



DIRECTIVE ON QUALITY ASSURANCE AND THE QUALITY COMMISSION

SECTION ONE

Purpose, Scope, Legal Basis, and Definitions

1. Short Title

This Directive shall be referred to as the “Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) Directive on Quality Assurance and the Quality Commission.”

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Directive, the following terms shall have the meanings assigned to them below:

- a) University: Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD),
- b) Rector: The Rector of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design,
- c) Unit: The relevant Faculty, Institute, School, or Vocational School of the University,
- d) Senate: The Senate of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design,
- e) Regulation: The Regulation on Quality Assurance in Higher Education dated 15 July 2015 and numbered 29423,
- f) YÖKAK: The Higher Education Quality Council,
- g) Quality Assurance: All planned and systematic activities carried out in order to provide assurance that the University or its academic programs fully comply with internal and external quality standards and performance processes,
- h) Strategic Planning: The participatory process of preparing a strategic plan and continuously monitoring relevant performance indicators in order to formulate the University’s future mission and vision, determine strategic objectives and measurable targets, measure performance in line with predetermined indicators, and conduct monitoring and evaluation within the framework of development plans, programs, relevant legislation, and adopted principles,
- i) Quality Commission: The authorized body within Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design responsible for carrying out quality assurance activities,
- j) Quality Coordination Office: The unit responsible for coordinating quality processes,
- k) Quality Representatives: Academic and administrative staff members who contribute to quality-related activities within the units,
- l) Council: The Higher Education Quality Council,
- m) Institutional External Evaluation Program (IEEP): The external evaluation process conducted periodically by the Higher Education Quality Council at least once every five years to assess the quality of higher education institutions’ education and training, research, community engagement activities, and administrative services,
- n) Institutional Feedback Report (IFR): The report prepared by external evaluators within the scope of the institutional external evaluation program, outlining the strengths of the higher education institution and areas open to improvement,

- o) Internal Evaluation: The evaluation process carried out by Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design through its own internal units,
- p) Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (IIER): The report prepared annually by the University in order to monitor quality assurance processes related to its education and training, research, community engagement activities, and administrative services.
- q) External Evaluation: The evaluation process conducted by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK) or by independent organizations,
- r) Stakeholder: Internal stakeholders (students, academic staff, and administrative staff) and external stakeholders (graduates, the business sector, society, and internship host institutions),
- s) Accreditation: The evaluation and external quality assurance process carried out by an external evaluation body to determine whether a higher education program meets predetermined academic and field-specific standards in a particular discipline,
- t) Unit Internal Evaluation Report (UIER): The report prepared annually by Quality Teams in order to monitor quality assurance processes related to the unit's education and training, research, community engagement activities, and administrative services,
- u) Quality Sub-Commissions: The Leadership, Governance and Quality; Education and Training; Research and Development; Community Engagement; and Student Sub-Commissions, which are appointed to carry out activities within the framework of the principles and procedures set forth in this Directive,
- v) Performance Indicators: The tools used to measure, monitor, and evaluate whether, and to what extent, the University has achieved its objectives and targets,
- w) Program Evaluation: The evaluation activities of academic programs conducted as part of the internal quality assurance system of the University,
- x) Turkish Qualifications Framework (TQF): The national qualifications framework designed in alignment with the European Qualifications Framework, which sets out the principles of all qualifications acquired through vocational, general, and academic education and training programs and other learning pathways, including primary, secondary, and higher education,
- y) Turkish Higher Education Qualifications Framework (TQF-HE): The National Qualifications Framework defined for higher education.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this Directive is to regulate the structure and activities of the ARUCAD Quality Commission, which has been established to ensure the development and sustainability of quality assurance systems at Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) covering education and training, research, community engagement activities, and administrative services within the scope of the *Regulation on Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the Higher Education Quality Council*, and to ensure the conduct of internal and external quality assurance and evaluation activities.

4. Scope

This Directive covers all faculties, departments, institutes, schools, vocational schools, and affiliated units of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design. The principles and procedures regarding quality assurance in education and training, research, community service, and administrative processes are determined by this Directive.

SECTION TWO

Principles of Quality Assurance

5. Quality Culture and Continuous Improvement

- (1) Quality awareness shall be disseminated across all units of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design.
- (2) Processes shall be operated through learning, monitoring, and improvement cycles (plan–do–check–act).
- (3) Internal and external evaluation processes shall be carried out in accordance with the principles of transparency, participation, and objectivity.
- (4) The opinions, feedback, and recommendations of students and other stakeholders shall be incorporated into quality processes.

