

Our Reference: FOI.2024.02.1130

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Legal Services

China Strategic Risks Institute
(London)

(By Email)

25 March 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: request for information under The Freedom of Information Act.

Further to your request for information dated 25 February 2024, please find attached the University of Birmingham's response. If you have any queries regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request has been dealt with, you may ask the University to conduct an internal review of its response. If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the University's response complies with the Freedom of Information Act. A copy of the University's Complaints and Appeals procedure, which provides further details of your rights, is attached.

Please note our statement in respect of Copyright, which is also attached.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University of Birmingham

Encs

Your request for information reads:

"This is a Freedom of Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please provide the following information:

- From 2015 to 2023, the numbers of University of Birmingham degrees (including all Bachelor and Master) conferred every year at the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute at Jinan University. Please provide this information in aggregated numbers by different programmes.*
- Lists of education programmes, research projects, and research grants that are currently operational at Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute, either participated by Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute students and staff or sponsored by the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute and the University of Birmingham.*
- University of Birmingham policies and governance structure which oversee the operations, including student experience and research, at the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute. Please provide relevant policy documents and/or relevant administrative staff role specifications where applicable.*
- From 2015 to 2023, donations, grants, and research fundings received by the University of Birmingham and its affiliated entities from the Jinan University and/or any affiliated individuals, companies, or relevant Chinese official agencies."*

The University of Birmingham responds:

The University of Birmingham is required to respond to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act") if it holds the information being requested, unless it is appropriate to apply one of the limited exemptions set out in the Act.

From 2015 to 2023, the numbers of University of Birmingham degrees (including all Bachelor and Master) conferred every year at the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute at Jinan University. Please provide this information in aggregated numbers by different programmes.

The first students at the Jinan-Birmingham Joint Institute ("J-BJI") began each of the 4-year programmes during September 2017. Therefore, no students were eligible for graduation during the 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, and 2019/20 academic years. Additionally, no information is available for the 2023/24 academic year as the students are not eligible for graduation until September 2024.

Therefore, please see the table below which shows the number of University of Birmingham degrees conferred each year at the Jinan University – University of Birmingham Joint Institute at Jinan University.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
BSc Applied Mathematics with Economics	26	50	49	N/A
BSc Applied Mathematics with Statistics	26	47	51	N/A
BSc Applied Mathematics with Mathematics	17	46	46	N/A
BSc Applied Mathematics with Information Computing	20	44	48	N/A

Lists of education programmes, research projects, and research grants that are currently operational at Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute, either participated by Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute students and staff or sponsored by the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute and the University of Birmingham.

A list of education programmes that are currently operational at Jinan University – University of Birmingham Joint Institute is available at the following website:

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/mathematics/ug-admissions/jinan>.

Please see Refusal Notice 1 which explains why you are being referred to the University's website.

The University has no record of any research grants or projects that are currently operational at Jinan. Therefore, the University does not hold any information in relation to this question.

University of Birmingham policies and governance structure which oversee the operations, including student experience and research, at the Jinan University - University of Birmingham Joint Institute. Please provide relevant policy documents and/or relevant administrative staff role specifications where applicable.

