

# Peer Review College explanatory note

1st May 2018

### Welcome to the Peer Review College!

- 1. You have been chosen by your institution because of your proven track record in teaching excellence.
- 2. The idea behind the TEA Peer Review College is to draw on the cutting-edge pedagogic expertise from across the Alliance to benefit the whole network.
- 3. The Peer Review College (PRC) is designed to be a shared resource that any member of the Teaching Excellence Alliance can access to provide support and challenge in their teaching-related work. For example, members may find it helpful when seeking course enhancement, supporting teachers in their professional development or refreshing marketing for their courses.
- 4. The PRC is also designed to provide national opportunities for members to remain "in good standing" (vis a vis the UKPSF) and to support the professional development of teachers (and progression routes via teaching) across Alliance universities through, for example:
  - a. Exposure to a national and interdisciplinary perspective on teaching and learning approaches, best practice, and evaluation;
  - b. Access to a national peer-to-peer network and a space to share ideas for measuring and evidencing student learning gain, engagement and feedback;
  - c. National opportunities to present, facilitate and support teaching and learning enhancement; for example we may be able to offer leadership roles for staff seeking to move into more senior leadership positions.
  - d. Opportunities to generate academic outputs on pedagogic practice through a national platform with support from TEA leaders.
- 5. By joining the Peer Review College, Members commit to:
  - a. Contribute to at least one PRC event or project team each academic year.
  - b. Provide a summary output, working with colleagues, from their work for each project or activity including but not limited to at least one of the following: a publicly accessible case study for the UA website, a case study for sharing with the TEA community, an academic journal article or a TEA webinar;
  - c. Follow and apply the principles of the TEA (see Annex).
- 6. Any member of the PRC can be called upon by any TEA partner at any stage. Requests can be submitted via Basecamp or through the central TEA team by emailing tea@unialliance.ac.uk.
- 7. The requesting university shall cover the expenses of the commissioned Peer Review College member but no consultancy fee will be payable.

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### **Annex: TEA Strategic Overview**

#### Context

• The UK is well placed to benefit from the new industrial revolution – and universities that focus on professional and technical skills are crucial to delivering the skills employers need (Industrial Strategy)

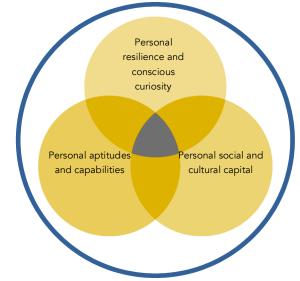
• Equally, if our students are to succeed in a world shaped by next generation technology, we need to equip them not only with the knowledge and skills they need but also with the right personal aptitudes and capabilities; resilience and conscious curiosity; and

personal social and cultural capital. (Social Mobility agenda)

With this in mind, the Teaching Excellence
Alliance will focus on sustained student success.

#### Alliance distinctiveness

By focusing on sustained student success in professional and technical education Alliance universities have developed areas of collective distinctiveness in learning and teaching. The TEA seeks to enhance and support these areas, which include but are not limited to:



Co-creation/ Co-	Cutting-edge technical and professional curricula co-created with
production	our students, employers, community groups and service users;
Immersive learning	Progressive and innovative pedagogies which integrate live,
and assessment	employer-relevant challenges for learning and assessment with input
	from employers, community groups and service users, using real
	world environments and simulations to provide work-based learning
	opportunities
Alternative	Commitment to try alternative modes of provision (accelerated
provision	degrees, degree apprenticeships, low residency learning, etc.)
Responsive learning	Creating learning spaces that support student-focused and
environments	employer-led education

### **Principles**

The following principles will be embedded across TEA activities:

• **Expertise:** Strive to use expertise from across partners in all TEA activities, for mutual enhancement.



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- Alliance Distinctiveness: Foster the distinctive UA approach to technical and professional education which underpins our excellence.
- Student Participation: Value and include students wherever possible in TEA activities.
- Employer Involvement: Include employers wherever possible in TEA activities.
- Interdisciplinarity: Stretch and challenge current practice by involving different disciplines.

### **Teaching Excellence Alliance Activities**

The TEA recognises that sustained student success in professional and technical education is achieved through the expertise and commitment of individual teaching staff, of innovative course design teams, and of institutional-level interventions. The TEA has three interconnected strands of activity to enhance and develop UA teaching & learning:

- a) Shared and new CPD for teaching staff and those that enable teaching, to provide support for staff members to remain in good standing.
- b) A peer review college that will provide challenge and support on course design and curricula, and provide development opportunities for PRC members.
- c) Special interest groups that will support institution-wide enhancements for sustained student success.

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