



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

between

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

and

**China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre,  
People's Republic of China**

This Memorandum of Understanding 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

**China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre**, of B17-18, Tongfang Scientific Building, No.1 Wangzhuang Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100083, China, hereafter referred to as CDGDC.

### **Whereas**

QAA is the independent quality body for UK higher education with the mission to safeguard standards and improve the quality of UK higher education wherever it is delivered around the world. QAA carries out external quality assurance by visiting and monitoring universities and colleges to review how they are fulfilling their responsibilities. To support standards and promote quality enhancement QAA publishes a range of reference points, including the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, which sets out the expectations and practices that all providers of UK higher education are required to meet in setting the standards of their awards, and for managing the quality of their provision, as well as a range of guidance, analysis and insights. QAA is funded by subscriptions from universities and colleges, and through contracts with the higher education funding and regulatory bodies in the UK.

CDGDC is an administrative institution directly under the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, operating under the joint leadership of Ministry of Education, Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council and Education Supervision Committee of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, possessing the independent qualification of legal entity. The main functions of CDGDC include undertaking the task of evaluation, assessment and research of academic degrees and graduate education; engaging in research into the degree equivalency between China and foreign countries; and providing services for educational qualifications' and related materials' verification, authentication and consulting.

## **QAA and CDGDC**

Having similar objectives in the advancement of quality assurance in higher education, both participants wish to continue and deepen further their cooperation upon the terms contained herein.

### **Aims**

QAA and CDGDC agree through this Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate for the benefit of both parties and to work towards enhancing quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improving the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom and China. In particular, both parties will work towards enhancing cooperation in the quality assurance of cross-border higher education.

This Memorandum of Understanding is not intended to create legally binding relations between the parties, and neither party has the authority to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other party. However, QAA and CDGDC agree to work together to implement this Memorandum of Understanding in good faith.

### **Areas of cooperation and collaboration**

To these ends, QAA and CDGDC, in accordance with the framework of British and Chinese laws and regulations, will pursue the following objectives for their mutual benefit and with a commitment to facilitate the quality assurance of UK-China transnational education (TNE):

#### **(a) Mutual understanding**

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approaches to assuring quality in higher education, the respective systems in place for quality assurance and enhancement in higher education, and the critical matters relating to quality and standards in higher education in both countries.

#### **(b) Information exchange**

Exchange non-confidential information about each other's activities and processes, developments in each country's higher education systems including the outcomes of evaluations of UK-China Cooperation in Running Schools (CFCRS), and cooperation in the development of UK-China CFCRS.

#### **(c) Staff development**

Where appropriate and possible, support the development of staff from the two agencies through activities such as staff exchange, observing each other's review processes, and provision of training.

#### **(d) Use of each other's reviewers**

Where appropriate and possible, draw on reviewers or other specialists from each other's systems to strengthen the international dimension of each other's review processes.

#### **(e) Recognition**

Where appropriate and possible, in operations relating to quality assurance of higher education within one party's jurisdiction but originating from the other party's jurisdiction, have due regard to the relevant decisions and judgements of the other party.

## **(f) Collaboration**

Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities for the benefit of both parties, including the quality assurance of transnational education, and undertaking research and substantial cooperation on quality assurance-related issues. Both parties will particularly benefit from focusing cooperation on:

- Conducting research and developing guidance to support higher education providers in UK and China which are applying for or engaging in CFCRS, including through running briefing events for UK providers on the CFCRS policy system in China, to promote win-win cooperation and improve the quality of UK-China CFCRS.
- Developing Guidelines for cross-border quality assurance within the Cross-Border Quality Assurance Network initiative with the experience of UK-China CFCRS.

## **Duration of Memorandum**

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

## **Alteration of Memorandum**

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

## **Management and liaison arrangements for the Memorandum**

The Chief Executive of QAA (at the time of signing Mr Douglas Blackstock) and the Director-General of CDGDC (at the time of signing Mr Huang Baoyin) 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 undertake particular activities, 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.

## **Schedule of projects and activities**

Specific details on any projects or other activities, such as joint events and research, and joint accreditation of UK-China programmes or providers (procedures and agendas), that are entered into under the terms of this Memorandum shall be negotiated and agreed by both parties and will be described in work plans to be annexed to the Memorandum.

## **Language of Memorandum**

This Memorandum is duly signed in English and Chinese, both texts being equally authentic.


Signed in **Cardiff, United Kingdom** on **24 April 2018**.



