

Executive Summary
Renewal of Institutional Licensure
Sharjah Police Sciences Academy

13-18 November 2022

An External Review Team (ERT) appointed by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education (MoE) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) visited Police Sciences Academy of in Sharjah (hereafter PSA), from 14 to 17 November 2022 to evaluate the Self-Study for Renewal of Institutional Licensure (*Self-Study*) submitted by PSA. The exit meeting was held on 17 November 2022.

The PSA was established in 1996 in accordance with its establishment law No. 2 of 1996 to be affiliated with the Government of Sharjah. The aim of its establishment was to prepare qualified human cadres capable of dealing with any security imbalances effectively and professionally, through the education and learning of the UAE Nationals and training them on the latest internationally known police and legal sciences. The PSA's current Law No. (5) 2014 and its amendments, which repealed its predecessor, are the cornerstone in drawing up its organizational structure, which is chaired by His Highness Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Deputy Ruler - Crown Prince of Sharjah and Chairman of the PSA Council. Emiri Decree No. (26) of 2020 was issued to adopt a new general organizational structure to organize work at the PSA.

The PSA is a national non-profit institution affiliated with the Government of Sharjah and its campus is located in the University City, about 12 kilometers from the center of Sharjah.

The PSA currently offers six programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels:

- Bachelor of Police Sciences
- Master of Police Sciences in Police Administration
- Master of Police Sciences in Criminal Investigation
- Master of Police Sciences in Quality and Excellence in Security Operations
- Doctorate of Police Sciences in Police Administration
- Doctorate of Police Sciences in Criminal Investigation

The PSA reports a total enrolment of 159 students including four female master's students during the Fall 2022 semester. Of these, there were 84 undergraduate students, 63 master's students, and 12 doctoral students. The total number of faculty members in the PSA during Fall 2022, is 27 (20 full-time and 7 part-time), of which 10 were full-time professors, 6 were associate professors, 9 were assistant professors and 2 do not hold a doctorate degree. On this basis, the ratio of full-time faculty to students is 1:8.

Since its inception until the end of the academic year 2021/2022, a total of 1097 students have graduated from the PSA, including 881 with bachelor's degrees and 216 with master's degrees.

The ERT highly appreciates the continuous and unlimited support provided by His Highness the Ruler of the Emirate of Sharjah and his Crown Prince to the PSA and the provision of all means to secure the appropriate environment for learning, education, training and creativity for its students, and to qualify them with a high degree of efficiency to serve their communities effectively in various fields of police sciences and specializations at the local and regional levels.

The ERT is pleased to note several positive points that must be commended, including several areas related to vision, mission, values and goals, infrastructure, members of the administrative and teaching staff, students and graduates, which are as follows:

Vision, Mission, Values and Objectives: The PSA has a clearly defined vision, a sublime mission, values related to the culture of society and the nature of police work, and specific and clear goals, all of which accurately establish the Academy as a training, teaching, and learning institution to serve the community of the Emirate of Sharjah and the United Arab Emirates professionally and competently.

Physical Infrastructure: Located on a beautiful academic campus, the PSA is one of the units of the University City in the Emirate of Sharjah, and it is established on a solid base and is sponsored by the Government of the Emirate of Sharjah, making it financially and administratively stable. Its buildings contain halls equipped with all the requirements for learning and teaching, including ample facilities for students' extracurricular activities. There is no doubt that the learning resources available to students and faculty members provide a suitable and rich environment to achieve adequate learning and training, and abundant scientific research production for graduate students and faculty members.

Administrative and teaching staff: The faculty members and administrators who occupy leadership positions in the PSA have a high degree of professional educational, research and administrative competence. The faculty is characterized by combining police and educational expertise with high academic qualifications, and the majority of faculty members are at the rank of professor or associate professor and enjoy prolific scientific production. They are enjoying a comfortable living and are proud of their belonging to the PSA. The PSA's leadership demonstrates a high ability to attract a sufficient number of faculty members in distinctive specializations. The top management in PSA is competent in the work they do.

Students and alumni: Although the team interviewed a very limited number of students and graduates, some of whom are currently working at the Academy in high positions, and combine work with follow-up to study for masters and doctorates, the team found that students are carefully admitted in the Academy and have the motivation and desire to excel and pursue learning and study.

Yet, as with any opportunities where academic institutions are evaluated for the purposes of enhancement and excellence, there is always room for improvement. Areas where the ERT has

identified issues in need to resolution are: The Self-Study, website, organizational structure, scientific research, quality control and continuous performance improvement:

Self-study: The Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance Unit made a great effort in preparing the *Self-Study*, and it is an active and responsive unit. Even so, it needs to coordinate with all divisions of the PSA to prepare harmonious and consistent self-studies that do not contain missing or disparate information as shown to the team in the current self-study. The unit should study the appropriate mechanism for writing any future self-study submitted to the CAA or others to approve new programs, renew the accreditation of offered programs, or renew the. Institutional licensure, so that it forms an integrated unit whose offices are linked to the standards related to it.

Website: As the college seeks to enhance its unique position among its peers and expand in graduate studies and its pursuit of internationalization, it must have a distinctive website that is comprehensive and easy to search for information, preferably in Arabic and English and updated regularly.

Organizational Structure: Although the latest organizational structure was approved by Emiri Decree, it was not duly approved by the Commission. It has been noted that the titles and numbers of administrative and academic leadership positions have been included in different ways in various documents and differ from those contained in some of the legislation governing the Academy. One of the most important things to pay attention to in a high-level institution such as PSA is the concept of consistency, consistency, and accuracy in the uses of names in all publications. On the other hand, it may be an appropriate time to reconfigure the organizational structure again, especially in light of the expansion of graduate programs for masters and doctorates, because the tasks currently intersect between three advanced departments in the organizational structure: the Scientific Council, the Deanship of the Academy, and the Administration of the Officers College.

Scientific Research: Since scientific research is the basis of graduate studies, creativity and innovation, its annual budget must be raised to at least 5% of the operating budget, and the budget must be used to conduct studies and research, creativity, publishing, and holding specialized seminars and annual conferences.

Quality control and continuity of performance improvement: Periodic evaluations related to all types of outputs and performance levels should not be limited to collecting and classifying information, but the results must be carefully analyzed to determine their implications, to take the necessary measures to improve performance and outputs, and to implement policies that solve and improve problems. The impact of new procedures must be re-evaluated to ensure their effectiveness to bring about the required improvements.

The ERT makes its requirements and suggestions in a spirit of constructive engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the Standards are met, and to aid PSA in its desired objective to attain renewal of institutional licensure.