



**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Australian Universities Quality Agency
And
China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education
Development Centre**

The memorandum is jointly made by Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA. Add: Level 10, 123 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia) and China Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre (CDGDC. Add: B Level 18, Tongfang Scientific Building, No. 1 Wangzhuang Road, Haidian District, Beijing 100083 P. R. China).

AUQA is an independent, not-for-profit national agency that promotes, audits, and reports on quality assurance in Australian higher education. AUQA was formally established by the Ministerial Council on Education, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) in March 2000. It operates independently of governments and the higher education sector under the direction of a Board of Directors. AUQA is owned by and receives core, operational funding from the Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers for higher education who are members of MCEETYA.

CDGDC was established in 2003, evolving from National Academic Degrees and Graduate Education Development Centre founded in 1998. It is an administrative institution directly under the Ministry of Education (MOE), operating under the joint leadership of MOE and Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council (ADCSC). The main functions of CDGDC include undertaking the task of evaluating, appraising and research of academic degrees and graduate education; engaging in the researches into the degree equivalency between China and foreign countries, and providing services for degree and related materials accreditation, authentication and consulting, etc.

1. The Aim of the Memorandum

AUQA and CDGDC agree to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to support developing collaboration for mutual benefits and establish a constructive partnership, to strengthen external quality assurance within the two parties' extent of power and to enhance the quality of higher education in both countries.

2. The Scope of Collaboration

The two parties will develop collaboration in the following areas:

2.1 Jointly conduct research of mutual benefit, share the outcomes and introduce them to the world, and publish comparative studies in higher education on

2.1.1 quality assurance (QA), including accreditation and the qualifications frameworks (QF) of the two countries.

2.1.2 a handbook on higher education in Australia and China, whose contents include Australian and Chinese higher education and quality assurance systems, and glossary. The details are to be discussed further by

the two parties.

2.2. Jointly conduct research on evaluation standards for higher education quality assurance, standards for the specific disciplines, develop the standards for Australia-China joint programmes, and implement the evaluation and accreditation of Australia-China joint programmes.

2.3 Enhance academic exchange including jointly convening conferences on degrees and higher education quality assurance.

2.4 When both parties agree and conditions allow, both parties will send experts to take part in each others' evaluation activities.

2.5 Collaborate on quality assurance projects and disseminate educational resources which are recognized by each party.

2.6 Co-operate in any other mutually agreed activities for the benefit of both parties.

3. The Amendment

The Memorandum can be amended with the agreement of both parties.

4. Funding Resource

Generally each party needs to cover the costs for accomplishing its own programme. The two parties agree to discuss when exceptional cases happen.

5. Projects and Logistic Arrangement

All the projects and activities under the Memorandum will be discussed in detail and confirmed by the two parties as the Appendix of the Memorandum.

6. Valid Period

The Memorandum will take effect on the day the two parties sign and for five years. The valid period will automatically extend for another five years if neither party notifies the other party three months before the end of the first 5-year

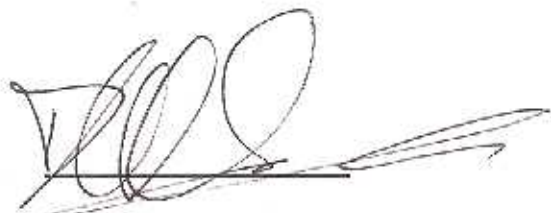
valid period.

The Memorandum is written in both English and Chinese texts. Each party holds copies in two languages. Both texts are equally authentic.

**The Australian Universities Quality
Agency (AUQA)**

**China Academic Degrees and
Graduate Education**

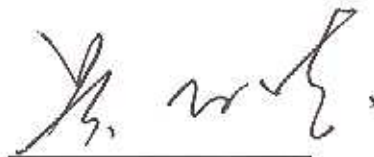
Development Centre (CDGDC)



Dr. David Woodhouse

Executive Director

Date: April 6, 2011



Prof. WU Boda

Director General

Date: April 6, 2011