



Senate

Paper Title	Partnerships Board - Executive Summary
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the PB Executive Summary
Points for Senate members to note and further information	This paper summarises the business of PB from 13 February to 31 May 2019
Questions for Senate to consider	N/A
Regulatory/statutory reference points	<p>QMUL is required to comply with the expectations for quality detailed in UK Quality Code for Higher Education which states: <i>'Where a provider works in partnership with other organisations, it has in place effective arrangements to ensure that the academic experience is high-quality irrespective of where or how courses are delivered and who delivers them.'</i></p> <p>The Partnerships Board undertakes detailed scrutiny of QMUL's partnership activity on behalf of Senate.</p>
Strategy and risk	PB's role is to evaluate and monitor the risks of QMUL partnership arrangements, and to consider relevant policies and procedures.
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	This paper is a report to Senate.
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PARTNERSHIPS BOARD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary covers Partnership Board (PB) meetings held on 11 February and 9 May 2019. The next meeting of Partnerships Board will be held on 2 July 2019.

Terms of Reference and Membership

1. The Terms of Reference are unchanged. Sean O'Connor has joined the meeting in his role as the Head of Global Projects and Policy and Executive Officer (International).

Consideration of new partnership proposals and renewals

2. The Board considers new partnership proposals with both UK and international partners and evaluates any risk involved. During the reporting period, PB has considered the following proposals with the outcomes as shown.
3. Memoranda of Understanding

Proposed Partner	Internal QMUL partner(s)	Decision
São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), Brazil	WHRI	Approved
CINVESTAV, Mexico	SPA	Approved
Yonsei University, South Korea	All areas	Approved
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB), India	Global Policy Institute	Approved
Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai, India	Global Policy Institute	Approved
University of Verona, Italy	SED	Approved
Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua, Mexico	S&E	Approved ¹

4. Progression and Articulation Agreements

Proposed Partner	Internal QMUL partner(s)	Decision
Sichuan University, China	All faculties	Approved
Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China	EECS	Approved
Jiangnan University, China	EECS	Approved

5. Exchanges (new and renewals)

¹ Subject to receipt of anti-bribery and corruption statement

Proposed Partner	Internal QMUL partner(s)	Decision
University of Verona, Italy	SED	Approved
University of Vienna, Austria	SPIR	Approved
Yonsei University, South Korea	General	Approved
Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany	SLLF	Approved
Utrecht University, Netherlands (summer school exchange)	General	Approved
Swarthmore College, USA (Study Abroad)	General	Approved
CAPA, USA (Study Abroad)	General	Approved
Technische Universität Dresden, Germany	CCLS	Approved
Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines	Blizard	Approved
University of Zurich, Switzerland	SLLF / SED	Approved
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia	SEMS	Approved
Manipal University, India	Blizard / SLLF	Approved
Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia	SEMS	Approved
Arcadia University, USA – Study Abroad Internship Scheme	General	Approved
Tsurumi University, Japan	Dentistry	Approved
St Mary's College of California, USA	General	Approved
Osgoode Hall College, Canada	Law	Approved

6. Research

Proposed Partner	Internal QMUL partner(s)	Decision
Colciencias, Colombia – PhD co-funding proposal (20% fee discount agreed)	General	Approved

7. Funding and Scholarships

Proposed Partner	Internal QMUL partner(s)	Decision
Fulbright Scholarships Commission Postgraduate Award (one year full-time Masters only) - renewal	All faculties	Approved
Fulbright Scholarships Commission Scholar Award (visiting academic 3-9 months) – renewal	SMD, S&E faculties	Approved

Reports

- PB received a report from the Annual Programme and Planning Review undertaken for the Global MBA programme. This programme is run by QMUL on behalf of UoL Worldwide. The outcomes and recommendations were discussed by the group and the following issues were discussed by the board:

- The programme had seen a significant expansion in numbers in the last few years. It was acknowledged in the report that this had been challenging to manage but issues are being addressed.
 - There were a couple of instances where it appeared comments from External Examiners had not been addressed although the examiners themselves were happy with the programme. It was noted that issues with students' handwriting (raised as a concern by one examiner) would be hard to address.
 - Concern was noted about the pass-rate for students but actions were in place to monitor this.
 - Numbers fluctuated on the programme and it was not clear if it was meeting the anticipated targets. This would also impact on whether the programme is breaking even or making a profit.
9. The Chair approved an agreement governing the management of intercollegiate modules at University of London colleges. This agreement covered processes and procedures where students undertook such modules on an *ad hoc* basis. Programmes where students are required to study intercollegiate modules as part of the programme specification will still be subject to discrete agreements.

Other Matters under Discussion

10. At the May meeting, Dr Nimesh Patel reported on the procedures in place to support medical students undertaking their compulsory medical electives in Year 5 of the MB BS degree. The board agreed that the procedures in place are robust and provide effective support to students. IHSE have long-standing arrangements overseas universities for elective exchanges which will need to be renewed shortly. IHSE will also be working with Global Opportunities to increase the number of elective exchanges available.
11. Partnerships Board approved a recommendation that the agreements for sponsored students be amended to include a 30 day deadline for the payment of tuition fee invoices. Sponsors are frequently very slow to pay fee invoices and this recommendation brings this in line with the deadline for self-funded students. Extended terms would be possible on a case-by-case basis in discussion with Finance.
12. KPMG had undertaken an audit of the framework for approving international partnerships. The results of the audit were 'significant assurance with minor improvement opportunities'. Recommendations to enhance current practice will be considered by Senior Executive Team and Partnerships Board for implementation as appropriate.
13. As part of its due diligence process, Queen Mary asks partners for anti-bribery and anti-corruption information. The May meeting raised how to manage proposals where this was not forthcoming, as well as Queen Mary's appetite and management of risk. It was agreed this area needed further consideration.

Meetings in 2018-19

14. The final PB meeting for 2018-19 will take place on Tuesday 2 July. Meeting dates for 2019/20 are in the process of being set.