ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

OVERALL VISION

To support the creation, development and sustainability of high quality partnerships with organisations that serve to advance the reputation of Plymouth University and deliver of academic excellence

To be an enterprising multi skilled and integrated team delivering the University strategy for the development, management and quality oversight of regional, national and international academic partnerships and supporting Faculties and Schools to deliver that strategy.

SCOPE

Partnerships in the context of Academic Partnerships include:

- Domestic and international partnerships for the delivery of PU awards other than on the Plymouth campus – franchise, validated, joint/dual/double awards, joint delivery etc (e.g. via TNE relationships; our relationships with FECs and private providers)
- Articulation arrangements leading to advanced entry on to undergraduate or postgraduate awards
- Admissions arrangements with courses leading to entry with no advanced standing (e.g. approved pre masters programmes)
- Exchange and study abroad programmes for PU students and students from overseas
- Summer school or other short experience programmes for PU students going overseas or international students coming to PU
- PGR partnerships (oversight only within AP)
- Credit-rating of learning/training/continuing professional development provided by employers/other organisations
- Branch campuses or flying faculty arrangements with local in country support
- Key relationships for PU including PUIC, UTC, BRNC and MAP and other similar relationships assigned to AP for oversight, development or management

Partnerships which are not within the scope of AP include:

- Work based learning arrangements with external organisations for PU students
- Placements including those within the NHS
Informal research links and research partnerships as part of a funded collaborative project (eg FP projects)

Research

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

General

➢ To offer and support institutional leadership and oversight for all existing and future academic partnership activity
➢ To deliver sustainable growth in scale of portfolio of domestic (particularly for CPD and with private providers whilst maintaining a strong regional network of HE in FE) and international partnerships including in particular the development of TNE overseas ‘campus’ style developments through partnerships with an increasingly proactive approach to partnership development and a focus of broadening and deepening high value partnerships.
➢ To drive the delivery of the University internationalisation strategy working with Schools and Faculties on international student recruitment and across the University on other activities including exchanges and summer schools.
➢ To support the University’s local, regional and international objectives through a variety of partnership activities
➢ To raise the University’ reputation internationally and promote the global brand to assist with overseas recruitment and on campus recruitment
➢ To diversify income for PU
➢ To broaden horizons and experience for PU staff and students and in particular to enable students to become global citizens
➢ To be proactive in profiling and attracting partners to work with PU that will align with our strategic mission
➢ To develop partnerships which are ‘co designed and co delivered’ providing a high quality student experience which reflects the values of PU wherever the student is in the world
➢ To undertake research related to academic partnerships and to become a centre of excellence for the understanding and development of university partnerships
➢ To develop CPD activity through academic partnerships
➢ To manage, develop and oversee the implementation of a risk based robust quality framework for the University and its partners which balances the University’s ambitions for enterprise and enhancement of the student experience with the associated risks and the need for compliance with appropriate quality standards embedded in the Quality Assurance Agency’s Quality Code and specified by professional and statutory bodies.
To communicate the expectations associated with the quality framework to the University and its partners.

To advise Teaching and Learning Committee about the effectiveness of the implementation of the quality framework.

To work in partnership with the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) to develop and support quality enhancement activity.

To manage, develop and oversee the implementation of the University’s academic regulations, working in liaison with Faculties, partners and the Academic Regulations Sub-Committee. To be responsible for institutional compliance with UK Borders Agency regulations and guidance.

What we will do

We will:

- Enable the benefit of the Plymouth student experience to be experienced by students studying for PU awards at partners of the University
- Support the development of all kinds of academic partnerships by all Faculties and Schools – this will include providing expertise for the identification, evaluation, negotiation and project management of new partnerships
- Develop and manage (in collaboration with Faculties and Schools) a number of institutional partnerships (including the existing FEC partners)
- Develop an institutional framework which provides clear accountability for all significant partnership development and management
- Boost partnership income and diversify the University’s income streams
- Provide institutional oversight from quality and business development perspectives for partnership activity across the University (and develop the data sources to support this work)
- Manage, develop and oversee the implementation of a robust but responsive and risk based quality framework for partnerships and other University activities
- Support the University in the achievement of its current objectives for quality assurance and enhancement, both within the institution and across its partnerships.
- Coordinate (with PVC Teaching and Learning) the University’s compliance with QAA requirements and those of other relevant agencies
- Be responsible for meeting the requirements of UKBA
- Lead on the management of a range of key University strategic partners including PUIC, BRNC, UTC and MAP
- Contribute to the University’s CPD portfolio by developing strategic partnerships for CPD accreditation