



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 Partnerships Board from 17 November 2022 to 3 February 2023.
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 oversees QMUL’s partnership activity on behalf of Senate.</p>
Strategy and risk	Partnerships Board’s role is to assess and monitor the risks of QMUL partnership arrangements, approve partnerships as necessary 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 the Partnership Board meeting held on 3 February 2023. The next meeting of Partnerships Board will be held on 14 March 2023.

Consideration of new partnership proposals and renewals

1. Under the low-risk partnerships approval process, Faculties are responsible for considering and approving low-risk Faculty-level partnership proposals and renewals with both UK and international partners. A report of these low-risk approved proposals and renewals is then submitted to Partnerships Board for noting. During the reporting period, Partnerships Board has received notification of the following low-risk partnership proposals and renewals approved by Faculties and Professional Services.
2. Faculty of Science and Engineering
 - *None reported*
3. Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
 - *None reported*
4. Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
 - *None reported*
5. Professional Services (including Global Engagement Office and International Partnerships Office)
 - American University, USA
 - Indonesian International Student Mobility Awards, Indonesia
 - IIM Kozhikode, India
 - OP Jindal Global University, India
 - University of Electronic Sciences and Technology of China, China
6. At the 3 February meeting, the Board received updates on the proposals to renew two existing research agreements – one with the East China University of Political Science and Law (ECUPL) and one with Renmin University and Tsinghua University Law Schools. These renewals had been presented at the meeting on 16 November, but the Board agreed then that, in light of the sensitivities around collaborations with institutions in China, more information on the tangible benefits and outputs from these partnerships was requested, to aid the Board in reaching a decision. At the 3 February meeting, the Board heard from CCLS that, as these were leading institutions in China, collaborating with them enhanced Queen Mary's reputation and brand recognition. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic the partner institutions had organised a series of research

events, and it was hoped that as restrictions were lifted, these could be resumed. The partners were also working towards joint research outputs. As no further concerns were raised, the Board approved the renewal of these two agreements.

Reports

7. At the 3 February meeting, the Board received updates on the following topics:
- International recruitment – It was noted that there had been an improvement in overseas recruitment since last year, with particular successes in some Schools, and the university was above its competitors. Attention was now shifting towards conversion activities. It was also noted that there had been an increase in fraudulent applications, and action was being taken to prevent these and protect Queen Mary's status with the Home Office as a visa sponsor.
 - Associate student recruitment – It was noted that there had been a growth in associate student numbers, following a series of strong intakes. Associate students represented both a positive addition to the classroom, as well as an income stream for the university; Queen Mary was the leading university in the UK for associate students. The majority of associate students came from US partners, but new countries were emerging in this area. It was noted that initiatives were being trialled to successfully enable growth on high-demand, low-capacity modules (e.g. Psychology), which could be applied elsewhere in the university.
 - Queen Mary programmes with a year abroad – It was noted that the drop-out rate of these programmes, which had been introduced across the university several years ago, was high. This was due to a number of factors, and it was hoped that further staffing in global mobility would enable greater engagement with students beforehand to ensure they had the support necessary to undertake the year abroad successfully.
 - Transnational Education (TNE) enrolments – The Board noted a summary of Queen Mary's TNE activities in China and elsewhere (including Paris, Malta, and Singapore). The establishment of the Joint Educational Institute with BUPT and the new partnership with BUPT in Hainan were noted. Overall enrolments were up by 1% across all TNE programmes.

Meetings in 2022/23

Meeting dates for 2022/23 are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday 27 September 2022
- Wednesday 16 November 2022
- Friday 3 February 2023
- Tuesday 14 March 2023
- Tuesday 9 May 2023
- Tuesday 27 June 2023