

# **The Shift to Bachelor/Master Programs in Germany and Their Accreditation - A Report on the Current Status in Informatics**

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We discuss the developments in Germany from 2000/01 after the Bologna agreement to the current state. German Universities are forced to replace all Diploma programs by Bachelor/Master programs by 2010. In addition, accreditation has become mandatory and certain general formal rules have been set up. We give an overview on the current status of accreditation procedures and their various institutions.

Informatic organisations like the *Fakultätentag Informatik*, the organisation of the German Informatics departments, or the *Gesellschaft für Informatik*, the German organisation of IT professionals, have played a major role to set up quality standards and to implement accreditation procedures in general and Informatics specific. They have served as founders of the accreditation agency ASIIN (*Accreditation Agency for Study Programs in Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics*) that applies a strict peer reviewing process for each individual study program. A brief illustration is given how ASIIN conducts an accreditation process.

We present statistical data about the current number of study programs (Informatics related and others) in Germany that have already changed to the Bachelor/Master system and the number of programs which have already been accredited. It shows that compared to other areas Informatics is leading this process. A special project EuroInf has recently been set up with the goal to define a qualification framework for accreditation of Informatics education all over Europe. We conclude with an outlook how accreditation will develop over the next years.