

Collaborating for excellence

National and international partnerships for
enhancing academic integrity

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on behalf of QQI

TEQSA



Introductions

TEQSA's purpose is to deliver quality assurance that **protects the interests of students** and the **reputation and standing** of Australian higher education by

- Monitoring compliance with the Higher Education Standards Framework
- Identifying and assessing risks to the sector

TEQSA



Quality and Qualifications Ireland

- Irish national quality assurance agency & qualifications authority, active across HE and FET
- Awarding & certification body
- Custodian of the National Framework of Qualifications
- National **regulator for academic integrity**, empowered by legislative amendment (2019) to prosecute offences relating to academic cheating

What we hope you'll take away



A multi-layered approach

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/calliope/3147660064/sizes//>



Collaboration

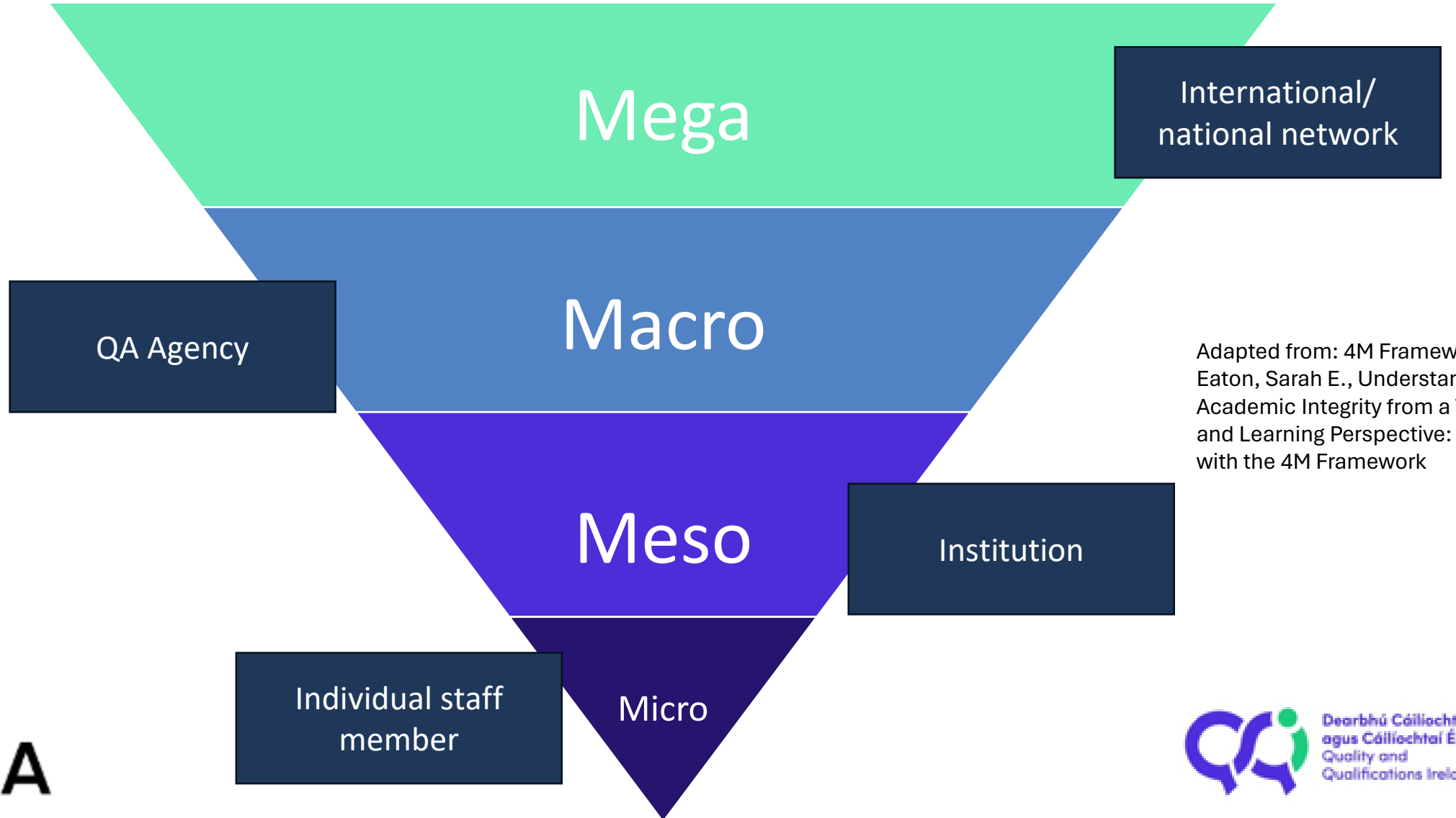
Business team connecting different jigsaw puzzle pieces. Group of young office workers joining colorful parts on wooden table. Cropped shot of human hands holding pieces. Teamwork concept background Stock Photo | Adobe Stock



