

4. ESTABLISHING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

- 4.1 Before considering formally any proposal for collaborative partnership, the University of Mauritius should satisfy itself that the intentions and motives of the potential partner are compatible with its own, and will not lead the University of Mauritius to compromise its own standards.

It is first necessary to evaluate the institution as a whole and then the particular Programmes of Studies which will be on offer. It is likely that the institutional evaluation will demand a more extensive review of the overall educational infrastructure whereas the programme-level scrutiny will include explorations of subject-specific resources and expertise.

- 4.2 The University of Mauritius shall set up a **Validation Panel**, appointed by the Vice-Chancellor, to ensure itself of the good standing, management, and financial stability of the potential partner.

Composition of the Validation Panel

- A Dean/ Director – as Chairperson
- Registrar or Representative
- Director, Quality Assurance
- At least two other academic staff members selected for their relevant expertise in areas, which would be involved in the collaborative partnership.
- One member from the Finance Section
- One academic member conversant with risk assessment

The Validation Panel may co-opt other members as and when necessary.

In the event that the University of Mauritius lacks expertise in the area, it reserves the right to appoint a Validation Panel with partial or full external membership if required.

- 4.3 As a minimum the following documentation on the potential partner should be obtained and scrutinised:

- (i) Institutional mission statement and/or strategic plan;
- (ii) The legal status and governance of the institution; in case of overseas partners, the views of the government agencies of the home country;
- (iii) Evidence of support from the governing body of the institution for collaborative partnership with the University of Mauritius;
- (iv) Activities of the Institution;
- (v) The size and nature of the present or expected student body;
- (vi) Availability of relevant human (academic and non-academic) and infrastructural resources and facilities (e.g. library, computers, classrooms and laboratory) ;
- (vii) Processes already established or contemplated for the maintenance of required academic standards and quality within the institution;
- (viii) The most recent audited accounts or latest financial statement;
- (ix) Justification of the Programme(s) of Studies and feasibility study; and
- (x) Information about the proposed Programme(s) of Studies, formatted as per the requirements outlined in the University of Mauritius document 'Programme Design, Approval, Monitoring and Review'.

- 4.4 The Validation Panel will seek further information from the institution, if deemed necessary.
- 4.5 The Validation Panel will make at least one visit to the institution to conduct an institutional and programme evaluation so as to confirm, where appropriate, that the institution has an appropriate level of physical and human resources, an acceptable learning environment, and that it can adhere to the quality assurance framework designated by the University of Mauritius and implement such systems (if necessary with the assistance of the University of Mauritius).
- The Validation Panel will also undertake a proper risk assessment of the potential partner's current operations and proposed projects.
- The Validation Panel will meet with the management of the Institution, staff and students (if any).
- 4.6 The Validation Panel will present a written report to the Senior Management of the University of Mauritius, recommending either
- (i) that the partnership should proceed; or
 - (ii) that certain conditions should be met before the partnership comes into operation; or
 - (iii) that provisional affiliation be granted to those institutions without any infrastructural facilities at the time of application for affiliation, followed by a stepwise affiliation process leading to a confirmed affiliation with the University of Mauritius; or
 - (iv) not to proceed with the partnership.

4.7 **Affiliation Fees Structure**

A non-refundable Application Fee of **USD 1,500** (or equivalent in Mauritian Rupees) is charged to organisation (local or foreign) to consider its request for affiliation with the University.

The University shall set up a 1st Meeting of the Validation Panel (as per section 4.2 above) to look into the proposal. In the event the request for affiliation is acceptable, the institution is claimed a non-refundable Processing Fee of **USD 3,500** (or equivalent in Mauritian Rupees).

Institutions are given up to **two months** to effect payment, as from the date on which they are informed of the fee(s) to be paid.

A 2nd Meeting of the Validation Panel will consider the proposal **only after** the said fees of **USD 1,500 and USD 3,500** have been paid to the University.

Upon signature of Agreement, the Affiliated Institution will pay an **Affiliation Fee*** on a yearly basis, in a segmented approach based on the number of student enrolled per year.

Fixed component of the Affiliation Fee to be charged per hereunder:

Number of students enrolled at the Affiliated Institution	Fixed Affiliation Fee to be charged per year (Rs)
Up to 50	250,000
51 – 100	500,000
101 – 200	1,000,000
201 – 400	2,000,000
>400	3,000,000

Variable Component of the Affiliation Fee

The variable affiliation fee and the examination fees are to **be combined and claimed together** at the rate of 5% of the total fees received/receivable.

Note:

Affiliated Institutions shall submit a copy of their financial statements to the UoM, for information, on a yearly basis so as to allow the UoM to assess the financial performance of each institution in order to accordingly and judiciously apply the fixed and variable affiliation fees.

QA Updated on 07/01/2016