

Partnership opportunity with Karnataka State Universities, India

The Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) wishes to support three state government Universities enter partnerships with Universities in the UK to create opportunities for exchange of knowledge and expertise.

The state of Karnataka is one of the first in the Country to initiate the implementation of the [National Education Policy](#) (NEP). Central and State government education departments across all levels are prioritising the implementation of the NEP through developing position papers and setting up task force committees to plan and prepare for implementation. A recent MoU signed with the British Council states that Karnataka has chosen the UK as the partner country of choice to deliver the State's ambitious NEP goals - especially on internationalisation, innovation, employability, and research.

To this end, the state of Karnataka seeks robust partnerships with the UK in the areas of university governance, leadership structure and professional development frameworks; and is looking to draw from UK's best practice as well as co-create a blueprint that will inform policy at the State level. Their goal is that this blueprint will in turn bring about a step change in the Karnataka State HE Institutions Act, which the Hon'ble Minister is keen to invest in and start immediately.

The three State Universities from Karnataka interested in exploring partnerships with UK Universities are:

1. Bangalore City University - <https://www.bcu.ac.in/>
2. Bangalore North University - <https://eng.bnu.ac.in/>
3. Gulbarga University - <https://gug.ac.in/>

The partnerships are expected to be of mutual benefit to both UK and Indian Universities. Once the original scope of work and areas of collaboration have been discussed and agreed, Universities will be expected to enter into an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) to begin work together around **January 2023** and continue for the next **three years**.

In case of exchange visits UK and Karnataka Universities are expected to set aside required financial resources to cover expenses of international travel (economy), accommodation, in-country and local travel expenses for the delegation participating in the visits.

The KSHEC will be the coordinating office for all three partnerships and will work with British Council India office in setting up these partnerships from the period of publication of this call for EOI till the signing of the MoU. We will also jointly review

progress against partnership outcomes and provide support to the partnerships as needed during the tenure of the MoU.

Scope/Thematic Areas

Below is an indicative outline of the scope/thematic areas of collaboration University-wise. Note that these collaborations should not be limited to the list below; other areas of mutual interest can be explored and identified by the UK and Indian Universities during the consultation phase.

Bangalore City University (BCU): Set up in 2017-18, the University has 242 affiliated colleges including 11 Autonomous college and one Constituent college. Over 120,000 students pursue UG, PG, Doctoral, Diploma and Certificate Courses at BCU. The University is interested in partnerships with UK Universities to create opportunities for exchange and sharing of knowledge, skills, and universal values; and to create placement internship opportunities; faculty and leadership development programmes; curriculum design and in pedagogical practices in the domains of:

- a) Environmental Studies and Climate Change
- b) Department of Technology
- c) Urban Studies and Planning and
- d) Sports Science and Physical Education

Bengaluru North University (BNU): Established in the year 2017, as a result of a trifurcation of the erstwhile Bangalore University, BNU has 280+ colleges under its jurisdiction with over 120,000 students studying in various UG and PG courses in subjects like Arts, Social Science, Science, Commerce, Management and Education.

BNU is seeking partnership with a view to identify and create opportunities to share knowledge and expertise for the academic and research advantage of students and faculty of both parties. Overall thematic areas of collaboration are:

- a) Continuous Professional development and Capacity building for faculty
- b) Virtual engagement opportunities for students and faculty
- c) Academic and faculty support for Doctoral programmes
- d) Academic and research exchange programmes for both teachers and students
- e) Capacity building for designing curriculum, developing content and assessment framework relevant through syllabus, modules, bridge courses etc which is at par with international standards.

Gulbarga University: Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi, was established on 10th September 1980. The University caters to the needs of Higher Education in Kalyana Karnataka region contributing significantly for the accelerated development of the

region through teaching, research and extension programmes. Gulbarga University jurisdiction is socioeconomically developing area, situated in the north-eastern part of Karnataka. Preferred areas of collaboration are:

- a) **Dept of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Applied Electronics:**
Internet of Things; Digital Image processing; Microwave antennas, Materials Science and characterization
 - Synthesis and characterization of novel nanostructured materials for electronic devices
 - Design and development of microstrip antennas for wireless communication systems
 - Design and fabrication of IoT based remote systems for several physiological parameters

- b) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Biotechnology**
 - Plant Biotechnology, Diagnostics, Genomics, Enzyme Technology & Biofuel Technology
 - Animal Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical Biotechnology & Nanobiotechnology
 - Microbial Biotechnology and Medical Biotechnology (Phage Therapy and Antimicrobial resistance)
 - Microbial Fermentation Technology, Industrial Biotechnology and Bioinformatics

- c) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Chemistry**
Synthesis of Heterocyclic compounds of biological interest, Drug Design & development, Natural Products, Coordination Chemistry.

- d) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Environmental Science**
Sustainable management approaches including technological frameworks to mitigate the water contamination, drinking water treatment options, climate change in many areas, alternative energy sources, including green infrastructure, governance and technology.

- e) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Mathematics**
Broad areas of Teaching: Real Analysis, Complex Analysis, Functional Analysis, Computational, Numerical Methods, Topology and Differential Equations (ODE & PDE).
Specialized courses: Fluid Mechanics, Graph Theory, Finite Element Methods, Fuzzy Sets & Fuzzy, Logic and Operations Research.

- f) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Microbiology**
Nanotechnology, Environmental Pollution and Bioremediation, Fermentation Technology and Bioprocess, Food and Dairy Microbiology, Microbial Diversity and Bioprocess Technology, Agriculture Microbiology and Health Care Microbiology

- g) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Physics**
Oxide Glasses & Conducting Polymers, Nano ferrites for super capacitor applications, Fluorescence Spectroscopy, Dye Sensitized Solar Cells, Photon Interaction, Medical and Radiation Physics
- h) **Department of Post Graduate Studies and Research in Economics**
Public economics and policy, Macroeconomics and policy. Development Economics, Agricultural Economics, Industrial Economics, Women Empowerment, Infrastructure, Development, Banking and Finance, Globalization and Liberalization and Human Development.

Budget: Karnataka University's will set aside up to GBP 10,000 towards the implementation of this project. British Council will provide an additional GBP 10,000 that will be used to facilitate partnership initiatives for the project.

Process for Expression of Interest

UK Universities responding to this call are requested to complete this [online form](#) and submit by **16 October 2022 (23:55 hrs)**

Action Required

If you any question, please write to anu.thampi@britishcouncil.org by **12 October 2022**.