The bigger picture

"Political map of the world, April 2001" by Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the BPL is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Situating yourself in the ecosystem

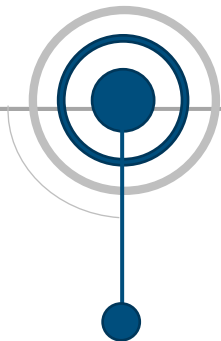


Adapted from: 4M Framework from Eaton, Sarah E., Understanding Academic Integrity from a Teaching and Learning Perspective: Engaging with the 4M Framework

Academic integrity - a brief history

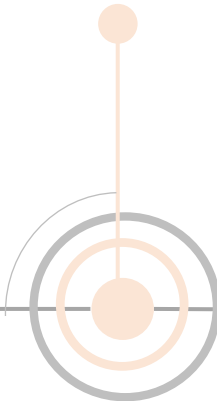
2014

Contract cheating website based in Sydney, Australia



- TEQSA wrote to all higher education providers alerting them to the risk to academic integrity seeking responses to management of website issues

- Some providers undertook more extensive investigations

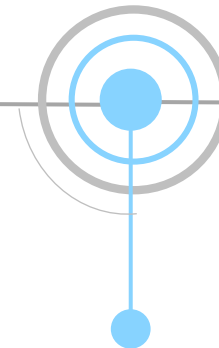


2015

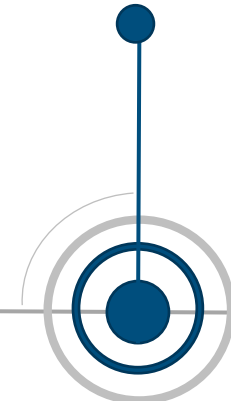
TEQSA reports on initial responses

2015

TEQSA reviewed provider submissions in light of the 2015 Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF)



Committed to the development of further support resources.
Released a revised guidance note on academic integrity



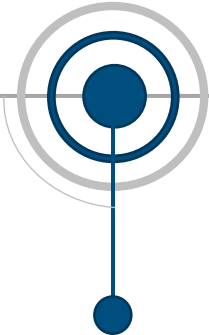
2016

Standards relating to academic integrity within the core set of standards for assessment

Academic integrity - a brief history

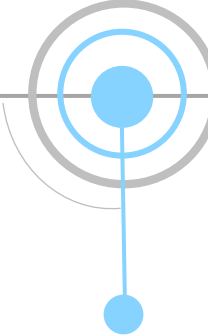
2017

TEQSA published the *Good Practice Note: Addressing contract cheating to safeguard academic integrity* published

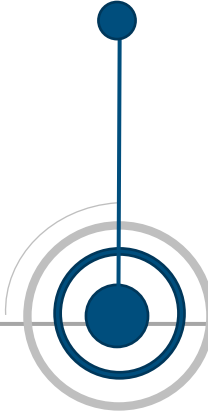


2019

INQAAHE grant for quality assurance agencies toolkit (released in July 2020)

