

LTC17D015

Title: Academic Partnerships Update June – October 2017
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Issue

An update on Academic Partnerships activity from June to October 2017.

Recommendation

The Learning and Teaching Committee is asked to note the Academic Partnerships activity from June to October 2017.

Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Equality and Diversity

Not applicable.

Further Information

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Background

The Learning and Teaching Committee receives a report at every meeting providing an update on Academic Partnerships activity.

Discussion

1. **RE-BRANDING**

The Partnerships Office changed its name to Academic Partnerships with effect from the 1 October 2017 to more accurately reflect the core activity of the team: teaching led partnerships that lead to a UEA award.

2. **QUALITY ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY**

2.1 Staff studying for a UEA Award

There are currently 15 members of staff at partner institutions registered on UEA awards as follows:

- Postgraduate Research – 6
- Postgraduate Taught – 9

2.2 Partnerships Conference and Workshops

Arrangements are underway for the 2018 Partnerships Conference, which will be held on 1 March 2018 at INTO UEA. The event will be an opportunity for partners and UEA colleagues to share best practice and will include a talk from Dr John Lea from the Association of College's Enhancing Scholarship in College Higher Education project.

In addition to the Conference, Academic Partnerships are also facilitating a number of workshops and online resources for partners throughout academic year. Subjects intended to be covered include marking and moderation, the Consumer Marketing Act and dissertation supervision.

3. **PARTNER VALIDATION / REVALIDATION EVENTS – 2016/17**

3.1 Number of events

Eleven events were planned for 2016-17 including one endorsement event. This was for the INTO UEA pre-sessional English course, which does not lead to a UEA award. This course is run over the summer for INTO students to improve their English language learning prior to commencing UEA programmes in September.

The validation events included BSc Zoology validation at Easton&Otley College, FdSc Mental Health Practice revalidation and BA Leadership and Management apprenticeship validation at City College Norwich; MA Performance revalidation at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts.

One course put forward for approval by Easton&Otley College, BSc in Veterinary Nursing, was not approved because, while the panel thought the proposal had the potential to be an excellent programme, it felt the work required to develop the proposal to a state where it could be launched was too extensive to complete through management of conditions. The development of this programme is currently on hold.

3.2 Validation/Revalidation themes

Examples of some of the conditions and recommendations made at the events were:

Conditions:

- Tidy/update documentation (e.g. amending typos and omissions in programme specifications, student handbooks and module specifications)
- Review the overall structure of the programme to ensure that clear pathways exist
- Simplify and clarify moderation processes
- Increase the emphasis on leadership within the module descriptions, learning outcomes and module titles
- Ensure that module learning outcomes reflect the level of the module.
- Update the module definition forms to:
 - ensure all learning outcomes are summatively assessed
 - ensure all reading lists are Harvard referenced

Recommendations:

- Better articulate the range and experience of permanent and sessional staff that will deliver the programme
- Consider ways of enhancing support for some students on the Higher Learning Skills module, particularly those new to study at HE level
- Enhance the support available to students entering the top-up programme from outside of the College
- Increase the range of opportunities for students to experience different work areas/placements
- Update the documentation to include the updated module assessment criteria
- Encourage access to e-journals and online resources that will support both staff and students
- Reconsider the assessment profile of the dissertation module in order to recognise the student effort
- Liaise with Schools to review balance of skills across programmes to reflect changing nature of assessment at UEA (Pre-sessional English at INTO UEA)
- UEA to facilitate a workshop on senate scales and assessment at levels four and five.

4. INTERNATIONAL

4.1 UEA International Forum

Academic Partnerships co-ordinated the annual UEA International Forum which took place on 20 September. The event was attended by a broad mix of academic and professional services colleagues and featured presentations by Prof Jaap Winter, President of VU Amsterdam University and Vivienne Stern, Director of UUK International.

4.2 Faculty-Specific Internationalisation Workshops

Academic Partnerships also co-ordinated the first of several Faculty-specific workshops on 29 September, beginning with SSF. The programme was tailored to

the Faculty's requirements and included sessions on recruitment and working with alumni.

FMH will be the next Faculty to benefit from this series of events.

4.3 International Executive

Professor Philip Gilmartin has taken over as Chair from the Vice-Chancellor and has taken the opportunity to review the Terms of Reference and Membership of the Committee, which is co-ordinated and supported by Academic Partnerships. The new look Executive will convene for the first of its more frequent bi-monthly meetings in December 2017.

5. **INTO UEA NORWICH**

5.1 International Year One in International Development with Media

Following approval to proceed to validation via LTC Chair's action over the summer, the validation event for the International Year One in International Development with Media will be held on 3 November 2017.

5.2 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 5 July 2017 are available to view [here](#).

6. **CITY COLLEGE NORWICH**

6.1 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 23 June 2017 are available to view [here](#).

7. **EASTON&OTLEY COLLEGE**

7.1 QAA Quality Review Visit

The College has been advised by HEFCE that the report from its April 2017 Quality Review Visit will not be published until late November or early December following consideration at the next meeting of HEFCE's Quality, Accountability and Regulation Strategic Advisory Committee. The report will be distributed LTC following publication.

7.2 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 7 June 2017 are available to view [here](#).

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2017 are available to view [here](#).

8. MOUNTVIEW ACADEMY OF THEATRE ARTS

8.1 Institutional Review

The Mountview Joint Board of Study have agreed to move the institutional review back from 2017/18 to 2018/19 so that it can take place in the context of Mountview's move to new premises,

8.2 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 19 July 2017 are available to view [here](#).

9. ROYAL MARSDEN SCHOOL

9.1 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 18 July 2017 are available to view [here](#).

10. BROOKSBY MELTON COLLEGE

10.1 Joint Board of Study

The minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 20 June 2017 are available to view [here](#).

11. UNIVERSITY OF SUFFOLK

11.1 Joint Academic Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 July 2017 will be available to view at the next meeting.

12. INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STUDIES, GUERNSEY

12.1 BA (Hons) Professional Practice Final Students Completion

The final students on the BA (Hons) Professional Practice programme have now concluded their studies. All remaining awards were conferred at a graduation ceremony on 22 September 2017, concluding the partnership between UEA and the Institute.