



Sharing Experiences and Good Practice in Collaborative Provision

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Objectives of the workshop

- To share experiences of collaborative provision and the issues and challenges involved.
- To identify examples of good practice in quality assurance.
- To ascertain participants' perceptions of the optimal means of quality assurance in this context.



What is collaborative provision?

- “...educational provision leading to an award, or to specific credit toward an award, delivered, supported and/or assessed through an arrangement with a partner organisation” (QAA)
- The partner organisation may be:
 - another HE provider or an employer
 - based nationally or internationally



Why collaborate?

- Academic benefits
 - Curriculum development
 - Exchange of teachers and students
 - Increased access to expertise, networks and facilities
- Strategic benefits
 - Creates new relationships
 - Supports deeper, more sustained relationships
- Financial benefits
 - Taking advantage of under-utilised resources or spare capacity



Modes of collaboration

- **Single award**
 - A single award is made by one of the partner institutions on behalf of all participants
- **Combined award**
 - Two or more awarding institutions provide separate awards often for consecutive qualifications
- **Joint award**
 - two or more awarding institutions together provide programmes leading to a single award made jointly by both, or all, participants.
- **Dual award (double degrees)**
 - two or more awarding institutions together provide programmes leading to separate awards being granted by both, or all of them.



Issues and Challenges

- Different regulatory systems
- Different academic calendars
- Different credit systems
- Different teaching approaches
- Different examination requirements
- Different cultures
- Etc...



Workshop activity 1

Working in small groups:

1. Share your experiences of the issues and challenges involved in each of the four areas outlined on the next slide, and
2. Identify examples of good practice in quality assurance for each area.



Areas for discussion

- Selecting a partner to collaborate with
 - Procedures for approval, monitoring and periodic review of collaborative partners
- Identifying joint and individual responsibilities
 - Who does what, when, how and why?
- Working within different systems and frameworks
 - Incompatibility between institutional and national systems
 - Dealing with potential consequences of regulatory compromise or sacrifice
- Looking after students' interests
 - The student voice
 - Academic and pastoral welfare
 - Student appeals



Workshop activity 2

- What do you consider to be the optimal means of quality assurance in the context of collaborative provision ?