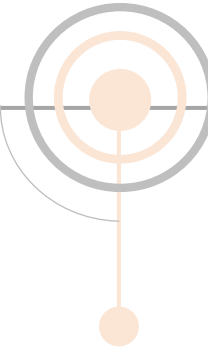


- Academic integrity toolkit officially launched October 2020



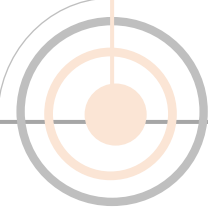
2020

Legislation was introduced in September this year making the provision of contract cheating services illegal in Australia



2018

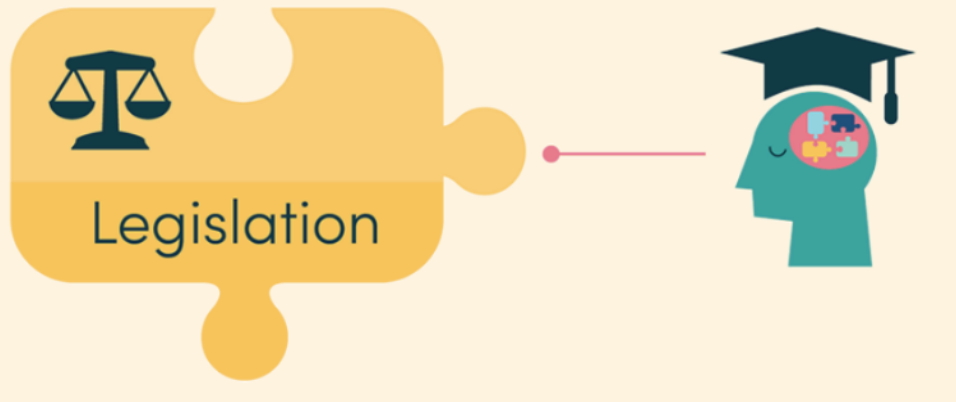
TEQSA obtained Australian Government funding to take on a national role tackling contract cheating and academic integrity



2019

Academic integrity workshops for providers
Australia (19)
New Zealand (2)
Webinars (2)

Establishment of Integrity Unit



- ❖ Australian legislation passed in **August 2020** makes it an **offence** to **provide or advertise** academic cheating services in higher education
- ❖ The legislation is aimed at those **who provide cheating services**, not at students
- ❖ The offences and penalties the legislation creates apply whether the services are provided **from within Australia or from overseas**
 - Up to **two years in jail** or **AU \$110,00 fine**
 - Applications for **injunctions** to block website access

Legislation

Monitoring & reporting with Irish platforms

Qualitative reporting for HE (AQR, QDMs)

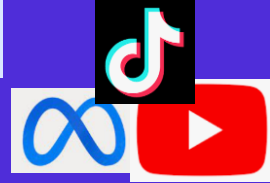
Academic integrity alert commences

Monitoring & reporting - social media platforms

Council of Europe recommendation

GAIN established, 2nd QQI/DAB senior leaders meeting

Draft academic integrity policy; 3rd DAB senior leader meeting



2019

2020

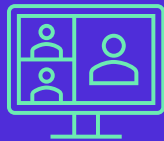
2021

2022

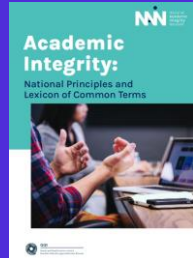
2023



NAIN established



NAIN/QQI webinars & PD commence



Academic Integrity Principles, Lexicon & Guidelines



1st NAIN masterclasses, 1st QQI/DAB senior leaders meeting



Rethinking Assessment project (incl. 8 grant-funded projects)



JOC on Education discusses academic integrity



National funding & projects – NTUTORR, International Academic & Research Integrity Conference. AI Officers



Framework on Academic Misconduct Case Management, AI Guidelines

The Irish Legislation

Section 43A designates QQI as **prosecutor** of parties that:

- **facilitate cheating** by learners
(impersonation/providing exam answers/providing assignments)
- **advertise** cheating services.
- **publish** ads for cheating services

Penalties: Up to €10,000 (14,740 CAD) fine/ 5 years' imprisonment

NB: Applies to specific types of academic misconduct; all types fall under institutions' routine QA policies and procedures



QQI's Policy Approach

White Paper on Academic Integrity (published for consultation: February 2024)

