

2. MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTNERSHIP - GOVERNANCE, KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

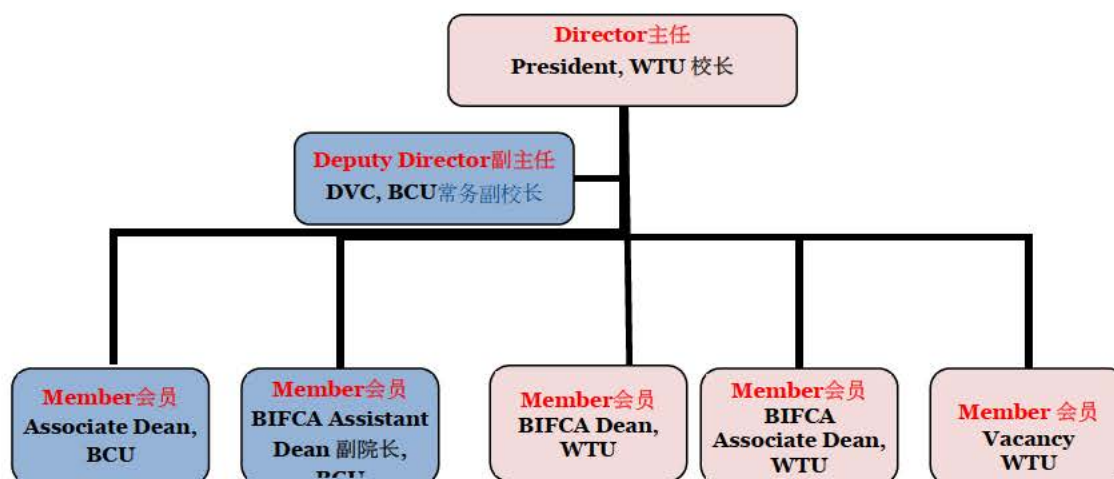
BCU's partnership with WTU is defined as a *collaborative partnership* within the University's definitions. The University defines a collaborative partnership as "any educational programme that leads to an award, or a module or modules forming part of an award-bearing programme that is delivered and/or supported and/or assessed through an arrangement with a partner institution".

The partnership with WTU is a *franchise* arrangement. Through the partnership with the University, WTU is approved to deliver programmes via BIFCA which have been designed by BCU and which lead to an award of Birmingham City University.

The programmes serviced at BIFCA will fully comply with the requirements of "The QAA's *UK Code for Higher Education* Chapter B10 'Managing Higher Education with others'. The two institutions signed a Co-operative Agreement (CoA) (**Appendix 10**) in May 2014 and this sets out the primary responsibilities for each of the parties and the organisational framework in relation to BIFCA, and this is augmented by a set of Articles (**Appendix 11**) that detail BIFCA's activities and its management structure. The CoA and its Articles are effective for a proposed term of 10 years, subject to provisions for earlier termination for convenience or cause.

The status of BIFCA is that of a higher educational institution governed by the Regulations of the PR China on Sino-Foreign Education Cooperation in Running Schools. BIFCA is an affiliate of WTU and, as such, is not a separate legal entity. BCU will be a service partner to BIFCA in terms of curriculum, providing one third of the teaching, assessment and academic management including QAA aspects.

BIFCA's supreme body of governance is the Joint Management Committee (JMC) that comprises seven members including a Chinese Director and Deputy Director and a BCU Assistant Dean with four other members. In total four members of the JMC will be appointed by WTU and three by BCU. WTU will propose the Dean of BIFCA who will be appointed by the JMC and the Dean will be responsible for the day to day operations of BIFCA. The BCU Assistant Dean will be a member of the Academic Management Committee, that reports to the JMC, and is responsible for liaising and communicating between WTU and BCU link tutors on matters relating to learning and teaching.



Within BCU an internal management team called the BIFCA Board has been established led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and the terms of reference can be found at **Appendix 8**.

2.1 BCU University Committees

ACADEMIC BOARD

The Academic Board is responsible for general issues relating to the research, scholarship, teaching and courses at the University, including;

- criteria for the admission of students,
- the appointment and removal of internal and External Examiners;
- policies and procedures for assessment and examination of the academic performance of students;
- the content of the curriculum;
- academic standards and the validation and review of courses; the procedures for the award of qualifications and honorary academic titles;
- the procedures for the expulsion of students for academic reasons.
- considering the development of the academic activities of the University and the resources needed to support them and for advising the Vice-Chancellor and, through the Vice-Chancellor, the Board of Governors thereon;
- determination of and purposeful deliberation on the academic character of the institution and the conduct of its academic business; and advising on matters of educational policy and such other matters as the Board of Governors or the Vice-Chancellor may refer to the Academic Board.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE (ASQEC)

The Academic Standards and Quality Enhancement Committee (ASQEC) is responsible to Academic Board for general issues relating to courses, including the maintenance of academic standards and enhancement of academic quality; and the development and oversight of strategies, policies, procedures and regulations, relating to quality assurance and enhancement and the maintenance of academic standards. The Committee is responsible for promoting a culture of evaluation, reflection and commitment to the maintenance of academic

standards and the enhancement of quality and, through its monitoring of the outcomes of the quality processes, advises Academic Board about measures needed to ensure continuous improvement of the academic provision.

COLLABORATIVE PROVISION COMMITTEE (CPC)

The Collaborative Provision Committee (CPC) is responsible to Academic Board via the Academic Standards and Quality Enhancement Committee (ASQEC) for the oversight of the operation and management of the learning opportunities that are delivered, assessed or supported through an arrangement with another organisation or provider and the development of strategies, policies, procedures and regulations relating to quality assurance and enhancement and the maintenance of academic standards for this provision. The Committee advises ASQEC about the strategic development of collaborative provision, the approval of new UK and international collaborative partners and the approval of programmes considered through the Framework for the Approval of Flexible and Work-Based Learning. The terms of reference of the Collaborative Provision Committee can be found at **Appendix 9**.

ACADEMIC PORTFOLIO GROUP

The Academic Portfolio Group (APG) is a University group which gives initial consideration to proposals for new programmes including new collaborative programmes. APG considers proposals having regard to University strategy, market information, available resources and financial viability.

