2008 WCO PICARD Conference

WCO Recognition of University Customs Curricula

Shanghai, China
14-16 May 2008
Overview

• Background - Professional Standards
• Eligibility Criteria
• Form of Recognition
• Application Process
• WCO Approval Process
PICARD has developed a set of Professional Standards to maintain and raise the professional standing of Customs.
The Standards establish benchmarks:

- which can be developed into job profiles for the purposes of customs recruitment
- against which the in-house training of member administrations may be measured
- against which academic development can be designed or procured
Guidelines have been developed to establish a process by which universities may apply for and attain WCO recognition of:

– relevant academic programmes at Bachelors and Masters level, and
– those who graduate from the programmes
Eligibility Criteria

• Universities must be able to demonstrate that their curriculum substantially addresses the Standards at the Bachelors level or higher

• The WCO will not formally recognise a curriculum that meets only individual elements of the Standards
Form of Recognition

Where a university’s curriculum is considered to meet the eligibility criteria, the WCO will:

– Endorse the university’s Customs-specific programmes, and
– Endorse subjects aligned to such programmes
Form of Recognition

Programme Endorsement:

“This academic programme has been endorsed by the World Customs Organization as meeting the requirements of its international standards for the Customs profession”
Form of Recognition

Subject Endorsement:

“This subject forms a component of an academic programme that has been endorsed by the World Customs Organization as meeting the requirements of its international standards for the Customs profession”
Form of Recognition

• The university may use the WCO logo in conjunction with such endorsement on relevant programme materials

• The relevant wording, together with the WCO logo may be included on relevant certificates and testamurs
Application Process

Application format:
A. Overview
B. Relationship of Curriculum to WCO Standards
C. Knowledge and Skill Transfer
D. Annexes
A. Overview

- Provide a broad overview of the Customs-specific academic programme(s) for which recognition is being sought, including the relevant academic award and the educational jurisdiction under which the award is granted
B. Relationship of Curriculum to Standards

- Address the correlation between the WCO Standards and the university programme(s) for which recognition is being sought.
- If the curriculum does not cover all elements of the Standards, this should be identified.
C. Knowledge and Skill Transfer

• Outline the university’s philosophy, educational practice and methods of determining knowledge and skill transfer to the student’s workplace
**Application Process**

D. Annexes

1. Identify University Programmes and Subjects
2. Correlation between WCO Knowledge Requirements and University Subjects
3. Correlation between University Subjects and WCO Standards
### Annex 1: Key to University Programmes and Subjects

| Qualification: | Master of International Customs Law  
|               | Graduate Diploma in Customs Management  
|               | Bachelor of Customs Studies  
|               | …etc. |
| Subject No.   | Subject Name                                      |
| 00012         | Customs Management 1                                      |
| 00013         | Customs Management 2                                      |
| 00014         | Customs Reform and Modernization                                      |
| 00015         | Economics for Public Sector Managers                                      |
| 00016         | GATT/WTO Law                                      |
|               | …etc. |
## Annex 2: Correlation between WCO Knowledge Requirements and University Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Knowledge Requirements</th>
<th>Relevant Subject Nos.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. National and international policy/politics | The individual will demonstrate a critical understanding of the governments overall economic policies and social direction, its international and regional obligations and priorities.  
The identification of the key players at governmental and international level with influence on Customs policy and resources | 00034  
00035  
00036 |
### Annex 3: Correlation between University Subjects and WCO Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Outline</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>WCO Attributes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Customs Management 1 (00012) | This unit introduces students to the policy and principles of customs administration and to international trends with an impact on customs. ....... | At the completion of the unit students will be able to:  
  - Identify the policy objectives of customs administrations  
  - Identify international influences that shape the customs policy agenda  
  - etc | **Strategic Managers/Leaders**  
  National and international policy/politics  
  Customs role in government and interaction with other government departments  
  ...... |
WCO Approval Process

Application lodged with WCO

Referred to INCU for recommendation

Returned to WCO for decision
WCO Approval Process

INCU may recommend that WCO:

• Seeks additional information
• Refuses the application
• Approves the application in part
• Approves the application in full
WCO Approval Process

An on-site audit may be required:

• INCU and WCO will jointly undertake the audit

• Applicant will be notified of the area of focus prior to audit commencement
Questions?

www.incu.org

www.worldcustomsjournal.org