6. Process Orientation and Measurement–Evaluation

- (1) Education and training, research, and community engagement processes shall be monitored through defined performance indicators.
- (2) The results shall be analyzed using quantitative and qualitative indicators.
- (3) Deviations shall be evaluated, and corrective and preventive actions shall be planned.

7. Transparency and Accountability

- (1) Quality reports prepared annually shall be made publicly accessible through the University's website, unit notice boards, and similar channels.
- (2) The performance of units and improvement actions shall be shared with stakeholders.

SECTION THREE

Composition, Duties, and Working Principles of the Quality Commission

8. Composition of the Quality Commission

- (1) The members of the Quality Commission shall be selected by the Senate, and the Commission shall be composed in accordance with the Regulation on Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the Higher Education Quality Council as follows:
 - a. The Rector (Chair),
 - b. Vice Rectors (Ex officio members),
 - c. The Secretary General,
 - d. The Administrative Coordinator,
 - e. The Student Representative,
 - f. External stakeholders or experts, when deemed necessary,
 - g. Members determined by the University Senate from among Faculties, Institutes, Schools, Conservatory, and Vocational Schools, provided that no more than one member is appointed from the same academic discipline.
- (2) The Chair of the Commission shall be the Rector of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design; in the absence of the Rector, a Vice Rector designated by the Rector shall preside over the Commission.
- (3) The term of office of Commission members shall be at least two years and members may be reappointed if necessary.
- (4) The student representative member of the Commission shall be determined by the ARUCAD Senate, and the term of office shall be one year.

- (5) In the event that a member resigns or leaves the Commission before the end of the term, the term of office of the newly appointed member shall be two years starting from the date of appointment. Membership in the Commission shall terminate in the following cases:
 - a. If a disease or disability preventing the continuous performance of duties is determined by a medical board report,
 - b. If the member resigns voluntarily from Commission membership,
 - c. If the member fails to attend three meetings within a calendar year without permission or valid excuse.
 - d. Except for members who fail to attend a total of three meetings within one year without a valid excuse, who are unable to perform their duties for more than six months due to illness, accident, or other reasons, or who voluntarily resign, membership shall not be terminated before the end of the term of office.
- (6) The appointed Commission members and the organizational structure shall be announced to the public through the official website of ARUCAD.

9. Duties of the Quality Commission

- (1) To determine and monitor quality objectives in alignment with ARUCAD's strategic plan,
- (2) To provide guidance and consultancy to units regarding quality assurance processes,
- (3) *To establish the institution's internal and external quality assurance systems* within the framework of the principles and procedures determined by the Higher Education Quality Council, for the purpose of evaluating, monitoring, and improving the quality of education and training, research, community engagement activities, and administrative services,
- (4) To identify institution-specific key performance indicators, conduct program evaluations, and submit related studies to the Senate and the Executive Board,
- (5) To plan and carry out internal evaluation activities and to prepare the annual Institutional Internal Evaluation Report containing the results of institutional evaluation and improvement activities, and submit it to the Senate and the Executive Board,
- (6) To make the approved annual Institutional Internal Evaluation Report publicly accessible in an easily reachable manner via the institution's official website,
- (7) To make the necessary preparations for evaluation processes and to inform internal and external stakeholders regarding these processes,
- (8) To provide support for activities carried out during evaluation processes,
- (9) To compile the Unit Internal Evaluation Reports (UIER) and performance indicators prepared by quality teams, and to prepare the annual Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (KIDR) containing the results of institutional evaluation and improvement activities, and submit it to the Rectorate or the Executive Board by the second week of March,
- (10) To ensure coordination among working groups,
- (11) To monitor faculty/unit quality processes, identify problems at an early stage, and develop solution proposals,
- (12) To organize stakeholder feedback mechanisms (such as surveys, focus groups, seminars, etc.) and analyze the results,
- (13) To prepare proposals for quality improvement activities (quality cycles, process improvement) and to monitor the implementation of necessary measures,
- (14) To monitor the implementation of the principles and strategies adopted by the Commission.

