



**Senate**

<b>Paper Title</b>	Partnerships Board - Executive Summary
<b>Outcome requested</b>	Senate is asked to <b>note</b> the PB Executive Summary
<b>Points for Senate members to note and further information</b>	This paper summarises the business of Partnerships Board from 29 January 2022 to 3 May 2022.
<b>Questions for Senate to consider</b>	N/A
<b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>	<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 oversees QMUL's partnership activity on behalf of Senate.</p>
<b>Strategy and risk</b>	PB's role is to assess and monitor the risks of QMUL partnership arrangements, approve as necessary and to consider relevant policies and procedures.
<b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>	This paper is a report to Senate.
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## PARTNERSHIPS BOARD

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary covers the Partnership Board (PB) meetings held on 15 March 2022 and 3 May 2022. The next meeting of Partnerships Board will be held on 5 July 2022.

#### Consideration of new partnership proposals and renewals

1. Under the low-risk approvals process introduced during 2019-20, Faculties are responsible for considering and approving low-risk partnership proposals with both UK and international partners. A report of these low-risk approvals is then submitted to Partnerships Board for noting. During the reporting period, the Board has received notification of the following low-risk partnership proposals/renewals approved by Faculties and Professional Services (new agreements indicated with \*).
  2. Science and Engineering
    - None
  3. Humanities and Social Sciences
    - Stuart Hall Foundation\*
    - Singapore Management University
    - Xiamen University\*
  4. Medicine and Dentistry
    - Hemholtz Zentrum München, Germany\*
  5. Professional Services (including Global Engagement Office)
    - Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China\*
    - University of Queensland, Australia
    - Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Brazil\*
    - Renmin University, China
    - Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India\*
    - Ajman University\*
    - East China University of Political Science and Law, China
    - Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, China\*
6. At the 15 March meeting the Board considered one proposal under the high-risk approval process:
  - An agreement between the School of Medicine and Dentistry (SMD) and the Cleveland Clinic London (CCL) to offer placements for MBBS and Physicians Associate students in SMD at the CCL's newly established medical outpatient building in London. It was noted that although the

majority of SMD placements were offered through NHS healthcare providers, there were already some agreements with private providers in place. However, it was felt that it would be valuable to seek advice from the Board on the proposal from CCL, given that, as a major US-based private healthcare company, it represented a new kind of partner for SMD. The Board noted that the partnership would provide particular benefits to students and there would be strong quality assurance safeguards in place to identify and manage any risks that arose.

7. At the 3 May meeting the Board considered one new proposal and one renewal under the high-risk approval process:
  - A new agreement with the Jean Monnet Scholarship Programme, with which QMUL had previously had an informal arrangement. The agreement establishes a fee waiver for Turkish students to study postgraduate programmes at QMUL.
  - An existing agreement with the Kuwait Cultural Office to fund students to take the Certificate in Clinical Foundation Studies, and then to progress to the MBBS or BDS programmes. This had been a successful arrangement, with high pass rate and high level of progression amongst students.

## Reports

8. At the 15 March meeting, the Board discussed the Ethical Partnerships Policy, which had previously been under review, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board agreed a number of minor amendments to the policy, and it was also agreed that wider consideration about how this policy interacted with existing policies and practices related to research activities, beyond educational partnerships, would be beneficial.
9. At the 15 March meeting, the Board also considered further the proposal, previously discussed in January, to conduct reviews of selected active partnerships. A self-evaluation document for academic leads to complete had been prepared and a number of amendments were agreed to this template. It was also agreed that a shortlist of partnerships for review would be drawn up and confirmed by the Chair and Faculty Deans for Global Engagement.
10. At the 3 May meeting, the Board received a report on QMUL's relationship with the Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), following the recent signing of a key partnership agreement with HUST. There had been various links between QMUL and HUST since 2011, but since 2019 both institutions had sought to develop a stronger partnership, which had culminated in the recent signing of the agreement. The Board received an outline of the activities covered by the new agreement. It was noted that QMUL would have to take recent changes to national security regulations and export control regimes into account when pursuing new collaborations, particularly with certain Chinese institutions. It was agreed that some minor amendments would be made to partnership proposal processes to reflect the heightened levels of risk and due diligence required.

## Meetings in 2021/22 and 2022/23

11. Remaining meeting dates for 2021/22 are scheduled as follows:
  - Tuesday 5 July 2022

12. Meeting dates for 2022/23 have been provisionally scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday 27 September 2022
- Tuesday 1 November 2022
- Tuesday 31 January 2023
- Tuesday 14 March 2023
- Tuesday 9 May 2023
- Tuesday 27 June 2023