- Early consultation with NAIN steering committee & statutory awarding bodies (= universities/institutes of technology) + pre-consultation discussions with other key stakeholders
- Public consultation open until 29 April 2024

Underpinning pillars:

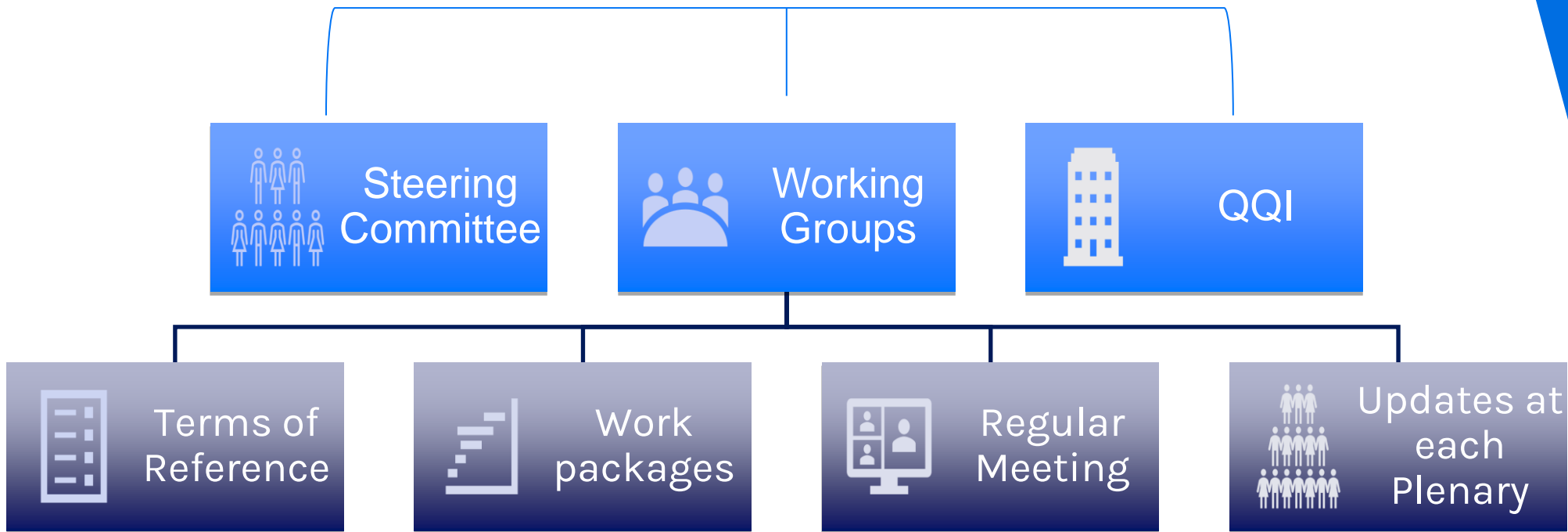
- **Joint responsibility** for safeguarding standards of awards in NFQ: QQI + statutory awarding bodies
- **Responsibility of education providers** for policies and procedures that support academic integrity and for secure and valid assessment.
- **Partnership** between awarding bodies, providers, their staff and learners, and other stakeholders in the system to implement the policy.
- Incorporation of academic integrity considerations within **QQI's policies**
- **Enhancement activity** supports QQI's regulatory activity