10. Working Procedures and Principles of the Quality Commission

- (1) The Chair of the Quality Commission shall be the Rector; in the absence of the Rector, a Vice Rector designated by the Rector shall preside over the Commission.
- (2) The Quality Commission shall convene at least once a month on dates determined by the Rector or the Vice Rector designated by the Rector. In addition, extraordinary meetings may be

convened upon the call of the Rector or upon the written request of the absolute majority of the Commission members.

- (3) The meeting date shall be determined by the Chair.
- (4) The Quality Commission shall convene with the absolute majority of its total membership and shall take decisions by the absolute majority of the members present at the meeting. In the event of a tie, the decision shall be made in accordance with the vote of the Chair.
- (5) In order to provide the Quality Commission with the necessary information and support, academic unit quality commissions may be established upon the proposal of the Rectorate and the approval of the Senate. The activities and reports prepared by unit quality commissions shall constitute inputs for the evaluation, quality improvement activities, and annual internal evaluation reports prepared by the Quality Commission.

11. Quality Coordinator and Duties

The Quality Coordinator shall be appointed by the Rector.

Duties:

- (1) To ensure the implementation of the decisions taken by the Quality Commission,
- (2) To coordinate internal and external evaluation processes,
- (3) To carry out preparations for the Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (KIDR),
- (4) To collect regular feedback from stakeholders (students, graduates, the business sector, and society),
- (5) To collect and analyze data related to education, research, and community engagement indicators,
- (6) To provide guidance to units regarding accreditation applications,
- (7) To carry out the secretariat duties of working groups and to prepare meeting minutes and reports,
- (8) To organize awareness seminars, training sessions, and workshops related to quality processes,
- (9) To keep the quality database and the quality webpage up to date.

Working Principles:

- (1) The Quality Coordinator shall hold regular meetings with the Commission and working groups,
- (2) All reports shall be prepared in a standardized format,
- (3) The Quality Coordinator shall report directly to the Rector and the Quality Commission.

12. Sub-Commissions of the Quality Commission

The sub-commissions of the ARUCAD Quality Commission shall be as follows:

- a) Leadership, Governance, and Quality Working Group
- b) Education and Training Working Group
- c) Research and Development Working Group
- d) Community Engagement Working Group
- e) Student Working Group

- (1) The members of the sub-commissions shall consist of academic and administrative staff appointed with the approval of the Rector, in line with the recommendations of the relevant units, to represent each Faculty, School, and Vocational School.
- (2) A Commission member may serve on more than one working group. Sub-commissions may receive support from experts in their respective fields when deemed necessary. Members whose terms of office expire may be reappointed. In the event that membership becomes vacant before the end of the term, a new appointment shall be made through the same procedure to complete the remaining term.

- (3) Sub-commissions shall carry out their activities and prepare their reports in accordance with the relevant Regulation and the provisions of this Directive.
- (4) The duties and process calendar of the sub-commissions shall be determined by the Quality Commission at the beginning of each academic year. Sub-commissions shall be responsible for carrying out the activities falling within their areas of responsibility in internal and external evaluation and quality improvement processes, in accordance with the defined duties and the established process calendar.
- (5) In order to ensure standardization at the University level in their activities and reporting, sub-commissions may develop standard documents, forms, charts, tables, and records.
- (6) Sub-commissions shall submit the results of their activities related to the duties specified in this Directive to the Quality Commission in the form of reports within the designated timeframes.

13. Duties and Responsibilities of the Sub-Commissions of the Quality Commission

- (1) Duties and Responsibilities of the Leadership, Governance, and Quality Working Group**
 - (a) To regularly monitor and evaluate the University's strategic, governance, and leadership processes,
 - (b) To establish, implement, maintain, and ensure the continuous improvement of the institution's quality management system,
 - (c) To monitor the performance of the quality management system, identify needs for improvement, and report outcomes,
 - (d) To contribute to the University's strategic planning processes and to embed a quality perspective in the preparation and implementation of the strategic plan,
 - (e) To conduct communication and coordinate processes with external organizations related to the quality management system (such as accreditation bodies, the Higher Education Quality Council, quality associations, etc.),
 - (f) To enhance the institution's quality framework by monitoring national and international quality standards,
 - (g) To ensure that quality representatives, process owners, and staff receive training on quality management systems, and to organize the necessary seminars and informational activities,
 - (h) To carry out studies related to the University's risk assessment and internal control systems; to review the organizational structure of management and administrative units and to make recommendations for updating and improvement,
 - (i) To conduct evaluation and development activities related to human resources management and the competence, development, and sustainability of academic and administrative staff,
 - (j) To carry out activities to ensure the effective, economical, and efficient use of financial resources and movable and immovable assets in education, training, research, and administrative services,
 - (k) To evaluate the design, operation, and effectiveness of information management systems and to prepare proposals for their improvement,
 - (l) To define the institution's quality assurance system within the scope of managerial effectiveness and accountability, to measure its efficiency, and to carry out improvement activities,
 - (m) To plan information and communication processes for internal and external stakeholders and to strengthen transparent communication,
 - (n) To take the necessary measures and support processes for the conduct of internal and external audits,

