

COVER SHEET

HTMi SINGAPORE: COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP

Presenter: Professor J McCoy

To consider a paper proposing to change the status of the course offered by the partner institution from 'validated' to 'franchised', and the status of students from 'Associate Students' to registered students of the University as 'Affiliate Students' ('Ulster University Overseas Students').

The Committee noted at its October meeting that the Chair had approved by Chair's action on its behalf in summer 2020 the delivery of BSc Hons International Hospitality Management (Level 6) (min 20.48, Appendix 2 refers).

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

ULSTER UNIVERSITY BUSINESS SCHOOL
Collaborative Partnership with Hotel & Tourism Institute, PTE Ltd.
Trading as: HTMi Singapore

This submission to ASQEC seeks members' approval to transfer the provision at HTMi Singapore from the recently approved Validated Model to a Franchised Model of collaboration. The provision refers to the final year (level 6) Top-up to the BSc Honours International Hospitality Management.

The primary reason for this request is to enable us to meet the conditions of the Letter of Approval from the Committee for Private Education (CPE) in Singapore. This Committee acts with delegated authority of the Singapore Ministry of Education to assess submissions, issue licences, and provide on-going oversight of educational programmes of study offered by Private Sector providers in the Country.

Final approval has now been granted but is contingent on the students being fully registered students of Ulster University and with no reference to HTMi Singapore on the Degree Parchment issued by the University. The CPE approve all other HTMi Provision and are keen to see an in-Country opportunity for students to gain a UK award. The arrangements under the Validated Model are not sufficient to meet the student status requirement.

Further, under the Validated Model, recognition is given to the collaborative partner's input, including its ownership of the curriculum, which the University recognises by reference to the Partner on the Degree Parchment. This means that students registered under the Validated Model fall into the category of Associate Students rather than fully registered students on an Ulster award which is being delivered overseas. **Appendix 1: Extract from the Private Education Regulations, Singapore, outlines Regulation 24 by way of confirmation.**

This condition was not known at the time of the Faculty's application to operate the provision under the Validated Model and the Business School is now seeking ASQEC's approval to transfer the provision to a Franchised Model and supported by an in-Country delivery team of fully-qualified and experienced academics with industry experience. These will be submitted for approval under the Recognised University Teacher arrangements.

ASQEC members are asked to note the strategic importance of the relationship with HTMi Switzerland, Dubai and Singapore, with articulation pathways to HTM programmes at Ulster or in-Country.

There is also a wider opportunity for the Business School, as the Educational Partner of Choice, given HTMi Singapore's parent company plans to invest in the establishment of a new Business School. This may broaden the provision across the disciplines of Business, Management, Accounting, Finance and Economics. Opportunities for other Faculties, in particular CEBE, are also likely to emerge in due course.

As directed by the Academic Office, a parallel exercise of seeking approval through the submission of a CA2a is in progress and arrangements for the change at an Institutional level is being agreed with the guidance of colleagues in QEU.

Submitted on behalf of the Department of HTM by Professor Jackie McCoy, Associate Dean, Global Engagement, UUBS.

Appendix 1: Extract from the Private Education Regulations (Singapore)

No. S 617

PRIVATE EDUCATION ACT 2009 (ACT 21 OF 2009)

PRIVATE EDUCATION REGULATIONS 2009

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Part V Course Administration Regulation No 24

Certificate, etc., not conferred by registered private education institution

24. (1) Subject to paragraph(1A), no registered private education institution shall cause or permit its name or logo to appear on any certificate, degree or diploma awarded in respect of any course which is conferred by another education institution, or any transcript issued in respect of such course.

[S 135/2013 wef 12/03/2013]

(1A) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the registered private education institutions specified in the Second Schedule to the extent specified therein.

[S 135/2013 wef 12/03/2013]

(2) In this regulation, “logo” includes any mark, sign or other representation.