Dear ICICTE delegate,

The proposal deadline, extended to March 18, is very close and we would love to have as many paper proposals as possible by that time. Delegates of past ICICTE conferences know just what a wonderful little conference ours is. The intellectual interaction is intense, but then so is the enjoyment of the social programme. The more researchers who know about this, and just how worth it being part of ICICTE is, the better. Now is the time for a final push for papers. Now is the time to send mails to all our colleagues, post on our social media and generally remind our friends that the deadline is getting close and that all important proposal needs to be sent in now. The more papers ICICTE has, the more the dynamic interaction among the academics who attend. The more the intensity of the ensuing discussion. Your help with this is, as always, very appreciated. Thanks.

Ġorġ Mallia
Chair, Publications and Promotions Committee, ICICTE 2016

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**Pre-Conference Workshop – Wednesday July 6, 2016**

**Applying the Quality Matters Rubric**

*Facilitator: Evangeline (Litsa) Varonis, Quality Matters, United States of America*

This workshop explores the Quality Matters (QM) Project and Processes and prepares you to be part of an initiative that positively impacts the design of online/blended courses and ultimately, learning and success for the learner. QM is designed to improve the quality of online/blended courses by establishing a peer-reviewed quality assurance review process.

You will become familiar with QM standards and participate in a practice peer course review of an online course using the review tools.

After successfully completing this workshop, you will be eligible to move into the online “Peer Reviewer Certification” and gain ideas to improve your own courses using QM Standards.

After this workshop, you will be able to:
1. Identify the underlying principles of QM.
2. Identify the critical elements of the QM quality assurance program, including the QM Rubric, materials, processes, and administrative components.
3. Apply the Fifth Edition QM Rubric to review online courses.
4. Decide if an authentic demo course meets selected QM Rubric Standards.
5. Apply the concept of alignment.
6. Draft helpful recommendations for course improvement by citing Annotations from the QM Rubric and evidence from the course.

The QM program is being implemented internationally. In order to receive certification, participants need to attend the whole workshop. The agenda will be soon available at the conference website.

As you will be working in groups to view and review an actual online course during the workshop, please bring a laptop or iPad if you have one available to you. Other materials will be provided.

This workshop normally has a fee of c. $350. Since QM is a sponsor of ICICTE 2016, delegates who participate in the pre-conference workshop do so at a minimal fee. The option to register for the workshop will be available on the registration form of the conference.

Seats Available: 30 (on a first come, first served basis).

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**Post-Conference Activities**

**Day trip to Lindos**

Sunday, July 10, 2016

**Boat trip to Symi Island**

Monday, July 11, 2016

More details on the trips will be available soon on the conference website. There will be a pre-registration form for you to express interest and registration will take place on site. We consider the post-conference trips to be excellent networking opportunities and we are hoping to stimulate dialogue in such an informal setting to discuss possibilities for future cooperation between the conference delegates especially in the field of the Erasmus+ and the Horizon programmes.

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**Important dates**

- **April 9, 2016**
  Deadline for room guarantee at the conference venue. As of April 10, room reservations are subject to availability, which does not necessarily means that rooms will be hard to book but the conference organizing committee may not guarantee availability post this date.

- **April 29, 2016**
  Deadline for final version of papers. Early bird registration for presenters.

- **May 15, 2016**
  Deadline for presenters’ regular registration. Please note that the presenter of each paper must be registered for the conference for paper to appear in the proceedings.