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The Peer Review at the Angewandte

Overview of the procedure

What is a Peer Review?

Peer Review is employed at the Angewandte as a future-oriented evaluation procedure which supports artistic or scientific organisational units (departments, institutes) or study programmes in their processes of organisational development and quality enhancement. The specific organisational unit or study programme is viewed and reflected upon in a broader way and in its longer-term development. By enabling an upstream process of self-reflection and by avoiding the use of predefined, standardised quality criteria, emphasis is on the creation of a good basis for further development in respect to the specifics of the organisational unit or study programme.

Generally, a peer review can be carried out in any area and at any time. For new study programmes it is obligatory to go through a peer review process after the first five years.

Who is involved in a Peer Review at the Angewandte?

The organisational unit or study programme engages in a structured process of self-reflection that ultimately leads into a dialogue with professionally able peers. Peers are competent persons of national or international provenience who are, due to their knowledge and experience, particularly suitable for contributing an external consultative view. The peers carry out their task in a formal cooperation with a recognised external quality assurance agency, with whom the Angewandte cooperates in order to ensure a high quality of the procedure in line with international standards. The unit for quality enhancement (UQE) forms the interface between the members of the Angewandte involved and the external quality assurance agency, and supports the organisational unit or study programme throughout the entire process.

How is a Peer Review performed at the Angewandte?

The Peer Review begins with the self-reflection of the organisational unit or study programme. Here the organisational unit or study programme also determines what the central questions for the self-reflection process should be. The results are laid down in a structured self-evaluation report which the external peers receive. This is followed by a site-visit by the peers during which they engage in in-depth discussions with the responsible persons and other representatives of the organisational unit or study programme. Subsequently, the peers produce a draft peer-report on which the organisational unit can give its comment, if desired, which will then be taken into account by the final peer-report. Within the timeframe of one year after the reception of the final peer-report, the persons responsible for the organisational unit or study programme meet with the rectorate in order to discuss the findings and conclusions reached through the Peer Review. The evaluated organisational unit or study programme have the final peer report at their disposal so as to use it according to their own intentions.

Details on the individual steps and the process of a peer review are available from UQE.