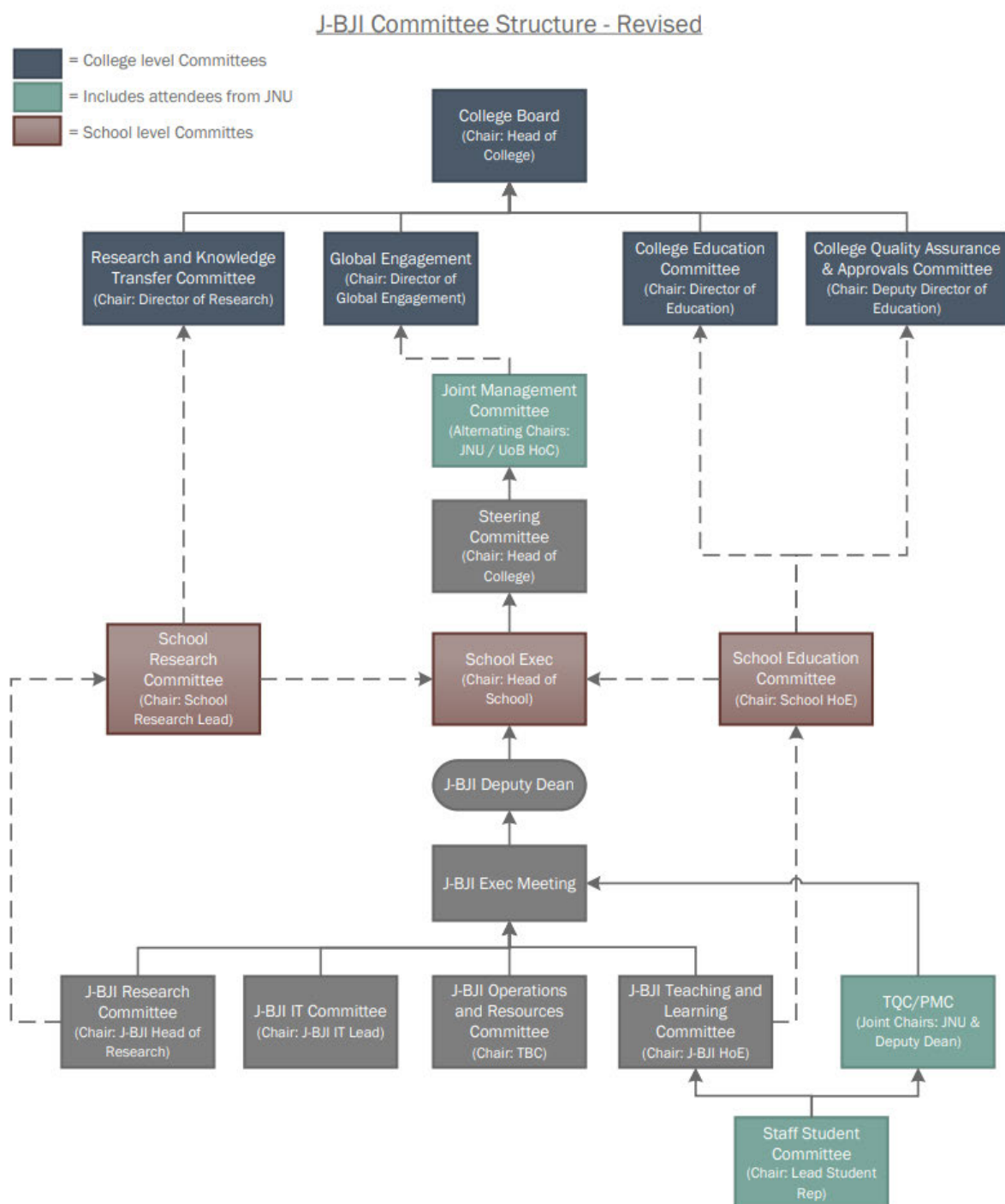
The University's policies and relevant Codes of Practice and Regulations are available at the following links:

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/registry/legislation/regulations/index.aspx>

<https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/registry/legislation/codesofpractice/index.aspx>

Please see Refusal Notice 1 which explains why you are being referred to the University's website.

Please see on the following page the J-BJI Governance Structure:



From 2015 to 2023, donations, grants, and research fundings received by the University of Birmingham and its affiliated entities from the Jinan University and/or any affiliated individuals, companies, or relevant Chinese official agencies.

The University has no records regarding donations, grants, and research fundings from any of the above individuals and organisations. Therefore, the University does not hold any information relevant to this question.

To confirm, the University conducted a search for donations, grants, and research fundings received by it and its affiliated entities from: (a) Jinan University and its known affiliated individuals and companies; or (b) relevant Chinese official agencies. As

regards (b), the University has cross referenced its donations against the list of Chinese official agencies provided by the US-China Business Council, which can be found at the following webpage <https://www.uschina.org/resources/prc-agencies>.

Refusal Notice 1

Reasons for non-disclosure

Section 21 – Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information reasonably accessible by other means

The information you have requested is available to the public on the University's website and the University has provided links to where it can be found. Therefore, under Section 21 of the Act, the University has not provided this information.

This is an absolute exemption.

More information about this exemption is available on the Information Commissioner's Office's website. <https://ico.org.uk/>.

The University of Birmingham

Freedom of Information

Complaints and Appeals Procedure

If you are dissatisfied with the manner in which your request has been dealt with, you may ask for an internal review. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days by contacting foi@contacts.bham.ac.uk and this matter will be referred to the University's Director of Legal Services or nominee for consideration.

Further details about the University's Internal Review process can be found at: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/leadership/governance/policies-regs/information/index.aspx>

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) / 01625 545 745 (national rate number)
Email: casework@ico.org.uk

The University of Birmingham

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