

C144090 : MAJOR HIGHER EDUCATION

KEY WORD : QUALITY ASSURANCE/HIGHER EDUCATION/MINISTRY OF UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

MR.VANCHAI SIRICHANA : THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY ASSURANCE MODEL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE MINISTRY OF UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS. THESIS ADVISORS : ASSOC. PROF.DR. PRACOB COOPARAT, ASSOC. PROF. DR.TONG-IN WONGSOTHORN. 556 PAGES. ISBN 974-583-800-4

The objective of this thesis was to study the fundamental concept, the structure, the methods and the criteria of quality assurance systems for higher education institutions in various countries in order to develop a model of quality assurance for higher education institutions under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of University Affairs (MUA). The researcher employed an extensive documentary research and qualitative data analysis techniques to classify, compare and analyze information about quality assurance systems in the United States, England, Japan, Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany and Thailand as to establish a preliminary model of quality assurance for Thai higher education. The researcher further employed experts judgment and criticism to arrive at the final model.

The study found a strong emphasis on institutional autonomy and public accountability in the development and implementation of quality assurance system for higher education institutions whereas the form and function of these systems varied according to the historical development and the culture within each higher education system. The proposed model of quality assurance for higher education institutions under the jurisdiction of MUA placed an emphasis on accreditation activities with two distinctive measures, namely: 1) the voluntary academic auditing of existing programs or institutions focusing on the effectiveness of internal quality control mechanisms and 2) the mandatory accreditation of new programs or institutions based on criteria and review mechanisms coordinated by external body.