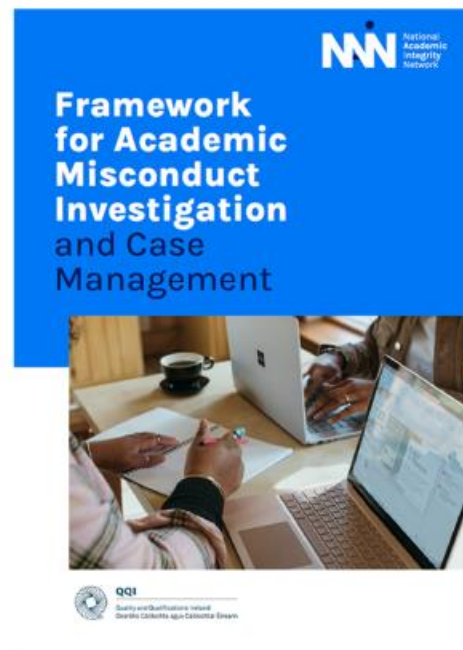
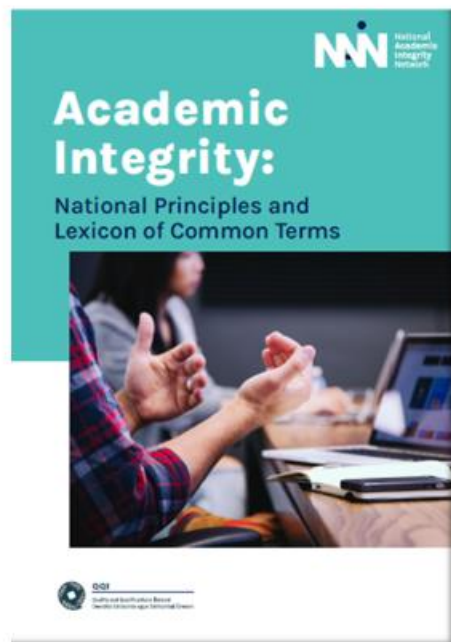
The National Academic Integrity Network

- **Creates** a community(ies) of practice and **enables** innovative thinking;
- **Stimulates** and **challenges** thinking by drawing on national and international expertise and experience;
