



Senate

Paper Title	MSc Surgical Skills offered in collaboration with the University of Malta
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to consider a proposed exception to its framework of collaborative provision for a joint award with the University of Malta
Points for Senate members to note and further information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The School of Medicine and Dentistry wishes to offer an MSc in Surgical Skills to be jointly awarded between Queen Mary University of London and the University of Malta (UoM).• The programme curriculum has been developed jointly to draw on expertise from each of the partners. The UoM has a large surgical faculty and a cadaveric lab for surgical skills training. The use of cadavers for surgical training is not something that Queen Mary can offer so this facility will significantly enhance the programme.• It is proposed that the programme should be offered as a joint award. Queen Mary has not previously offered a taught degree programme jointly with an institution outside the UK so this programme represents an exception to current policy.• The joint award arrangement has been proposed in recognition of Queen Mary's strategic relationship with the University of Malta and the Maltese Government with whom Queen Mary is collaborating on the development of their ten-year strategic plan for healthcare. Further, the University of Malta had expressed a preference for a joint award rather than a dual award. Benefits of the joint award include:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) The creation of a postgraduate pathway for graduates from the Queen Mary MBBS Malta.2) The foundation for the future development of a joint intercalated MSc, available to MBBS students of both UoM and Queen Mary Malta (and including students from London).3) Increasing the presence and reputation of Barts and The London Medical School and Queen Mary University of London in Malta.4) Strengthening of the established relationship with the University of Malta which is critical to the successful delivery of the final years of the MBBS Malta programme where clinical facilities and staff will be shared between the two institutions.

Questions for Senate to consider	Is Senate able to approve the establishment of a joint award with the University of Malta by exception?
Regulatory/statutory reference points	Queen Mary's Collaborative Provision Framework Chapter 10 of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education (managing higher education provision with others)
Strategy and risk	Strategic Aim 3: to provide all our students, wherever based, an education that is judged internationally to be of the highest quality, and which exploits innovations in teaching, learning and assessment Risk 2.1 Student Experience: teaching, learning and assessment Risk 9.1 Reputational Development and External Relations
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	Senate to approve.
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Sponsor	Professor Colin Grant, Vice-Principal (International) Professor Anthony Warrens

Programme summary

The programme is offered part-time over two years via mixed mode of study as follows:

- 3 University of Malta modules will be taught at the University of Malta
- 3 Queen Mary modules will be taught by distance learning with practical supervision provided by the University of Malta
- 3 joint modules will be delivered on campus with Queen Mary's contribution provided by distance learning
- Shared dissertation

Programme aims:

- to provide trainee surgeons with a safe environment in which to develop the practical skills required to fast-track their surgical training and prepare them for their surgical career;
- to provide a valuable opportunity to understand the basics of research methodology with the aim of encouraging more doctors to become clinical scientists.

Barts Cancer Institute has offered campus based Surgical Skills and Sciences since 2006-7 and a distance learning variant of the programme was introduced for September 2018. The joint programme is expected to modernise the curriculum of the Surgical Skills programme with a more flexible mode of study. Moreover, the University of Malta has a large surgical faculty and cadaveric lab for surgical skills training which Queen Mary cannot currently offer. (Current training is via approved simulation training.)

University of Malta

Founded in 1592, the University of Malta is a non-profit public higher education institution based in Gozo and Valletta. It is officially accredited by the Maltese Ministry for Education and Employment. The University of Malta also has affiliations with the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and Utrecht Network. There are approximately 11,500 students studying at the University of Malta including over 600 international students from 71 different countries.

The University of Malta is ranked 1st in Malta and 967th globally in the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities. UoM is not listed in any of the three leading benchmarks in the field of higher education: the Times Higher Education University Rankings, the QS World University Rankings and the Academic Ranking of World Universities.

Malta

ranking	World Rank 	University	Det. 	Presence Rank*	Impact Rank*	Openness Rank*	Excellence Rank*
1	967	University of Malta		79	1087	1293	1389
2	8069	Malta College of Arts Science & Technology		5934	8871	7978	6008
3	15889	Institute of Tourism Malta		14285	14642	10778	6008
4	21377	European Institute of Education		27681	19131	10778	6008