- (o) To carry out the necessary activities in accordance with the provisions of this Directive and the decisions of the Quality Commission, and to provide support to the Commission.

(2) Duties and Responsibilities of the Education and Training Working Group

- (a) To monitor and evaluate education, teaching, and research activities carried out within the University's academic units,
- (b) To take part in internal and external evaluation activities related to education and training in line with the guidance of the Quality Commission,
- (c) To carry out measurement and evaluation processes using data obtained from surveys aligned with program objectives and learning outcomes,
- (d) To develop and implement student-centered learning, teaching, and assessment methods,
- (e) To carry out improvements to ensure that students receive more effective education and training services from enrollment through graduation,
- (f) To review the qualifications and numerical adequacy of academic staff in order to achieve education and training objectives, and to carry out activities aimed at their development,
- (g) To examine the adequacy and suitability of learning environments such as classrooms, laboratories, libraries, workshops, and exhibition spaces, and to propose necessary improvements,
- (h) To conduct annual program reviews by incorporating the contributions of internal stakeholders (students and staff) and external stakeholders (graduates, employers, and professional organizations), and to prepare plans for program updates,
- (i) To determine measurable education and training objectives and performance indicators of academic units, and to review them regularly,
- (j) To conduct regular surveys to measure educational processes, program effectiveness, student participation, and satisfaction,
- (k) To develop and implement solutions for improvement areas identified in internal and external evaluation reports.

(3) Duties and Responsibilities of the Research and Development Working Group

- (a) To determine, develop, and monitor the University's research strategies, objectives, and methods for achieving these objectives,
- (b) To evaluate research infrastructure and develop mechanisms that encourage the establishment of infrastructures enabling, in particular, interdisciplinary studies,
- (c) To examine statistics related to TÜBİTAK, BAP, European Union projects, publications, patents, and other scientific outputs; and to analyze the results of national and international ranking organizations in order to make recommendations aimed at enhancing research performance,
- (d) To carry out activities that support the competence, development, and sustainability of the University's research staff,
- (e) To regularly measure and evaluate research and development activities in a data-driven manner and to publish the results obtained,
- (f) To carry out improvement activities addressing development needs identified in the field of research and development in internal and external evaluation reports.

(4) Duties and Responsibilities of the Community Engagement Working Group

- (a) To determine strategies and objectives within the framework of the University's mission of community engagement,

- (b) To contribute to the development of community engagement policies aligned with the strategic plan,
- (c) To develop joint projects with municipalities, public institutions, non-governmental organizations, professional organizations, and the private sector,
- (d) To carry out social responsibility and cultural cooperation activities with international organizations,
- (e) To organize public exhibitions, workshops, conferences, and social events in line with ARUCAD's culture-, art-, and design-oriented institutional identity,
- (f) To develop and implement social responsibility projects aimed at disadvantaged groups,
- (g) To measure the outputs and societal impact of each activity and project,
- (h) To monitor and report community engagement performance using quantitative and qualitative indicators,
- (i) To encourage the participation of internal stakeholders (students and academic/administrative staff) in community engagement activities,
- (j) To ensure the active involvement of graduates in community engagement projects,
- (k) To integrate community engagement activities with courses, workshops, and projects,
- (l) To create learning environments that enhance students' awareness of social responsibility,
- (m) To develop projects addressing the cultural, social, and environmental challenges of the local community,
- (n) To plan artistic and cultural activities that strengthen bi-communal cooperation and a culture of peace,
- (o) To promote the University's community engagement activities to the public,
- (p) To ensure transparent information sharing through the website, social media, and the press,
- (q) To analyze areas for improvement related to community engagement identified in internal and external evaluation reports,
- (r) To prepare improvement proposals for these areas and coordinate their implementation.

