

Call for UK University to Establish Joint Institute with Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

Opportunity

Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS) in Guangdong Province, with the support of Zhongshan Municipal Government, is seeking a prestigious British University partner to establish a Sino UK joint institute¹ with high standards of innovation, research and quality to deliver dual bachelor's degree courses.

The proposed subject areas, which relate to the economic development and industry needs of Zhongshan city, include:

- Business Management
- Accounting and Finance
- Economics
- Computer Science and Information Technology
- Electronic, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering
- New Energy

About GDUFS

GDUFS is a fast-growing dynamic university with an established reputation for teaching and research. It has 1,154 teaching staff, 52 per cent full or associate professors and 215 from overseas. It has active links with 274 universities, academic and cultural institutions in 38 countries or regions. For more information please visit: <http://english.gdufs.edu.cn>

About Zhongshan

Zhongshan city, named after *Sun Zhongshan* the founding father of the Republic of China, has a population of over 3 million. It is located along the west side of the mouth of the Pearl River in Guangdong Province, South China, and connected to the cities of Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macau by a train journey of less than one hour.

¹ The policy direction as advised by Ministry of Education is to discourage any further development of joint campus (legal entity) and to encourage more joint institutes/joint centres in specific subject areas (without legal entity).

Support

Zhongshan Municipal Government is committed to providing the following support:

1. The campus, approximately one million square meters in size, is located at the Minsen Industrial Park in Zhongshan City. Built infrastructure including teaching facilities, teacher and student accommodation, sporting and recreational facilities, has all been completed. Some of the interior decoration is yet to be completed.



2. Zhongshan Municipal Government, with private sector support, will cover the cost of completing the interior decorations, the running of the university, regular financial support after enrolment begins, as well as refunding personal income tax to teachers recruited from overseas.
3. The universities will have autonomy to discuss and decide the detailed nature of the partnership, including the partnership model and curriculum mapping and design.
4. Enrollment of students in Guangdong Province can only start once the joint institute has been approved by the Chinese Ministry of Education, which can take up to 6 months. Guangdong Provincial Education Department will endorse the application of the Joint Institute submitted to the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Expected input from the UK partner university

- Teaching staff
- Teaching resources
- Syllabus

Timeline

GDUFS and Zhongshan municipal government would like to schedule reciprocal visits in Autumn 2015, with a view to confirming the British partner university by Winter 2015. The campus site can will available for formal use by spring 2016 with the first cohort of students starting in autumn 2016.

Action Required

UK universities interested in this opportunity should contact siem.china@britishcouncil.org.cn by 31 July 2015.