**Douglas Blackstock**  
**Chief Executive**  
**QAA**

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# 中华人民共和国教育部学位与研究生教育发展中心 与 英国高等教育质量保障署 谅解备忘录

本谅解备忘录由中华人民共和国教育部学位与研究生教育发展中心（下称学位中心，中华人民共和国北京市海淀区王庄路1号清华同方科技大厦B座17-18层）

与

英国高等教育质量保障署（下称QAA，Southgate House, Southgate Street, Gloucester GL11 UB, United Kingdom）共同缔结而成。

鉴于

学位中心是中华人民共和国教育部直属的行政事业单位，在中华人民共和国教育部和国务院学位委员会、国务院教育督导委员会的领导下开展工作，具有独立的法人资格。学位中心的主要业务包括开展学位与研究生教育评估、评审及研究；中国与其他国家的学位对等性研究，提供学位证书及相关材料的认证、鉴定和咨询服务。

QAA是一个独立的机构，它的资金支持来源于大学和学院的会费以及与英国高等教育拨款机构的合约。QAA旨在保障英国高

等教育的标准并提高其质量。QAA通过访问大学和学院以评审其如何履行责任来开展外部质量保障。为保证标准、提升质量，QAA发布了包括《英国高等教育质量准则》在内一系列参考点及指南，该准则设定了所有英国高等教育机构应达到的期望值。

## 学位中心和 QAA

在高等教育质量保障的提升方面有相似的目标，且双方均希望继续并深化本文所列条款上的合作。

## 目标

学位中心与 QAA 同意通过本谅解备忘录以实现：为双方的利益而合作，并致力于加强彼此权限范围内的质量保障工作，提高英国和中国的高等教育质量。特别是，双方将朝着加强跨境高等教育质量保障方面的合作而努力。

本谅解备忘录并非旨在使双方建立具有法律约束力的关系，任何一方无权以另一方的名义开展工作或以其他形式约束另一方。学位中心和 QAA 同意共同努力，诚恳落实本谅解备忘录。

## 合作的范围

为此，学位中心与 QAA 将遵守中国和英国的法律法规，追求以下互惠互利的目标，致力于促进中英跨国教育的质量保障：

### **(1) 相互理解**

双方致力于加强对另一方高等教育质量保障方法、高等教育质量保障体系和高等教育质量提升体系、两国高等教育质量及标准的关键因素的理解。

## **(2) 信息交流**

双方交换非机密信息，并就各自的活动和过程、各自国家高等教育体系的发展等进行信息交流，包括：提供中英合作办学评估结果，在建立中国境内的中英合作办学和在英国的跨国教育基本信息方面开展合作。

## **(3) 员工发展**

双方在适当和可能的情况下，通过员工交流、观察另一方的评审程序、提供培训等途径来支持两个机构的工作人员的发展。

## **(4) 评审员的使用**

双方在适当和可能的情况下，使用另一方体系下的评审员或其他专家，以推进彼此评审过程的国际维度。

## **(5) 认可**

双方在适当和可能的情况下，在高等教育质量保障合作方面，如一方要在其权限内开展另一方权限内的活动，应充分考虑另一方的有关决定和意见。

## **(6) 合作**

在适当和可能的情况下，为了双方的共同利益，就双方共同商定的项目和活动开展合作，包括跨国教育的质量保障，开展质量保障相关问题的研究和实质性合作。双方将特别聚焦于以下合作：双方对中英合作办学评估指标体系制定和评估办法提出建议，提高双边合作；为中英申请和正在合作办学高校提供政策咨询，包括举办向英国高校介绍中国中外合作办学政策体系的小型活动，促进办学的合作共赢，提高办学质量；借助中英合作办学经验，共同推动亚欧跨境教育质量保障网络组织，关于跨境教育质量保障指南的制定。



## 备忘录的有效期

本谅解备忘录自签署之日起生效，有效期为三年，除非任何一方提前三个月通知终止谅解备忘录。本谅解备忘录可以根据双方的共同协议延长。

## 备忘录的更改

本备忘录由双方本着友好合作的精神签署。备忘录的条款可以在双方同意的情况下更改。

## 备忘录的管理和联络安排

学位中心主任（签署之时为黄宝印先生）和 QAA 首席执行官（签署之时为道格拉斯·布莱克斯托克先生）将具有年度管理备忘录条款的实施和总体把握备忘录条款的责任。在具体合作方面，该责任可授权给机构工作人员中的相关成员。

## 资源

除经同意为开展特定活动的特别安排之外，各方通常将支付各自执行备忘录条款的费用。对于合作的特定方面，可以从其他来源寻求捐助者资金。

## 项目和活动计划

任何项目或活动的具体细节，如以及属于本备忘录条款内的中英项目或高校（程序和议程）的联合活动、联合研究和联合认证，应由双方协商和同意，并将在附于备忘录之后的工作计划中加以说明。



## 备忘录的语言

本备忘录以中文及英文正式签署，两份文本均真实有效。

本备忘录签约于卡迪夫，大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国。

2018年4月24日



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黄宝印

主任

中国教育部学位与研究生教育发展中心

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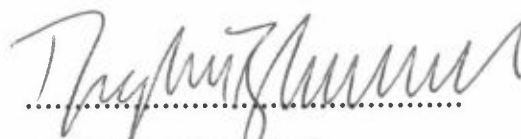
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