(5) Duties and Responsibilities of the Student Working Group

- (a) To ensure the active participation of students in quality assurance processes,
- (b) To coordinate the regular communication of opinions and recommendations of student quality representatives selected from each faculty and unit through periodic meetings,
- (c) To collect students' suggestions and feedback regarding educational processes,
- (d) To systematically collect students' views on course syllabi, assessment and evaluation methods, academic advising processes, and learning environments,
- (e) To contribute to continuous improvement efforts by sharing these views with unit quality teams,
- (f) To encourage student participation in social responsibility, culture and arts, environmental, sustainability, and community engagement projects,
- (g) To monitor the implementation of improvement proposals developed in line with feedback received from students.

SECTION FOUR

Determination, Duties, and Responsibilities of Unit Quality Teams (Representatives)

14. Academic Unit Quality Teams (AUQT)

- (1) All academic units of the University (Faculties, Schools, and Institutes) shall establish an **Academic Unit Quality Team (AUQT)** in order to carry out quality assurance activities within their respective units.
- (2) The AUQT shall operate under the responsibility of the unit administrator (Dean or Director).
- (3) The AUQT shall consist of the following members:
 - a. The Head of the Unit Quality Team (Vice Dean or Vice Director),
 - b. The relevant Unit Secretary,
 - c. Heads of the Department/Program/Major Art Branch Quality Sub-Working Groups,
 - d. The Unit Student Quality Representative,
 - e. Up to three members selected from among academic staff when necessary.
- (4) Team members shall be appointed upon the proposal of the relevant unit administrator and with the approval of the Rectorate.
- (5) In order to carry out the activities of the AUQT at the department, program, or major art branch level, **Quality Sub-Working Groups** shall be established within each academic unit.
- (6) These sub-working groups shall include one responsible faculty member (or instructor) and at least two members selected from among the academic staff.
- (7) Sub-working groups shall monitor and evaluate practices aimed at achieving the unit's quality objectives in the areas of education and training, research, community engagement, and student experience, and shall submit reports to the AUQT.
- (8) Each sub-working group shall report regularly to the Head of the Unit Quality Team and contribute to the internal evaluation report.

15. Administrative Unit Quality Teams (ADUQT)

- (1) All administrative units of the University shall establish an Administrative Unit Quality Team (ADUQT) in order to carry out quality assurance activities related to their respective fields of operation.
- (2) The ADUQT shall operate under the responsibility of the relevant administrative unit administrator (Head of Department or Director).
- (3) The ADUQT shall consist of the following members:
 - a. An assistant administrator or branch manager,
 - b. At least two members selected from among the personnel working in the relevant unit.
- (4) The ADUQT shall monitor the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality indicators of administrative services and submit reports to the Quality Coordination Office.

16. Appointment and Term of Office

- (1) Academic and administrative unit quality teams and sub-working groups shall be appointed by the relevant unit administrators and reported to the Quality Commission.
- (2) The term of office of team members shall be three years. The same individual may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms.
- (3) In cases where there is an insufficient number of staff within the unit, the term of office may be extended with the approval of the relevant administrator.

17. Meeting and Working Principles

- (1) Academic and administrative unit quality teams shall convene at least **four (4)** times per year.

- (2) Extraordinary meetings may be convened upon the call of the team chair or upon the written request of one-third of the team members.
- (3) Decisions taken at meetings shall be recorded in written minutes and submitted to the Quality Commission through the Quality Coordination Office within no later than two weeks.
- (4) Each academic unit quality team chair shall attend the relevant unit board at least once a year and provide information on the quality activities carried out.

SECTION FIVE

University Internal and External Quality Assurance System

18. Establishment of Quality Assurance Systems

Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) is responsible for establishing, operating, and continuously improving the internal and external quality assurance systems implemented within the University.

Within this framework, the following responsibilities fall under ARUCAD's authority:

- a. Establishing mechanisms to ensure the quality of education and training, research and development, and administrative processes across the institution,
- b. Conducting internal and external evaluation activities at both institutional and program levels,
- c. Planning, monitoring, and reporting quality processes in accordance with the principles and procedures determined by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK),
- d. Disseminating a culture of quality across all units,
- e. Continuously monitoring and improving the system through the Quality Commission and the Quality Coordination Office.

