

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

the Council for Private Education, Singapore

and

**the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
Gloucester, United Kingdom**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made between the **Council for Private Education**, of 2 Bukit Merah Central, #01-05 S(159835), Singapore (hereafter referred to as CPE)

and

The **Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education**, of Southgate House, Southgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 1UB, United Kingdom (hereafter referred to as QAA).

Whereas

CPE was established by statute in 2009 and is mandated to regulate and quality assure the private education sector in Singapore, as well as facilitate capabilities development to continuously improve the standards of private education institutions.

QAA was established in 1997 and is responsible for safeguarding the public interest in sound standards of higher education qualifications and to inform and encourage continuous improvement in the management of the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom.

CPE and QAA

There is a history of interaction and cooperation between CPE and QAA. The two agencies share similar missions and institutional objectives especially in the quality assurance of private and cross border providers of higher education, and have a common interest in the development and promotion of good practices and the interest of international students.

Aims of Memorandum of Understanding

CPE and QAA agree hereby to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for the benefit of both parties and to work towards establishing a strategic alliance to enhance external quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improve the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom and private education institutions in Singapore.

Areas of cooperation and collaboration

To these ends, CPE and QAA will pursue the following objectives for their mutual benefit:

i. Exchange of information

While respecting each body's copyright policies and without implying the transfer of any intellectual property rights to each other, exchange non-confidential policy documents and relevant non-confidential operational information, such as manuals and templates, to enable staff from the two agencies to support and learn from each other.

ii. Mutual understanding

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approach to ensuring quality in higher education and the respective systems in place for quality in higher education.

iii. Quality systems

Aim to achieve awareness in Singapore of the existence of the higher education quality assurance system in the United Kingdom, its role in ensuring the quality of transnational and cross border education activities, and the specific role and capabilities of its various review processes; and aim to ensure that the role of the CPE in quality assuring private education institutions in Singapore is fully understood within the United Kingdom.

iv. Emphases

Ensure that QAA fully understands which matters relating to quality in higher education are of the greatest importance to Singapore, advising the higher education sector of the United Kingdom on this, as appropriate. Conversely, ensure that CPE fully understands which quality issues are of the greatest importance to the United Kingdom, advising the Singapore private education sector on this, as appropriate.

v. Staff development

When appropriate and possible, professional staff from the two agencies to: spend time in each other's offices, participate as observers in institutional audits or programme accreditations, and be involved in training activities, to enable staff to be acquainted with systems processes and other relevant matters.

vi. Use of each other's reviewers

Where possible and appropriate, taking account of operational constraints and relevant Data Protection legislation, draw on each other's lists of reviewers and specialists to strengthen the international dimension of institutional reviews and/or accreditations, and special-purpose reviews of cross border education.

vii. Collaboration

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to:

- research on quality assurance related issues on the basis of mutual benefit
- the identification of fraudulent awarding bodies or accrediting agencies in the United Kingdom and Singapore

- the sharing of good practices of higher education institutions
- any other mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties.

viii. Mutual recognition

To have due regard to the relevant decisions and judgments of the other party, where appropriate and possible, in operations relating to quality assurance of higher education provided within one party's jurisdiction but originating from the other party's jurisdiction, while exploring possible pathways for further mutual recognition.

Duration of Memorandum

The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect from 25 March 2015 and shall continue for a period of three years unless it is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party. It may be extended on mutual agreement of both parties.

Alteration of Memorandum

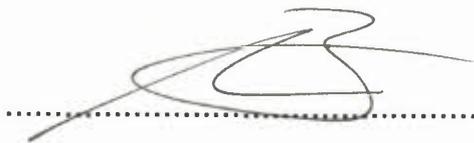
This Memorandum is signed by the parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation. The terms of the Memorandum may be altered with the consent of both parties.

Officers responsible for managing the Memorandum

Chief Executive Officer of CPE (at the time of signing Mr Brandon Lee) and the Chief Executive of QAA (at the time of signing Mr Anthony McClaran) will have responsibility for managing the implementation of the terms of the Memorandum and taking stock of the terms of the Memorandum on a yearly basis. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the agencies' staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Resources

Unless alternative arrangements are specifically agreed to meet particular project requirements, the two agencies will normally cover their own costs of implementing the terms of the Memorandum. For particular areas of cooperation, donor funding may be sought from other sources.



Brandon Lee
Chief Executive Officer, CPE
Signed in Singapore



Anthony McClaran
Chief Executive, QAA
Signed in the United Kingdom

Council for Private Education
 2 Bukit Merah Central
 #01-05
 Singapore 159835
 Telephone: +65 6499 0300
 Fax: +65 62751396
 Email:
CPE_CONTACT@cpe.gov.sg
 Website: www.cpe.gov.sg

**The Quality Assurance Agency
 for Higher Education**
 Southgate House
 Southgate Street
 Gloucester
 GL1 1UB
 United Kingdom
 Telephone: +44 1452 557000
 Fax: +44 1452 557002
 Email: international@qaa.ac.uk
 Website: www.qaa.ac.uk