



Academic & Professional Development With West Coast University (WCU) Panama

www.westcoastuniversity.edu.pa



INTRODUCTION TO WEST COAST UNIVERSITY

University Structure

West Coast University (WCU) is a federation of Schools, faculties and 35 affiliated colleges/centers in 21 countries. These colleges are legal entities to impart education in the countries of their existence. University is incorporated in the Republic of Panama, Central America, under clause 19 of Law 32 of 1927 of Panamanian law.

Colleges

Each College has its own organizational & operational system. They select and admit and teach their own students in accordance with university's approval admit diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate students. College representatives sit on the University Management Council.

Schools

There are eight Schools, which each form an administrative grouping of Faculties and other institutions. They are: School of Engineering & Technology, School of Business & Management School of Leadership & Project Management, School of Computer Science & Information Technology, School of Physical Education, Sports, Defense Tactics & Martial Arts, School of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences & School of Theology

Faculties and Departments

University Faculties organize teaching and conduct research into individual subjects or groups of subjects. Their work is normally organized into sub-divisions called Departments. The Committees of management bringing together representatives from several disciplines, control centers of studies.

History

The "West Coast Institute of Management & Technology (WCIMT)" was established in 1996 at Perth by a Christian family "S. Lloyd Family Trust" to provide vocational and Professional Educational Services at National and International Levels under a Christian mission and vision of preaching, teaching and Social works. It was Autonomous Educational Institute and Vocational Training School. The institute was a registered and accredited training institution, accredited by the Training Accreditation Council (TAC) of the Training Department of the Government of Western Australia, and is listed on the "Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses" (CRICOS), which provide accredited courses to local and overseas students up to Graduate Diploma Level. WCIMT established a chain of affiliated colleges in many countries. In 2004, the trustees decided to use this infrastructure to establish the West Coast University in a favorable country West Coast University, although based in Panama but it serves as a global institute for autonomous higher education.

Accreditation

WCU being global university is not nationally accredited but accredited internationally by the recognized international accrediting agencies conveying full authority to WCU to offer and award degrees in higher education as an autonomous Institution.

- ✓ Accredited by Accreditation Syndicate for Education & Training, England & Wales, U.K.
- ✓ Accredited Quality Assurance Commission, United Kingdom.
- ✓ Licensed & Accredited by CCLP Worldwide Education Charter International
- ✓ Consorcio Universitario Euro Americano, Spain
- ✓ Accredited by International Accreditation Organization (IAO)
- ✓ Equivalency & Validation by California University FCE
- ✓ Accredited by the Association of International Colleges in Technical Education (AICTE)
- ✓ Accredited by Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL)
- ✓ Institutional member with Candidacy Status with ACBSP-recognized body by CHEA.



The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs: WCU is Institutional Member with Candidacy status with ACBSP, which is a leading specialized accreditation association for business education supporting, celebrating, and rewarding teaching excellence. The association embraces the virtues of teaching excellence and emphasizes to students that it is essential to learn how to learn. ACBSP acknowledges the importance of scholarly research

and inquiry and believes that such activities facilitate improved teaching. Institutions are strongly encouraged to pursue a reasonable mutually beneficial balance between teaching and research. And further, ACBSP encourages faculty involvement within the contemporary business world to enhance the quality of classroom instruction and to contribute to student learning.

In accordance with the 2006 CHEA Recognition Policy and Procedures (#38, pp. 15- 16), the ACBSP is recognized for the following scope of recognition: *ACBSP accredits business, accounting, and business-related programs at the associate, baccalaureate, master, and doctorate degree levels worldwide. (2011)*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP



WEST COAST UNIVERSITY (WCU) PANAMA – Department of Sociology is a collective member of the International Sociology Association (ISA) based in Madrid- Spain The ISA was founded in 1949 under UNESCO and it has about 4,500 individual and 45 collective members, hailing from 167 countries. Its purpose is to "represent sociologists everywhere, regardless of their school of thought, scientific approaches or ideological opinion" and its objective is to "advance sociological knowledge throughout the world". Along with the Institut International de Sociologie (IIS), it is seen as a world leading international sociological organization—ISA is a member of the International Social Science Council with the status of the Non-Governmental Organization in formal associate relations with UNESCO and special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations



WEST COAST UNIVERSITY (WCU) PANAMA – Chairman of the Department of Sociology is also a member of the European Sociological Association (ESA) based in Paris-France. ESA is an academic association of sociologists and a non-profit Europe-wide association that aims to facilitate sociological research, teaching and communication on European issues, and to give sociology a voice in European affairs. ESA is an academic association of sociologists and a non-profit Europe-wide association made up of over 2000 members. It was established in 1992, Europe is in the midst of massive changes, including the transformations in east and central Europe and the increasing integration of the European Union. Sociology has much to contribute to European level debates and developments. The ESA has an important role to play in organizing the European debate and setting the agenda

WEST COAST UNIVERSITY (WCU) PANAMA- Faculty of Physical Education & Martial Arts is now an associate member with the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education. (ICSSPE) based in Berlin, Germany. , ICSSPE serves as a permanent advisory body to UNESCO and regularly conducts research and other projects on behalf of this United Nations agency. ICSSPE has a long tradition of co-operation with the world’s leading sport body. The IOC and ICSSPE have recently agreed to update their existing agreement and to work even more closely in the future. ICSSPE collaborate with the WHO in the area of physical activity and health promotion. ICSSPE maintain close links through ex-officio representation on each other’s Boards and co-operate in various areas of common interest.



WEST COAST UNIVERSITY (WCU) PANAMA is a member of the “Organization International Para La Integracion Y Calidad Educativa (OIICE)” Peru, South America. It is an international non-governmental non-profit organization, established in order to promote the adoption of standards for Quality Education, to get the education and development of democratic access to the same fairness and harmony through the transmission of knowledge that are a priority in the Ibero-on the basis of the claim that knowledge is crucial for the progress of the countries that make up that community



WEST COAST UNIVERSITY (WCU) PANAMA is a member of the Association of International Colleges in Technical Education (AICTE). WCU courses in Engineering & Technology are accredited by Distance Education College (DEC) that has consultative status with UNESCO. AICTE is a self-accredited distance education council. The AICTE has been taking various initiatives to maintain the standards of the Distance Education in the Country. AICTE institutions serve thousand of students around the globe, primarily adult learners pursuing their education while employed, with about 40% receiving tuition assistance from their employer. Post Secondary and college students are in their 30s, approximately half are female, and complete their programs at a rate (approximately 70%) above traditional college students.



West Coast University is an Institutional Members of the Open Course Ware Consortium an Open Courseware (OCW). These materials are organized as courses, and often include course planning materials and evaluation tools as well as thematic content The OpenCourseWareConsortium is a worldwide community of hundreds of higher education institutions and associated organizations committed to advancing OpenCourseWare and its impact on global education. We serve as a resource for starting and sustaining OCW projects, as a coordinating body for the movement on a global scale, and as a forum for exchange of ideas and future planning.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

WCU or its President are members of the following Educational organizations



Association of International Educators (NAFSA)



European Association for International Education (EAIE)



American Association for Higher Education & Accreditation (AAHEA)



Western Cooperative for Educational Telecommunications, founded by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)



Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AAACE)



Virginia Society Technology in Education