

## Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee: Terms of Reference



### Purpose

The Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee (SPSC) is accountable to the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee (LTSEC) and exists to provide advice on opportunities and priorities for investment in the development of new and existing markets, academic partnerships & other strategic alliances. It also advises LTSEC on academic partnership developments with particular focus on the financial, legal and reputational elements of these activities.

In fulfilling this purpose, the Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee delegates aspects of its work to and takes advice from the following:

- Partnership Quality Sub-Committee
- Degree Apprenticeship Board

### Membership

PVC Student Experience (Chair)

Associate Deans: Partnership or equivalent (4; 1 per Faculty)

Director of Apprenticeships (or nominee)

Director of Student and Academic Services (or nominee)

Director of Library, Careers and Inclusivity (or nominee)

Chief Financial Officer (or nominee)

Director of Future Students (or nominee)

Chair of Partnership Quality Sub-Committee

A representative of HR

Students' Union elected officer, on the nomination of the Students' Union President (1)

### In attendance

Representation from the International Office

UK Partnerships Coordinator

Collaborative Provision Manager

Partnership Operations Manager

Committee Officer

Members "in attendance" do not have voting rights. The Chair has discretion to determine whether and how many post-holders or other individuals may attend a meeting in a non-voting capacity.

The membership can also include up to two co-opted members. Co-opted members are appointed by the Committee in consultation with the Chair. Co-opted members have voting rights.

## **Responsibility**

The Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee is responsible for:

- Coordinating and monitoring implementation of UWE's strategy for international and UK-based learning and teaching partnerships;
- Monitoring and ensuring the University's continued delivery against UKVI Tier 4 Sponsor expectations;
- Promoting and facilitating improvements to the utilisation of UWE's academic partnerships and liaising with Faculties and Services to maximise student recruitment opportunities;
- Advising on specific approaches to marketing and the development of UWE's profile in key markets overseas and regionally;
- Providing advice on the financial framework (business cases) for partner tuition fees and discounts, scholarships, bursaries and commission payments, partnerships and funding for international development activities;
- Recommending new partnerships or the termination of existing agreements, through the Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee, to Academic Board;
- Defining the structure, framework, responsibilities and operational arrangements for academic partnership activities and advising Faculties and Professional Services accordingly;
- Monitoring and considering the effectiveness of academic partnership activities (including projects), benchmarking performance against a number of key targets and advising on future activity;
- Ensuring active consideration of equality, diversity and inclusion in the conduct of its business;
- Ensuring any task-and-finish groups or special interest groups it creates can discharge their functions, having Terms of Reference with clear responsibilities and delegated authorities;
- Evaluating annually its performance and that of any groups it creates to ensure academic governance arrangements enhance institutional performance and add value.

## **Accountability**

The Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee is accountable to Learning Teaching and Student Experience Committee (LTSEC) and reports to it on:

- Proposals for new policies and frameworks within its area of competence;
- Proposals for changes to its terms of reference, membership or priorities or to those of any sub-groups established to support delivery of its terms of reference;
- Any matters or priority areas referred to it for action by the Chair of LTSEC.

SPSC provides an annual assurance report to LTSEC, through which it demonstrates how it has fulfilled its Terms of Reference and assesses its own effectiveness and that of its Sub-Committees. The requirements for the report will be specified by LTSEC.

## **Administration**

The Strategic Partnerships Sub-Committee will meet up to eight times a year. The duration of meetings will be no longer than three hours. The Quorum for meetings is one-third of members eligible to attend.

Co-opted members will serve a maximum three-year term.

A committee officer will be identified to support the Chair in the effective and efficient conduct of the Committee's business.

**Review**

The Terms of Reference for the Strategic Partnerships Committee will be reviewed annually to ensure they are still relevant, decision-making structures are effective and the SPSC can effectively discharge its duties. As part of the review consideration should be given to how the Committee can improve and better integrate practices which support equality, diversity and inclusivity.