



Senate

Paper Title	Vice-Principal's (International) Advisory Group Executive Summary
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the paper.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	The purpose of the Advisory Group is to advise on the implementation of the International Strategy and monitor progress against agreed targets
Questions for Senate to consider	The paper is provided for information . This report provides an update on the main items discussed at VPIAG meeting on 5 May 2016.
Regulatory/statutory reference points	Under the QMUL Delegation Framework, the VP (International) has responsibility for the leadership of cross-QMUL international activities and the development and delivery of the QMUL International Strategy.
Strategy and risk	VPIAG role is to review and make recommendations in relation to the risk register for international activities
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	For report to Senate.
Authors	Raluca Vasiliu-Mclver, ARCS, secretary to the Advisory Group
Sponsor	Professor David Sadler, Vice-Principal (International)

SENATE

VICE-PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Terms of Reference and Membership

1. Group membership consists of:

Chair: Vice Principal International
Executive Officer (International)
Faculty representatives from HSS, S&E and SMD
Student representative
Director of Student Services
Deputy Director of Marketing & Communications
Academic Registrar & Council Secretary
Academic Lead for Study Abroad
Academic Lead for International Student Experience
Director of the Language Centre
JP Programme Director

2. Terms of Reference (TORs) and Membership composition for 2015-16 were confirmed at VPIAG meeting on 27 October and provided for the December Senate meeting.
3. The third meeting of the Group in 2015-16 was held on 5 May 2016.

Summary of the meeting held on 4 February 2016

For a full set of notes please contact the Secretary: r.vasilu-mciver@qmul.ac.uk

4. This summarises the main areas of discussion of the Advisory Group to the Vice-Principal (International) at the meeting held on 5 May 2016.

5. Chair's Business

VPIAG received a summary of the outcomes of the VP International's recent visit to South East Asia.

The Group also received an update on the Summer School Task and Finish Group.

6. New International Partnership Strategy

VPIAG considered the objectives of a Draft International Partnerships Strategy which would inform the further development of international partnerships at QMUL over the remaining period of its current International Strategy. This will be also considered by Partnerships Board before submission to QMSE.

7. Update on new study abroad initiatives

VPIAG received an outline of new Study Abroad initiatives to increase student mobility opportunities at QMUL over the remaining period of the International Strategy. The Group noted the following outbound mobility initiatives as:

- Study Abroad Fair/International;
- Student Ambassadors;
- Enhancement of Online Information
- Support for Study Abroad School Coordinators
- Funding & New Bursaries In Support of Outward Student Mobility
- International Exchange Programme & Erasmus Development/Expansion of Partners

The Group also noted some of the inbound student initiatives with new bespoke programmes with Wake Forest and Columbia universities.

8. Report from the Outward Student Mobility Task and Finish Group

VPIAG noted the proposed interim recommendations of the Outward Student Mobility Task and Finish Group.

The Task and Finish Group was created to inquire into the state of outward mobility across Queen Mary, identify institutional barriers, and develop a set of recommendations to address these.

VPIAG noted the following recommendations made by the TAFG:

- Definition: institutional definition of outward student mobility to be widened to include the wide range of opportunities currently available to students;
- Value: the benefits of outward mobility and its strong impact on students' employability to be better conveyed to students and supported by specific QMUL research in this area using specific case studies.
- Widening Participation: enhancement of outward mobility through widening its range, and assisting students from Widening Participation backgrounds to take part in outward mobility programmes.
- Four-year degrees: strong incentive for the creation of four-year degree programmes, with students going abroad for a full year following completion of their second year.

9. Update on International Student Recruitment

VPIAG received a summary of international applications as of April 2016. It was noted that the report from Planning on 19th April 2016 showed that applications were slightly up for PGT with firm acceptances following the same pattern. Applications and firm acceptances were currently down for UG but the likely UG intake would be better seen after May 5th when students would have to confirm their university choices.

It was also noted that QMUL's admissions team was performing better this year with far fewer complaints received from agents and applicants.

10. International Structures

VPIAG noted a paper showing the various international structures existing in Russell Group universities. At the same time VPIAG discussed the current operational groups supporting the international initiatives at QMUL

Meetings in 2015-16 and 206-17

11. There will be no other VPIAG meetings in 2015-16.

For 2016-17 the following meeting dates have been agreed:

Thursday 6 October 2016
Thursday 9 February 2017
Thursday 11 May 2017