- **Enables** capacity building by **managing, facilitating,** and **coordinating** professional development activities.

NAIN - Operationalisation



Published Guidance



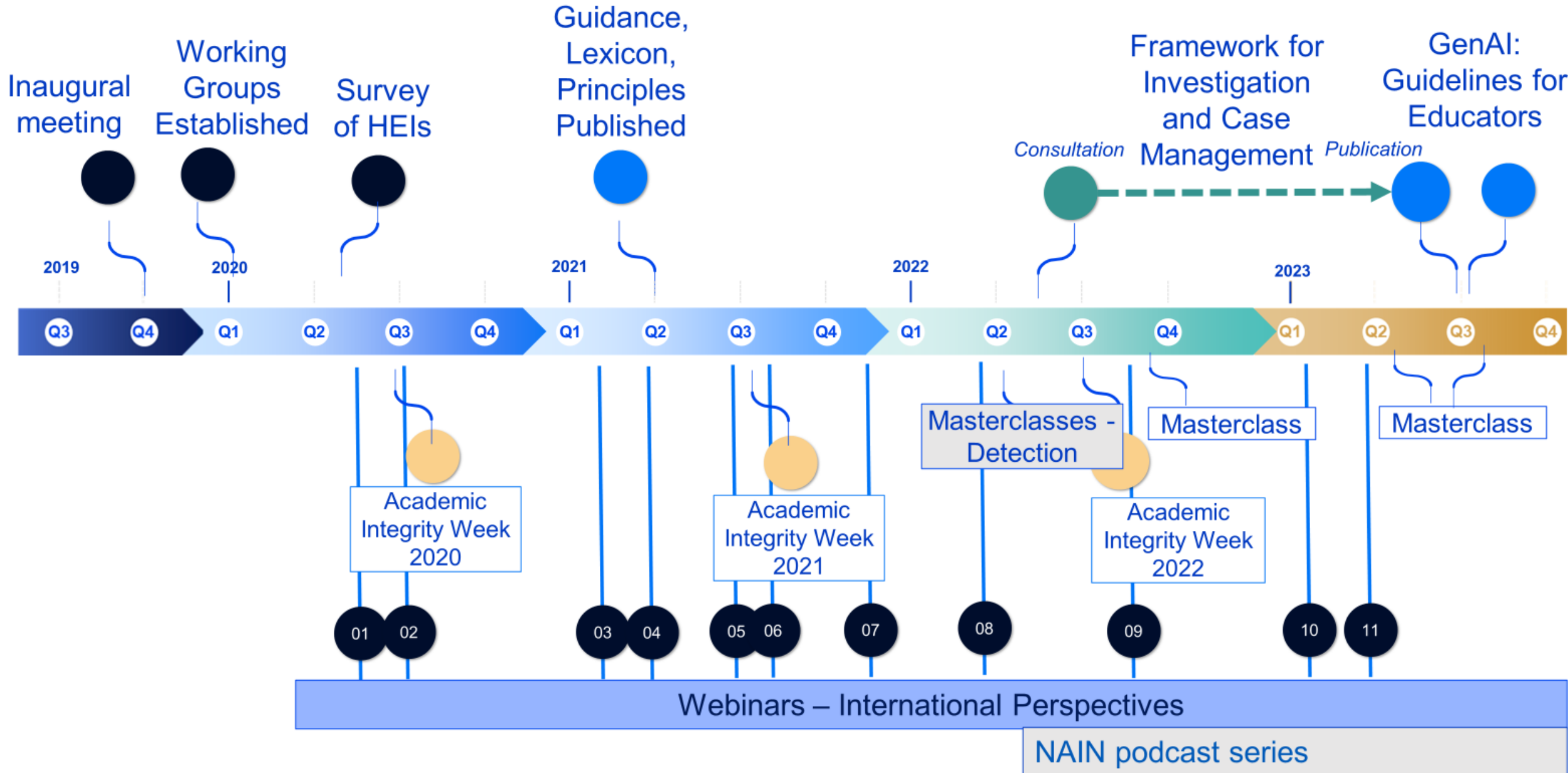
<https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2021-11/academic-integrity-guidelines.pdf>

