Collaborations and Partnerships Draft Quality Assurance Policy



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| **Responsible Executive** | **Vice Chancellor** |
| **Responsible Division** | **Directorate of Quality Assurance** |
| **Approved By** |  |
| **Date Approved** |  |
| **Review Date** | **After every four (4) years** |
| **Stakeholders affected by this policy** | **All categories of staff and students of University of Nigeria Nsukka as well as their partners (JAMB, ALUMINI, FGN and local and International**  **collaborators)** |

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# 1. Purpose

This policy provides a quality assurance framework for developing, managing, and reviewing collaborations and partnerships at [University Name]. The aim is to ensure that all partnerships uphold the university's standards of academic excellence, integrity, and mutual benefit for all parties involved.

# 2. Scope

This policy applies to all types of university partnerships, including academic collaborations, research partnerships, student exchange programs, internships, joint degrees, and partnerships with industry, government, and non-profit organizations.

# 3. Guiding Principles

* **Strategic Alignment:** Ensure that all collaborations and partnerships align with the university’s mission, values, and strategic objectives.
* **Mutual Benefit:** Foster partnerships that provide value to both the university and its partners, enhancing educational, research, and development opportunities.
* **Quality and Integrity:** Maintain the highest standards of academic and operational integrity, ensuring that all partnerships meet the university’s quality benchmarks.
* **Transparency and Accountability:** Promote transparency in partnership arrangements, ensuring clear expectations, responsibilities, and communication between all parties.

# 4. Policy Statements

## 4.1 Partnership Development

* + Evaluate potential partnerships based on strategic fit, mutual benefit, and contribution to the university's academic and research objectives.
  + Conduct due diligence on prospective partners, assessing their reputation, resources, and commitment to quality and ethical practices.
  + Ensure that all partnerships undergo a formal approval process, including a review by relevant academic and administrative bodies within the university.

## 4.2 Partnership Management

* + Develop a formal agreement for each partnership, clearly outlining the objectives, roles, responsibilities, governance structures, and performance indicators.
  + Assign a dedicated partnership coordinator or liaison for each collaboration to oversee activities, manage communication, and address any challenges that may arise.
  + Conduct regular meetings with partners to review progress, resolve issues, and assess alignment with partnership objectives.

## 4.3 Quality Assurance and Compliance

* + Monitor partnership activities to ensure adherence to the university’s academic and operational standards, as well as relevant legal, ethical, and regulatory requirements.
  + Implement regular audits and evaluations of each partnership to assess outcomes, identify areas for improvement, and ensure alignment with quality standards.
  + Ensure that all partnership activities, especially those involving students, meet standards for academic rigor, student support, and ethical practice.

## 4.4 Risk Management and Exit Strategies

* + Identify potential risks associated with each partnership, including financial, legal, reputational, and operational risks, and develop strategies to mitigate them.
  + Establish clear exit strategies for ending partnerships that no longer meet the university’s standards or strategic goals, including protocols for minimizing impact on students, faculty, and other stakeholders.

# 5. Responsibilities

* **University Leadership** (e.g., Vice Chancellor, Deans) provides strategic oversight and final approval for partnerships, ensuring alignment with institutional goals.
* **Academic and Administrative Departments** involved in partnerships are responsible for managing day-to-day activities, maintaining quality standards, and ensuring compliance.
* **Quality Assurance Office** monitors partnership effectiveness, conducts regular reviews, and ensures that partnerships adhere to university policies and quality standards.
* **Partnership Coordinators** act as liaisons, facilitating communication, managing partnership activities, and resolving issues in collaboration with partner organizations.

# 6. Monitoring and Evaluation

* **Regular Review Cycles:** Conduct formal reviews of each partnership at least annually, evaluating outcomes, adherence to objectives, and areas for improvement.
* **Feedback Mechanisms:** Collect feedback from students, faculty, and partner organizations to assess partnership effectiveness and impact.
* **Continuous Improvement:** Use insights from evaluations and feedback to refine partnership practices, addressing any gaps in quality, alignment, or impact.

# 8. Policy Review and Revision

This policy will be reviewed every three years or as necessary to reflect changing regulations, institutional priorities, or best practices in higher education partnerships.