

# THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART

## COLLABORATIVE PROVISION: THE STUDENT AND STAFF EXPERIENCE

### POLICY DETAILS:

Date of approval	March 2014
Approving body	Academic Council
Supersedes	
Date of EIA	
Date of next review	<i>See departmental schedule</i>
Author	Policy and Governance
Responsible Executive Group area	Policy and Governance
Related policies and documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative Provision Policy</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Risk Assessment</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Due Diligence</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Formal Agreements</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Monitoring and Review</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: International Articulation</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: UK Articulation</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Policy on Student Exchange Arrangements</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Guidance on Conflicts of Interest</li> <li>• Collaborative Provision: Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy</li> </ul>
Benchmarking	UK Quality Code for Higher Education University of Glasgow

## **THE STUDENT AND STAFF EXPERIENCE**

1. GSA places staff and students at the centre of its priorities when establishing and maintaining collaborative arrangements with others. GSA seeks to provide students with a comparable learning experience as to that of home campus students. GSA is also committed to supporting staff who teach on programmes in different locations, including overseas, in a way that is equivalent to the support available to colleagues in Glasgow.

### **2. Students**

2.1 Student engagement is a core principle in GSA's approach to ensuring the quality and enhancement of educational provision. GSA has established policies, practices and procedures that allow for meaningful input from students at all academic levels. The proposal must ensure that GSA established practices for student engagement extend to the arrangements it enters into with others.

2.2 The proposal must provide opportunities for student engagement so that students can make a contribution to the development of the learning and teaching experience and are able to participate in the decision making process. To this extent, there will be opportunities for student representation and participation in fora such as Staff Student Consultative Committees, or equivalent, mechanisms for student feedback and student participation in surveys. The effectiveness of student engagement will be monitored through GSA monitoring policies, procedures and practices, such as the Programme Monitoring and Annual Reporting mechanism.

2.3 Proposals for collaborations which are not on the home campus must provide a suitable environment for learning. It may be that an institutional visit is required, particularly for new partnerships and those overseas, to ascertain that the resources provided by a partner institution, such as teaching and learning accommodation, equipment, learning resources, the library and computing facilities etc., together with appropriate student support arrangements, sufficiently guarantee the quality of student learning opportunities.

2.4 GSA values the diversity of its student and staff population and is committed to the promotion of equality and diversity. Proposals must evidence compliance with regulatory frameworks including equality of opportunity for learning. Therefore, a partner's policies, procedures and practices on equality and diversity (i.e. equality, age, disability, gender, race, religion and belief and sexual orientation) will be considered by the proposing School, with evidence of suitable alignment of policies, prior to entering into an arrangement.

2.5 The student learning experience also extends to the proposed partner having regulatory frameworks relating to academic and administrative policies and practices for maintaining academic standards and quality of provision. The partner institution must have policies and procedures that align with GSA's or have comparable ones in place.

### **3. Staff**

3.1 In its collaborations with others, GSA seeks to provide staff with similar support arrangements and an experience comparable to that of colleagues on the home campus. GSA takes staff engagement and support seriously. GSA's intention is that staff feel

motivated and supported and can, as a result, engage with good practice and enhancement.

- 3.2 GSA requires that staff are suitably qualified to deliver a collaborative programme. If staff are employed by the partner institution then the partner must have mechanisms for staff performance management, training and development together with Human Resources policies and procedures that align with, or are as consistent as possible to GSA's. The proposing School must evidence how these partner policies align with the GSA equivalents, and how on-going alignment will be assessed and negotiated by the School. These processes will be reviewed as part of the monitoring process.
- 3.3 Depending on the arrangement, GSA may reserve the right to approve staff appointments made by a partner institution for those teaching on a collaborative programme. This is to ensure standards and GSA may view this as a term to be written into the formal agreement. Schools making proposals will be asked to assess the need for such a clause.
- 3.4 GSA is committed to staff operating as part of transnational arrangements and may well seek the use of technology to ensure lines of communication, distance training and continuing professional development. Schools making proposals will be asked to assess the needs and operational delivery in this regard.
- 3.5 In addition to the challenge that distance presents, learning environments and cultures may differ significantly in transnational arrangements. It is important that staff are aware of differing cultural assumptions and are conscious of their own expectations as well as those of the partner. Schools making proposals will be asked to set out the steps taken in this regard. To this extent, a prior institutional visit may be of benefit and also possible culture awareness training. Schools delivering teaching abroad should contact Human Resources for contractual advice on employment and available support in managing the arrangement.