****

**Teaching Partnerships Sub-Committee**

**TPSC12 – M2**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 8 October 2012**

**Members**: Professor Morag Bell (Chair), Mr Rob Pearson, Dr Keith Pond, Dr Lorraine Cale, Dr Robert Hamilton, Lazar Zindovic (VP Education).

**In attendance:** Mrs Joanne Arno(Secretary)

**Apologies:** Dr Lorraine Cale, Lazar Zindovic

**12/7. Notes from the meeting held on 30 January 2012**

 **(TPSC12-M1)**

 Approved

**12/8. Matters arising**

***.****4* It was reiterated that the spreadsheet of 3+1+1 agreements must be kept up to date and it would be helpful if it could be available (with covering guidance) to ADTs when they are considering setting up new agreements.

**12/9. Terms of Reference and Membership 2012/13 (TPSC12 –P2)**

Approved

**12/10. Loughborough College Proposals for Two New Courses –top up and distance learning**

It was noted that these proposals will be considered by SSEHS Learning & Teaching Committee on 17 October and SSEHS SMT on 22 October and the ADT will provide feedback after this. If supported the proposals will need TPSC consideration before they go to Operations (this can be done virtually as the next TPSC meeting is not until late January). It was noted that the Top Up is unlikely to pose any concerns but the on-line coaching programme will be more problematic. It is wholly distance learning to provide a BSc in coaching. The College believe there is a very substantial market for this BSc particularly overseas. The wholly distance learning aspect, the number of people involved and the difficulty of ensuring quality control are currently all concerning factors and it will need very careful consideration.

It was also noted that Loughborough College have approached SBE to validate management programmes currently validated by another UK HEI. Loughborough University took the decision to validate the College’s sports degrees because of the Loughborough sport brand, it was not intended to extend this into other disciplines.

**12/11. QAA Consultation on Collaborative Provision Guidelines (TPSC12-P3 and P3b).**

It was noted that the QAA has recently migrated all its guidance policies for institutions from the old QAA Code of Practice into a new UK Quality Code for Higher Education (the Quality Code). It has revised all the different sections of the old Code. The section covering collaborative provision has been redrafted and is subject to consultation until 19 October. There are three key areas: scope, due diligence and ongoing responsibility. The latter is of some concern – the wording is somewhat ambiguous in relation to the obligation on a validating institution if validation is suspended or withdrawn.

There was discussion about whether current collaborations are sufficiently tight and whether more needs to be done, particularly in relation to Erasmus exchange credit bearing semesters (and in some cases full years) . It was noted that there is due diligence in the proposal form which must be completed by a department wishing to set up a new Erasmus/international exchange partner. This has to be approved by the Director of Internationalisation and credit transfer and academic credibility of the proposed partner is closely assessed.

**12/12** **Register of Collaborative Provision (TPSC12-P4)**

The updated register was noted.

It was also noted that we currently have a number of different models for Doctoral Training Centres (DTCs). In the future there should only be one or two models so the guidelines need to be tighter.

**12/13 NAFA Revalidation**

It was reported that there will be a video conference validation of NAFA after Christmas (the PVCT requested that this be conducted later in the academic year if possible). It was noted that the School will be notified of the validation but the details will be discussed in the New Year.

**12/14. Due Diligence (TPSC12-P5)**

The sections relating to change of management within external providers and gifts were noted. The document is predominantly concerned with agents rather than partners and how to handle these arrangements.

**12.15. Date of the next meetings**

21January 2013, 9.30am, Room 201.2.12, Hazlerigg Building

25 February 2013, 9.30am, Room 201.0.09, Hazlerigg Building

20 May 2013, 9.30am, Room 201.0.09, Hazlerigg Building

**12/16. Any other Business**

None

Author – Joanne Arno

Date –November 2012

Copyright © Loughborough University. All rights reserved.