19. University Internal Evaluation Process and Timeline

- (1) The ARUCAD Quality Commission shall conduct the internal evaluation process in an integrated manner with the University's strategic plan, annual performance program, and activity report. This process shall cover education and training, research, and community engagement activities, as well as all administrative services supporting these activities. Within this scope:
 - a. Data shall be collected in all academic and administrative units in the format determined by the Quality Coordination Office,
 - b. Academic and Administrative Unit Quality Teams (AUQT and ADUQT) shall evaluate the data received from their units and sub-units, perform consistency checks, and prepare **unit internal evaluation reports**,
 - c. Unit reports shall be submitted to the Quality Coordination Office **by the end of January** each year; where deemed necessary, data shall be updated or reports shall be revised,
 - d. Reports reviewed and consolidated by the Quality Coordination Office shall be evaluated by the Quality Commission for the preparation of the **ARUCAD Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (KİDR)** and submitted to **the Senate**.
- (2) The University Quality Commission shall upload **the Institutional Internal Evaluation Report** covering internal evaluation activities to the web-based system established by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK) each year between **January and March**.
- (3) Institutional Internal Evaluation Reports shall be published on the official websites of ARUCAD and the Higher Education Quality Council and made accessible to the public.

20. Scope of Institutional Internal Evaluation Reports

- (1) Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) shall prepare internal evaluation reports on an annual basis, and these reports shall include the outcomes of improvements, updates, and implementations related to the internal quality assurance system.
- (2) The Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (KİDR) shall provide a detailed explanation of the following, supported by evidence:
 - a. How quality assurance processes within the institution are defined and implemented,
 - b. How the intended qualifications and learning outcomes of academic programs are assured,
 - c. How performance indicators are monitored,
 - d. How continuous improvement cycles (Plan–Do–Check–Act) are completed.
- (3) The KİDR prepared by ARUCAD shall cover education and training, research and development, community engagement activities, and administrative services, and shall include the following elements:
 - a. The quality policy of the University, along with the methods and processes followed, aligned with the University's mission, vision, and strategic objectives and with national strategies and goals for higher education,
 - b. The managerial and organizational processes implemented by the University to achieve its mission and objectives,
 - c. The internal quality assurance system through which academic and administrative units define, monitor, and regularly review measurable objectives using key performance indicators,
 - d. Improvement activities carried out in response to areas identified as open to enhancement in previous internal and external evaluations.

21. Institutional External Evaluation Program

- (1) Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) shall be subject to evaluation within the scope of the Institutional External Evaluation Program conducted periodically by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK), at least once every five years.
- (2) The external evaluation schedule of the University shall be prepared, announced, and shared with the relevant units by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK).
- (3) The institutional external evaluation process shall consist of the following stages:
 - a. A preliminary review conducted based on the University's Institutional Internal Evaluation Report (KİDR),
 - b. On-site visits and interviews,
 - c. The preparation of the Institutional Feedback Report (KGBR). This process shall encompass a holistic evaluation of the institution's quality assurance system and its education and training, research, and community engagement activities.
- (4) External evaluators shall be selected and appointed by the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK) from among academic and administrative staff serving in higher education institutions, students, and representatives of the sector. External evaluators involved in the evaluation process shall be considered on official leave from their home institutions.
- (5) **The Institutional Feedback Report (KGBR)** prepared by the external evaluators shall be officially submitted to the University. In line with the findings and recommendations included in this report, ARUCAD shall prepare **monitoring and improvement plans**; the implementation of these plans shall be monitored by the Quality Commission and the Quality Coordination Office.

SECTION SIX
Program Accreditation,
Authorization and Recognition of Accreditation Bodies

22. Program Accreditation

- (1) External evaluation services for program accreditation at the University shall be carried out by independent external evaluation and accreditation bodies that are authorized by the Higher Education Quality Council or recognized by the Council in the field of program accreditation.
- (2) The principles regarding the evaluation of reports prepared by independent quality assurance institutions and organizations other than the Higher Education Quality Council, applications for the Quality Evaluation Registration Certificate, and regular evaluation processes and activities shall be determined by the Higher Education Quality Council.

SECTION SEVEN
Other Provisions

23. Matters Not Regulated

In cases where no provision exists in this Directive, the relevant provisions of other applicable legislation of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design, as well as the decisions of the Board of Trustees, the Senate, or the relevant Executive Board, shall apply.

24. Entry into Force

This Directive shall enter into force as of the date of its adoption by the Senate of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design.

25. Authority for Implementation

The provisions of this Directive shall be enforced by the Rector of Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design.