Why and how do UK universities like to partner?

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UK Higher Education

- 162 Higher Education providers
- 2.28 million students (1.84 million from UK; 440,000 international)
- 700,000 international students are studying UK programmes overseas
University Alliance

- University of Brighton
- University of Central Lancashire
- Coventry University
- University of Greenwich
- University of Hertfordshire
- University of Huddersfield
- Kingston University
- Liverpool John Moores University
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Nottingham Trent University
- The Open University
- Oxford Brookes University
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Salford
- Sheffield Hallam University
- University of South Wales
- Teesside University
- UWE Bristol
Internationalisation and transnational education | UK priorities

- **Open for business** | UK Higher Education looking at new models of working with global partners (Brexit)

- **Student experience** | Internationalisation of student bodies, targets to increase outward mobility and diversity, international opportunities for all students, intercultural understanding

- **Research** | Increased reach and impact

- **Reputation** | Enhance global profile; partnership and recruitment

- **Diversification** | New business models in response to domestic pressures (visa policy, demography)

- **Mission and strategy** | i.e. alignment to Industrial Strategy key sectors or professions (eg creative and digital, cultural heritage, automotive, healthcare), development
Largest university in Europe, distance learning experts

Partnership strategy based on helping partners build local capacity and capabilities in delivering high-quality education, via:

- Licensed Open University content
- Consultancy services
- Harnessing innovative education technologies
- Validation services
- Training in development of online pedagogy

See [http://partnerships-brochure.open.ac.uk/education-partnerships](http://partnerships-brochure.open.ac.uk/education-partnerships)

Looking for collaborators:

- With ambition to be global higher education providers and aiming to work at scale

Contact: Viren Patel | Viren.Patel@open.ac.uk
Opportunities to:

- Create course-based arrangements to include student study abroad for one semester in any subject, but especially:
  - Digital City, smart city, big data
  - Energy systems
  - Multidisciplinary design and architecture
  - Journalism
  - Sports marketing
  - Energy and sustainability
- Learn more by attending 2018 summer workshop with academic streams in multiple disciplines and courses for staff in UK Higher Education

Looking for collaborators to:

- Develop programmes including student exchange and experience for postgrad students; staff development
- Form research collaborations and professional doctorates

Contact: George Hunt | George.Hunt@tees.ac.uk
What types of partnerships do UK universities like?

• Broad partnerships, often doing more than one thing

• Range of transnational education (TNE) models
  • Franchised programmes
  • Validated programmes
  • External validation programmes
  • Articulation agreements

• Successful partnerships can involve a range of activities, research collaborations, staff and student mobility plus TNE
University of Brighton

150 nationalities found among students and staff at the University of Brighton

Case study | Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology - University of Brighton Partnership

- Language and cultural training in both countries by both partners
- Joint Research
- University/industry/knowledge transfer collaborations
- Facilitating staff and student exchanges
- Annual research and development conference hosted alternately

Contact: Prof Andrew Lloyd | A.W.Lloyd@brighton.ac.uk
Enablers for strong international partnerships

• UK universities like working with quality partners that:
  • Have ambitious, growth / development strategies
  • Prioritise student and staff experience
  • Have equitable standards – and can navigate the quality framework in-country as part of the partnership
  • Have some use of English language and support for English language training
  • Have previous international experience and decision-making powers
  • Will think creatively about suitable partnership models

• Use different ways of gauging ‘quality’:
  • Generally: institutional and subject rankings, accreditations
  • For research: outputs, research active staff, existing international engagement
  • TNE: past experience and partners
  • Finance, governance structures
  • Infrastructure (IT, library, labs)
Case study | Hebei University-UCLan Joint School of Communication and Creative Industries

- 700 students (target 800); 6 BA (Hons) programmes; taught by UCLan staff
- In-country accreditation; moderation / UK Quality Assurance
- In-country committees & guest lectures by UK staff
- Training in the UK & in China for staff
- Encourages the use of English outside of classroom
- Regular inward UK students undertake project work with the students of the joint school
- Cultural events and celebrations

Contact: Paul Rowe | PRowe@uclan.ac.uk
Timeline

March 2012
1st Visit

April 2013
MOE Inspection

Dec 2013
10 Visits by Exec Director & DVC

Confirmed Approval from MOE

Sept 2014
100 students enrolled across 4 programmes

Sept 2015
Year 2
284 students Enrolled across 6 programmes

Nov 2015
1st Board of Governors Meeting

Sept 2016
Year 3
434 students

Sept 2017
Year 4
700 Estimated students

number of visits by senior academics & the partnerships team
Currently working together in the UK
• 17 universities across UK, 150 students
• DTA Applied Biosciences for Health (14 UK partners)
• DTA Energy (13 UK partners)
• DTA Social Policy (9 UK partners)
• Cohort-based training – residential summer schools and electives
• Applied research and industry skills focus

Looking for further collaborators for:
• Staff and student exchange
• Co-development of research projects
• Joint applications to support researcher links

Contact: Dr Faye Taylor | faye@unialliance.ac.uk
Thank you

www.unialliance.ac.uk