



Memorandum of Cooperation between

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

and

**The Institution of Engineering and Technology
London, United Kingdom**

This Memorandum of Cooperation is made between the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, of Southgate House, Southgate Street, Gloucester GL1 1UB, United Kingdom, hereafter referred to as QAA.

and

The Institution of Engineering and Technology, of Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, United Kingdom, hereafter referred to as IET.

Recitals

Whereas:

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.

IET was founded in 1871 and is a professional engineering society with a worldwide membership of 150,000 engineering and technology professionals. Its many activities include qualifying professional engineers and the accreditation of programmes that provide the underpinning knowledge and understanding for these qualifications.

IET and QAA:

- recognising the importance of minimising the demands placed upon higher education institutions by bodies charged with reviewing or accrediting them
- acknowledging the potential value to each party of each other's review processes and reports, in the assurance of academic quality and standards
- wish to maintain close relations as equal partners for the purpose of exploring ways and means for establishing cooperative and collaborative mechanisms for the mutual benefit of both parties and the higher education institutions.

Article I

Aims of Memorandum of Cooperation

The IET and QAA agree hereby to enter into a Memorandum of Cooperation for the benefit of both parties and to work towards establishing a strategic alliance to provide for the greater effectiveness of both parties.

Article II

Areas of cooperation and collaboration

The IET and QAA will work together:

- to exchange information and expertise as appropriate
- to support developmental opportunities as appropriate for staff of both parties
- to engage each other actively in consultations and other research activities
- in joint forums, to identify areas for improvement in practice
- to promote wider public understanding of quality and standards in higher education
- to undertake any other mutually agreed activities for the benefit of both parties thereto.

Article III

Duration of Memorandum

The Memorandum will take effect from 10 February 2011 and will continue in operation until and unless it is terminated by the giving of three months' notice by either party.

Article IV

Alteration of Memorandum

The Memorandum may be altered at any time with the consent of both parties. A review of the effectiveness of the terms of the Memorandum will be undertaken in 2014, with a view to modifying its provisions to ensure that they meet current needs. Further reviews will take place at three-yearly intervals.

Article V

Officers responsible for managing the Memorandum

The Chief Executive and Secretary of the IET (at the time of signing, Mr Nigel Fine) 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. This responsibility may be delegated to relevant members of the parties' staff in relation to particular areas of cooperation.

Article VI

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.

Article VII

Schedule of projects and activities

Any projects or other activities that are entered into under the terms of this Memorandum will be described in administrative schedules to be annexed to the Memorandum.

Signed in Savoy Place, London, 10 February 2011



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Mr Nigel Fine
Chief Executive and Secretary,
The Institution of Engineering and
Technology,
United Kingdom.



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Mr Anthony McClaran
Chief Executive,
The Quality Assurance Agency for
Higher Education,
United Kingdom.

Schedule

Within the broad framework of the Memorandum of Understanding, the IET and QAA will use their best efforts to undertake the following activities in the first three-year period of this Memorandum:

- meet regularly to share intelligence from each others' work
- each consider QAA audit and review and IET accreditation procedures, to ensure:
 - a) mutual understanding of the operation of the different methods, and
 - b) cooperation between the two organisations for their mutual benefit and for the benefit of higher education institutionsregularly participate in the QAA/UKIPG PSRB forum and in HEBRG events
- respond as appropriate to consultations and discussions on the development of each other's work.