<https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2021-11/academic-integrity-national-principles-and-lexicon-of-common-terms.pdf>

<https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2023-09/NAIN Framework for Academic Misconduct Investigation and Case Management 2023.pdf>

<https://www.qqi.ie/sites/default/files/2023-09/NAIN Generative AI Guidelines for Educators 2023.pdf>

NAIN: Activity Summary





AUSTRALASIAN ACADEMIC INTEGRITY NETWORK

- Over 800 professional and academic staff
- From over 120 institutions from across Australia and New Zealand
- Self-sown and self-grown
- Volunteer run and receives no government funding
- Focus on sharing good practice and resources



AUSTRALASIAN
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
NETWORK

TEQSA
teqsa.gov.au

- No direct relationship
- Mutual support
- AAIN provides insight on emerging issues, trends, needs
- Ready pool of expertise for TEQSA to draw upon to meet this need

TEQSA Masterclass

Detering and detecting contract cheating

Introducing the course

This course has a total of six self-paced online modules.

Select each module for a brief description.

The nature of the problem: supply and demand

Policies and procedures

Procedural fairness

Roles and responsibilities

Data sources

Interviewing students



Academic integrity in the creative arts

June 2022



Assessment reform for the age of artificial intelligence

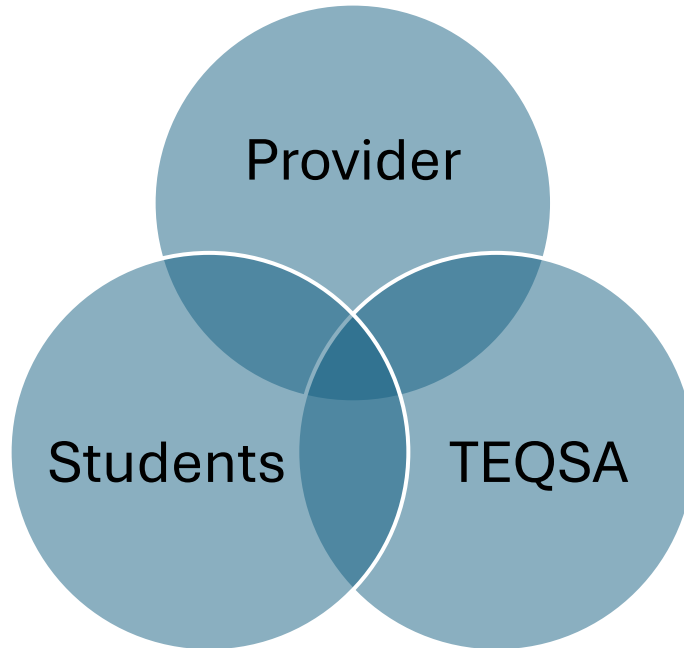
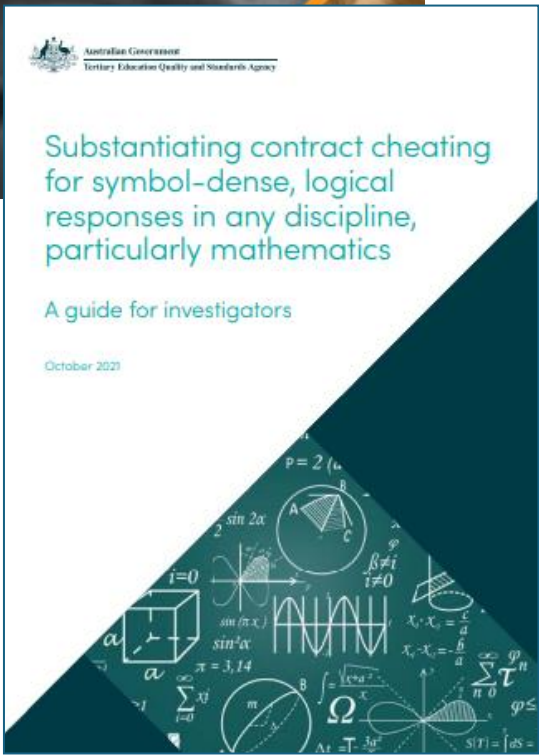
November 2023



Substantiating contract cheating for symbol-dense, logical responses in any discipline, particularly mathematics

A guide for investigators

October 2021



Media Release | 5 August 2022

Cheating websites blocked

The Hon Jason Clare MP

Minister for Education

Access has been blocked to 40 of the most visited academic cheating websites.

The higher education regulator – TEQSA - has for the first time used new special protocols to prevent access to the websites.



