

STAGE 1 PROGRAMME APPROVAL REPORT

Proposal: PG Cert Anti-Money Laundering

Board of Studies: Cass Business School

Committee:

Professor David Bolton (DVC and Chair)

Dr Pam Parker (LEaD)

Kate Timms (Marketing and Communications)

Professor Christine McCourt (School of Health Sciences)

Professor Mireia Jofre-Bonet (School of Arts and Social Sciences)

Alison Edridge (Student and Academic Services)

Laura Tull (Student and Academic Services-secretary)

Decision:

Approved with conditions

Date: 20th April 2016

Stage 1 documents:

Stage 1 Form

Course Costings

Draft Programme Specification

PARC minutes

School ExCo minutes

Proposed implementation date: January 2017

Outcome of discussion:

The proposal was approved with conditions to be met before marketing can take place:

1. To clarify the nature of the partnership with Lysis in order to determine the requirements of the approval process and arrangements for ongoing management and oversight of the programme. In particular;
 - clarify whether the School can source VLs from somewhere else if it chooses, or if it is dependent on Lysis either contractually or due to availability of subject expertise.
 - confirm if the University wholly owns the IP for the programme, or if it is jointly owned with Lysis.
 - clarify whether the programme will be marketed as a jointly delivered programme with Lysis and if Lysis will have any responsibilities for marketing the programme.
 - confirm whether the income and costs of delivery will be shared with Lysis, and if so to clarify the nature of the contract which will underpin the agreement with Lysis.
2. To clarify the entry requirements for the programme, in particular, whether 'successful completion of any associated exams' refers to exams related to the Lysis courses mentioned and, if not, what other courses these exams relate to.
3. To provide a rationale as to why the School has chosen to develop an award-bearing programme rather than delivering this as CPD.

Summary of discussion:

1. Rationale for the proposal

The postgraduate qualification in Anti-Money Laundering had been proposed by Cass Business School in collaboration with Lysis Financial to teach the technical requirements and broader skills required to comply with regulations in this area. As the drive to tackle money laundering was a global issue, it was anticipated that the programme would also enable promotion of the Cass brand overseas in due course. It was noted within the documentation that the programme would build on the structure and content that had been developed through the relationship with the Risk Management Agency and the resulting Advanced Risk Programme Management programme run at Cass Executive Education.

The Committee agreed that that the nature of the partnership with Lysis was not clear from the documentation, due to references to the programme being jointly run as a partnership as well as indicating that Lysis staff would be employed as Visiting Lecturers. The Committee agreed that the nature of the partnership should be clarified prior to marketing the programme in order to determine the requirements of the approval process and arrangements for the ongoing management and oversight of the programme.

The Committee noted that each module had a named member of staff from Lysis attached to it, and specifically queried whether the School were able to source Visiting Lecturers from elsewhere or if it would be dependent on Lysis either contractually or due to availability of subject expertise.

Clarification was also sought on whether the University wholly owned the IP for the programme, or if it was jointly owned with Lysis.

2. Market research and marketing

Due to the Committee's fundamental queries relating to the nature of the partnership with Lysis, it was agreed that conditions should be responded to prior to marketing the programme. The Committee requested clarification as to whether the programme would be marketed as a jointly delivered programme with Lysis, and if Lysis had any responsibility for marketing the programme.

The Committee discussed the entry requirements for the programme and noted that students would be required to successfully complete associated exams where they had experience of anti-money laundering but had not completed the Lysis foundation and intermediate training. The Committee requested clarification as to whether this referred solely to exams related to the Lysis courses mentioned in the documentation. If not, clarity around the other exams that this referred to should be provided.

The Committee acknowledged that the development of a PG Cert was likely to be exploratory for the School, but discussed why an award bearing programme was preferable to delivering the programme as CPD. It was agreed that a rationale should be provided to outline further information.

3. Programme content

It was noted from the documentation that the programme would consist of four 15 credit modules which would result in a 60 credit postgraduate certificate. The structure would allow for the possibility to increase the credit load to create either a Postgraduate Diploma or an MSc dependent upon the needs of the industry and the demands of the students joining the programme.

4. Resources

The Committee noted that the documentation suggested that profits would be split 50/50 with Lysis even though it had been indicated that the arrangement was not a partnership with Lysis. The Committee requested confirmation as to whether the income and costs of delivery would be shared with Lysis, and if so to clarify the nature of the contract which will underpin the agreement with Lysis.

It was noted that teaching would be carried out by a mixture of Cass Faculty and Visiting lecturers, however as noted above the nature of the partnership should be clarified in relation to teaching arrangements for the programme.

In terms of wider School resources, it was noted within the documentation that Library colleagues had been consulted and confirmed that they could not foresee any issues in purchasing the specialist resource materials required. It was confirmed that in relation to Timetabling, the programme would be delivered at Aldersgate and had already been scheduled.

Laura Tull
Academic Development Officer
April 2016