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Droso Lavithi
Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education
Lemesou Avenue, 5
2112 Nicosia
CYPRUS

**30 November 2023** 

Dear Droso Lavithi,

# RE: Cross-border / franchise programs of study at Global College; Ref. 07.14.061.005.001

The information below is provided in response to your queries concerning the Master's in Business Administration (MBA) programme, delivered by Global College. This programme is provided via a franchise agreement with Roehampton University, operating as the University of Roehampton. The programme typically lasts for one year and consists of minimum 90 ECTS / 180 FHEQ credits.

Each Roehampton programme delivered through a collaborative arrangement has a dedicated Academic Link Tutor, a subject-matter expert within the relevant School or Faculty. This role acts as the main point of contact between the university and partner institution, supported by colleagues across the university.

Higher Education in England is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS), and the university is required to adhere with all OfS <u>ongoing conditions of registration</u>.

In response to your specific queries, each point is addressed separately below.

## 1. How do you check that students admitted to the programme meet the admission criteria?

Staff at Global College conduct an initial assessment of applicants, considering them against preapproved academic and English language criteria. Standard applications are then reviewed by the Roehampton Admissions team, and any applicants who do not meet the standard academic entry criteria are considered by the Academic Link Tutor.

## 2. Do you have information about the profile of incoming students?

Alongside academic and English language qualifications, Roehampton requests demographic data from all students to measure and ensure fair access to programmes. For trans-national education (TNE) programmes these data include nationality, ethnicity, age, gender and disability, and these are anonymised prior to any analysis.



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## 3. How do you ensure that students have a good command of the programme's teaching language?

All students must meet the university's <u>English language requirements</u>, regardless of teaching location. For postgraduate programmes such as the MBA, this is IELTS 6.5 overall, with a minimum of 5.5 in each component, or an equivalent recognised English language qualification.

#### 4. What are the minimum required qualifications of the teaching staff?

Teaching staff are typically expected to hold a Master's-level qualification (FHEQ / EQF level 7), though due to the vocational focus of the MBA, non-academic staff with significant and relevant industry experience may be appointed. CVs of staff at partnership institutions who teach or supervise any students registered on a Roehampton award are reviewed at the programme approval event, with ongoing staff recruitment reviewed by the Academic Link Tutor. All staff must be approved by Roehampton prior to any teaching or supervision of Roehampton students.

#### 5. What knowledge do you have of the exam papers administered?

All assessment is approved by Roehampton prior to delivery. Where possible, students on the Global College MBA undertake the same assessment as students studying the on-campus programme at Roehampton. In instances where contextualisation is required on assessments, such as case studies, academic staff at Roehampton approve any proposed changes, assuring that the approved learning outcomes of the module and programme are not affected by the contextualisation.

Assessment criteria for each assessment brief are shared to ensure that staff and students understand what is expected, and to support transparency and consistency of marking, in line with the Roehampton postgraduate assessment and feedback framework.

# 6. How do you check that the programmes are implemented based on quality criteria? What evidence do you request from Global College?

Each programme delivered by a collaborative partner is scrutinised via a specific approval event, by a panel which includes senior university staff, an external academic with subject expertise, and representation from the university Academic Office to advise on quality matters. During approval, extensive evidence is requested from collaborative partners, including detailed information concerning internal quality assurance processes and any external regulatory requirements. Roehampton onboards new partners with training sessions to explain the Roehampton quality assurance criteria and best practice for implementation at partner institutions.

Roehampton academic staff moderate a sample of all assessment on every collaborative programme to ensure parity of standards with the programmes delivered on-campus. A sample of all assessed work from on-campus and collaborative delivery of the programme is sent for review



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by the External Examiner, who confirms that marks are awarded accurately and consistently. The ratification of marks is through examination boards, which are chaired by and held at Roehampton.

Regular review is undertaken of all collaborative partner activity, which includes a Partnership Annual Review (PAR) report completed by partner staff and the Academic Link Tutor, student feedback, External Examiner reports, Academic Link Tutor reports, and monitoring of performance metrics.

Global College is supported by the Academic Link Tutor and dedicated professional services staff, who regularly visit the campus in Nicosia and conduct best-practice in-person and online training sessions with Global College academic and professional services staff.

7. <u>Have you ever visited classes where your programmes are taught in Cyprus? What is the teaching methodology followed?</u>

The Academic Link Tutor visits Global College regularly to meet with staff and students, assess facilities and offer training. Global College teaching staff work closely with Roehampton counterparts to ensure the teaching methodology aligns with the learning outcomes of the programme and that best practice for teaching, supervision, marking and moderation of the programme are being followed at Global College.

If there are any additional questions in response to the above, or further evidence required, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Ranjit Sahota

Academic Registrar

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