

# MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CPE and QAA sign MOU to Raise Standards in Private Education**

1. The Council for Private Education (CPE) Singapore and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) United Kingdom signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) today. Through the MOU, the CPE and QAA will establish a strategic alliance to enhance quality assurance in both countries, and improve the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom and private education institutions (PEIs) in Singapore.
2. The MOU was signed by Mr Henry Heng, Chief Executive Officer of the CPE, and Mr Anthony McClaran, Chief Executive of the QAA.
3. Under the MOU, the CPE and QAA will exchange information and share good practices of quality assurance of institutions that deliver higher education, collaborate on study projects, and initiate staff development exchanges, over the next three years.
4. Mr Henry Heng, Chief Executive Officer of the CPE said, "We share a similar mission with the QAA of raising the standards of private education. Through this collaboration, we hope to exchange ideas and learn from each other's experiences. This will be mutually beneficial as we consider the development and trends of the private education sectors of our countries and internationally."
5. Mr Anthony McClaran, Chief Executive of QAA, said, "We are delighted to sign this agreement with CPE. Our two organisations have a mutual interest in assuring the quality of higher education delivered by private providers. With more than 40,000 students in Singapore studying for a UK degree, each of them has a right to a high quality learning experience."
6. Universities from the United Kingdom have a significant presence in the Singapore private education sector with 47 in partnership with local PEIs to offer more than 300 external degree programmes.

## **About the Council for Private Education**

The Council for Private Education (CPE) is a statutory board established in December 2009 to regulate the private education industry. The council has implemented two schemes — the mandatory Enhanced Registration Framework (ERF) and the EduTrust Certification scheme — to uplift and maintain standards in the private education sector. Besides its role as a sectoral regulator, the council also provides student services and public education through its Student Services Centre, and promotes the development of the private education industry.

For more information, please visit CPE's website at <http://www.cpe.gov.sg/>.

## **About the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education**

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) was established in 1997 and is responsible for safeguarding the public interest in sound standards of higher education qualifications and to inform and encourage continuous improvement in the management of the quality of higher education in the United Kingdom. As the national agency for safeguarding quality and standards in UK higher education, the outcomes of QAA reviews is a major factor on whether private higher education institutions are awarded Highly Trusted Sponsor status. In September 2011, the QAA was appointed as the designated educational oversight body for private higher education providers in the UK.

For more information, please visit QAA's website at <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/>.

## **Issued by the Council for Private Education**

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