Global Academic Integrity Network



Partnership approach – QQI & TEQSA

**Similar
legislation,
remits and
functions**

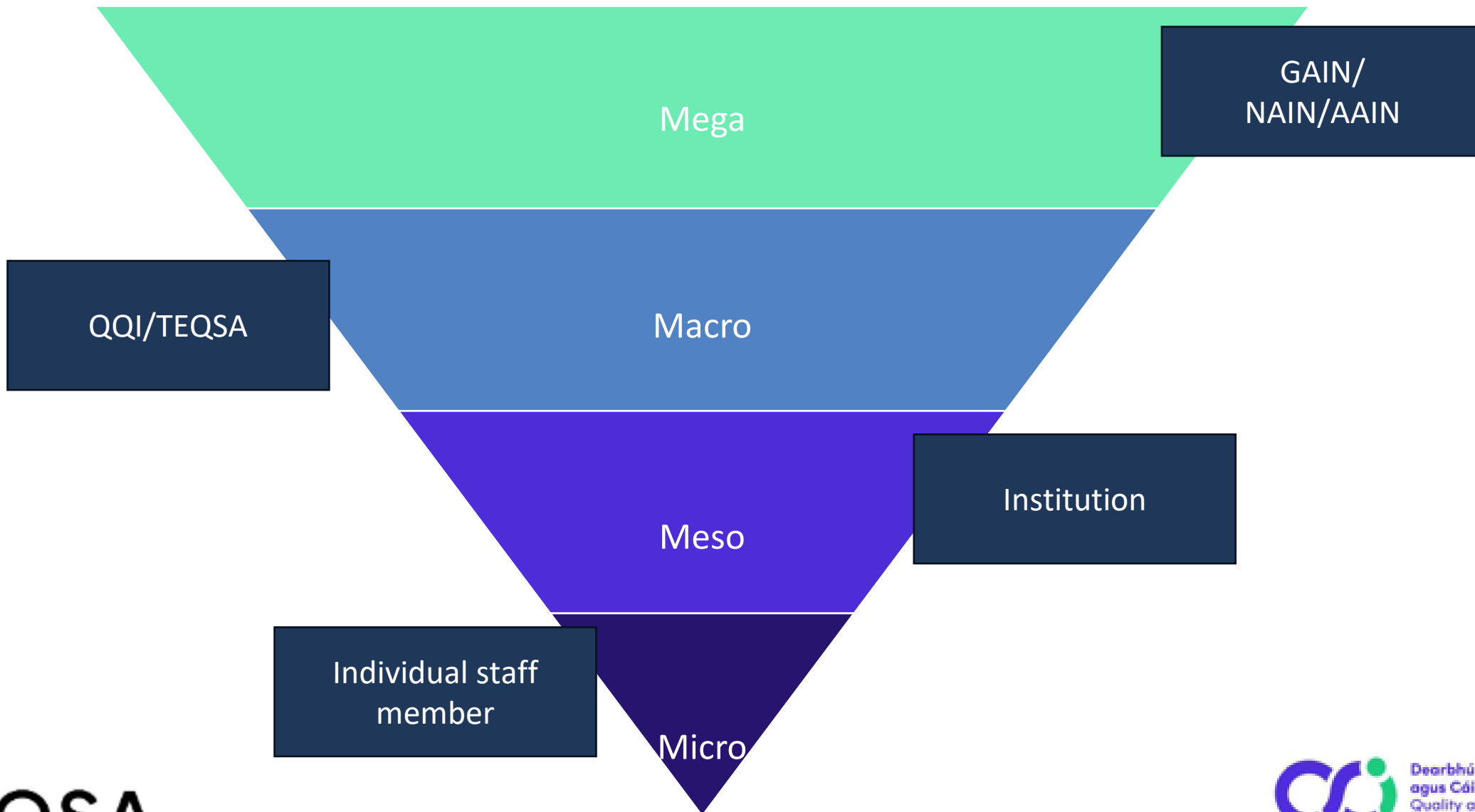
**Existing
co-operation and
engagement**

**Global nature of
academic
misconduct and
fraud**

Membership

Organisations with an established legal basis, formally recognised by competent public authority – responsibility for external QA and/or regulation and/or accreditation and/or qualifications/qualifications recognition (HE/FET)

- AQUA (Andorra)
- CONEAU (Argentina)
- ASQA (Australia)
- TEQSA (Australia)
- NEAA (Bulgaria)
- MPHEC (Canada)
- PEQAB (Canada)
- CYQAA (Cyprus)
- HCÉRES (France)
- NCEQE (Georgia)
- MAB (Hungary)
- QQI (Ireland)
- ANVUR (Italy)
- CIMEA (Italy)
- IQAA (Kazakhstan)
- Commission for University Education (Kenya)
- KAA (Kosovo)
- Office of the Ombudsman for Academic Ethics & Procedures (Lithuania)
- MFHEA (Malta)
- NQA (Namibia)
- NZQA (New Zealand)
- Department for the Economy (Northern Ireland)
- ARACIS (Romania)
- Council on HE of South Africa
- SAQA (South Africa)
- AVAP (Spain)
- ACCUA (Spain)
- AQUIB (Spain)
- AVERS (Republic of Srpska)
- ENIC-NARIC (Sweden)
- Ecctis (UK)
- QAA (UK)
- NAQA (Ukraine)
- Higher Education Authority Zambia
- ZAQA (Zambia)



Acknowledgements

The presenters acknowledge with gratitude the work, contributions and advice of:

- Billy Kelly, National Academic Integrity Network Chair
- The NAIN Steering Committee – in particular, Dr Yvonne Kavanagh (SETU) and Aisling Reast (RCSI) – and NAIN membership
- QQI colleagues past and present, especially Sue Hackett, Karena Maguire, Dr Deirdre Stritch, Gráinne Mooney, Edel Sheerin and Caoimhe Marshall
- TEQSA colleagues past and present, especially Dr Karen Treloar, Rosemary Marcon, Anthony Maclaren, Dr Lenka Ucnik
- Members of the Australasian Academic Integrity Network

TEQSA

