

Vice Principal International's Report to Senate

February 2017 saw the first reporting and stock take on progress against the international strategy, agreed by QMSE and approved by Senate in 2015. Overall, there has been a high level of progress and achievement in key areas, notably an increase in student recruitment (5% increase in overseas and EU student FTE in 2015/16), and an increase in outward student mobility (up 17%).

Following the work of the Summer Schools Task and Finish Group in 2016 and a subsequent decision by QMSE regarding financial support to cover the initial start-up costs of a QMUL Summer School, work is underway to ensure delivery of the first institutional Summer School in 2018. With a launch to partners in late spring 2017, the programme will open for admissions in September 2017. Recruitment of a Summer School Director is in progress with an appointment to be made for an August 2017 start.

Initiatives to support increased participation in outward student mobility continue to develop. Associated costs were identified as a barrier to participation and some OFFA funding has been secured to support outward mobility in 2016/17.

Since the last report, the International Partnerships team has hosted visits from: ZhengZhou University (China); the British Ambassador for Indonesia; and Mahidol University (Thailand).

Delivery of the institution's international strategy is supported by the established Regional Interest Groups for South Asia and South East Asia, both of which have met since the last report to Senate. The groups continue to develop and strengthen with a future focus on academic research to facilitate institutional knowledge sharing.

In February, the VP International also hosted a Trans-National Education roundtable forum in London with 35 participants from the sector. This was one of a number of such discussions, organised in collaboration with HEGlobal and the Equality Challenge Unit, and the institution is championing the development of human resource policy in this area in the UK.