Senate: 11.06.2026
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Senate

Paper Title	**Queen Mary (QM) / Queen Mary University of London (QM) and University of Business and Economics (UIBE), Beijing, China** **BSc Dual Degree Academic Model (Flying Faculty Model)**
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to approve the proposed academic model and collaborative delivery approach for the UIBE dual degree programme.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	• Proposal establishes a new QM–UIBE dual-degree BSc partnership in Beijing, supporting expansion of TNE in China. • Builds on QM's established flying faculty model, with delivery in China on a 4+0 basis and shared teaching responsibility between QM and UIBE. • Provision will align with QM academic regulations and OfS requirements (B1–B5), ensuring a high-quality student experience and an equivalence of standards. • UIBE is a nationally recognised public Double First-Class university in China, with a strong national reputation in economics, finance, insurance, and actuarial science, and is consistently ranked among the top specialist universities in China in these disciplines. • Two BSc programmes are proposed, with first intake planned for 2026–27 subject to approval. • Each programme will have an allocation of 120 students, making a total of 240/year from 2026 onwards
Questions for Senate to consider	Is Senate satisfied the proposed academic model is in line with existing TNE provision?
Regulatory/statutory reference points	OfS Conditions of registration B1-B5 UK Quality Code for Higher Education The initiative has been approved by the Ministry of Education (MoE), China for 2026 delivery
Strategy and risk	The initiative builds on the Faculty's more than 20 years of proven success in delivering this model in four locations across China, which has demonstrated long-term sustainability, academic quality, and strong student demand. This experience provides a robust foundation for expanding the provision further in China enabling QM to build on its proven TNE model while maintaining academic standards and institutional reputation.
Reporting/ consideration route for the paper	Initiative endorsed by Faculty Executive Partnerships board approval – March 2026 Faculty TNE Education Committee endorsement – May 2026 Taught programmes board – 18th June 2026

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BSc Dual Degree Academic Model (Flying Faculty Model)

Introduction

This initiative seeks to establish a new transnational partnership between Queen Mary University of London (QM) and University of Business and Economics (UIBE), Beijing, China, resulting in the delivery of two dual-award BSc programmes within the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

UIBE is a nationally recognised public Double First-Class (Russel Group equivalent) university in China, with a strong national reputation in economics, finance, insurance, and actuarial science. It is consistently ranked among the top specialist universities in China in these disciplines.

This initiative represents a strategically important expansion of QM's transnational education portfolio in China, aligning with the University's 2030 Strategy to grow global partnerships and extend impact in key regions.

The initiative builds on the Faculty's more than 20 years of proven success in delivering this model in four locations across China, which has demonstrated long-term sustainability, academic quality, and strong student demand. This experience provides a robust foundation for expanding the provision further in China.

Proposed programmes

- BSc Actuarial Science with AI
- BSc Insurance with AI

Quality standards, maintenance and oversight

Transnational education delivered by QM is subject to the same regulatory requirements as programmes delivered in England, including OfS conditions B1–B5, ensuring that all students receive a high quality academic experience.

Programmes within this partnership will be designed and delivered to:

- align with QM academic regulations, credit frameworks and curriculum standards;
- be delivered and assessed in English;
- be taught by appropriately qualified academic staff;
- achieve comparable student outcomes and experience;
- be subject to the same quality assurance, monitoring and governance processes as UK-based provision.

The BSc Actuarial Science with AI builds on the existing actuarial science UG programmes delivered individually by QM in London and UIBE in Beijing. The programs at QM and UIBE are independently accredited by the UKbased Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA). Modules within the proposed programme are accredited to provide PSRB exemptions en route to achieving Chartered Actuary status and becoming a recognised professional in the field.

Delivery and teaching model

The programmes will be delivered through a 4+0 model, with students based in China for the duration of their studies. This model will be delivered through a structured flying faculty approach, ensuring direct QM academic involvement in curriculum delivery.

Delivery responsibility will be shared between QM and UIBE on an approximately 50:50 basis, defined through credit allocation and module ownership to ensure clear academic accountability.

Student experience and outcomes

Students will benefit from an internationally delivered curriculum, direct engagement with QM academic staff, and the opportunity to graduate with a dual award, enhancing their global employability.

Key delivery risks have been considered, including staff mobility with mitigations drawn from S&E’s extensive experience in existing operations across China.