communications Manager once his many and varied skills came to light.

Alex's academic background is in music, having achieved a BMus (Hons) from City University, London. In addition to a creative streak, which has been employed in the design of BAC's website and logo, and continuing oversight of all aspects of BAC's presentation, Alex also has extensive technical knowledge of computing and information systems which has enabled him to update and streamline BAC's internal processes. His sharp eye for detail makes him the most demanding proof-reader in the organisation and you're unlikely ever to find grammatical errors in his own work!

As mentioned above, Alex has a musical background and regularly gigs with his band in various London venues. His love of music extends not just to performing and listening (including an encyclopaedic knowledge of pop and rock from the 80s onwards), but to recording, where his technical knowledge of computers kicks in, and attending festivals.

BAC attends INQAAHE conference



REPRESENTATIVES OF BAC RECENTLY ATTENDED the biennial conference of the International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) in Madrid and enjoyed a welcome opportunity for finding inspiration and perspective through sharing experiences with other quality assurance agencies. The Spanish quality assurance agency, ANECA, hosted the conference, which also marked the 20th anniversary of INQAAHE, and this year's theme was Quality Assurance: Foundation for the Future.

BAC's Chief Executive and Inspectorate Relations Officer attended the four day conference, along with Council Member Richard Lewis (former President of INQAAHE), meeting colleagues from across the world, sharing experiences and discussing similarities and challenges faced within our QA systems.

The Prince of Asturias opened the conference and topics covered included: the impact and goals of globalisation, the rise of private higher education, the effect of ranking systems, the professionalisation of quality assurance, how to manage an external QA agency, relationships with the local government and how to achieve effective site visits.



Felipe, Prince of Asturias

One of the workshops of particular interest to BAC was the discussion on whether or not to publish institutions' reports. This sparked wide debate with some bodies of the opinion that publishing reports aids transparency and encourages consistency, while other bodies were concerned that to publish would breach confidentiality, provoke contention and be disadvantageous to institutions who significantly improve standards following an inspection.



Another topical seminar was the effect of ranking systems, given the recent rise in number and demand for global ranking. Students use rankings to decide where to study and governments use them to give rationale to division of funds. However there is much concern in the QA sector as to the methodology and reliability of ranking tables, especially when they are created by the media. It was agreed that regulatory mechanisms should be introduced and QA networks need to utilise their expertise to provide an alternative and ensure students are well

informed. Watch this space...

BAC had a poster display at the event which provided a focal point for discussions of our work; much information was gained from the trip and ties with various quality assurance agencies and personnel were forged. We're looking forward to the next conference!

Study UK launches lobbying campaign

STUDY UK, THE OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION FOR BAC-accredited institutions, is to appoint a lobbying company to campaign on behalf of Study UK members. The campaign's targets will include securing work rights for UK degree students at universities' partner colleges, extended student visitor visas for academic and vocational subjects, and revising the level of English required for pre-Masters courses. For more information or to join the campaign please contact Study UK's Manager, Lizzie Terry, using the contact details below.



The Study UK Agent Workshop will be held on 20 May 2011 and provides an opportunity for Study UK members to meet agents from Russia, Armenia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Estonia and Uzbekistan.

Participating Study UK members will meet with agents in one-to-one meetings throughout the day, with the opportunity for more informal networking over lunch. Those taking part will be given Participant Handbooks containing information on both the agents and educators involved, including a description and full contact details.

Participating agents have expressed interest in the following courses and programmes of study:

GCSEs, A Levels, university preparation, undergraduate courses, postgraduate courses, holiday camps, International Baccalaureate, diplomas/certificates, sports qualifications, guardianship programmes, and vocational courses

The cost for participating in this event is £500 per college representative with a £25 supplement for a second representative.

For more information please contact Study UK's Manager, Lizzie Terry:

Email: elizabethterry@study-uk.org

Telephone: 020 7608 7090

Newly Accredited Colleges

We are pleased to announce that the following colleges have been accredited by BAC since the last newsletter was released:

Full new accreditation

- » **Bellerbys College Oxford**
www.bellerbys.com
- » **C.A.R.E. (CFE)**
www.carecfe.org
- » **Covent Garden Academy of Flowers**
www.academyofflowers.com
- » **Edinburgh New Town Cookery School**
www.entcs.co.uk
- » **Fugro Robertson Ltd**
www.fugro-robertson.com/training
- » **Greasepaint Limited**
www.greasepaint.co.uk
- » **Kiara Training College**
www.kiaratrainingcollegeuk.com
- » **London College of Information Technology**
www.lcit.co.uk
- » **Mayfair School of English**
www.mayfairschool.co.uk
- » **Nordoff Robbins**
www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk
- » **Orion Pax Institute**
www.orionpaxinstitute.com
- » **QA Business School Birmingham**
www.qa.com
- » **QA Business School London**
www.qa.com
- » **UK College of Excellence**
www.ukcoe.co.uk
- » **UK Training Solutions Ltd**
www.roadrunnertraining.co.uk
- » **University of Lincoln International Study Centre**
www.studygroup.com/lisc/lincoln

Approved candidate status

- » **CATS College London**
www.ceg-uk.com
- » **Cranford College**
www.cranfordcollege.com
- » **Dynamis College**
www.dynamiscollege.org.uk
- » **Edinburgh College of Professional Studies**
www.ecps-edu.co.uk
- » **Equinox College**
www.equinoxcollege.co.uk
- » **Grey's College**
www.greyscollege.org.uk
- » **New College Manchester**
www.newcollegemanchester.com
- » **Quinton Colleges Shirley Campus**
www.quintoncolleges.com
- » **Routeways College of Professional Studies**
www.rwcps.co.uk
- » **Study Direct College**
www.studydirectcollege.org.uk

For a complete list of BAC-accredited colleges please visit www.the-bac.org/colleges