

Memorandum of Understanding

Between

Higher Education Academy (The Academy)

and

Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)

PARTIES TO THE MEMORANDUM

1. **The Academy** works with the higher education community to enhance all aspects of the student experience. **The Academy** is an independent organisation funded by grants from the four UK funding bodies, subscriptions from higher education institutions, individual fees from practitioners and grant and contract income for specific initiatives.
2. **The Academy** will:
 - Focus on the student experience
 - Support the HE community at multiple levels, recognising the diversity of needs of individuals, subject communities, academic managers, institutions and their leaders.
 - Work inclusively, transparently and collaboratively with many stake-holders and partners – national bodies, discipline groups, research agencies, professional associations and international organisations.
 - Provide responsible policy advice and stimulate debate on issues in higher education.
 - Base its work on the very best available evidence
 - Become a responsive professional and efficient organisation ensuring high standards in everything it does.
3. The Joint Information Systems Committee (**JISC**) supports United Kingdom (UK) post 16 & higher education and research by providing leadership in the use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in support of learning, teaching, research and administration. **JISC** is funded by the UK post 16 and higher education funding councils.
4. **JISC's** five strategic aims reflect and support both UK government objectives and the needs of the education and research communities:
 - To develop solutions that help enable education and research communities to keep their activities world class through the innovative use of ICT.
 - To provide advice to institutions enabling them to make economic, efficient and legally compliant use of ICT, respecting individual and corporate rights and responsibilities.
 - To help the sector provide positive, personalised user learning experiences and aid student progression.
 - To develop mutually advantageous partnerships with organisations.
 - To advise, inform and help implement the strategies of government, funding councils and Research Councils.

VISION

5. In signing this Memorandum of Understanding **The Academy** and **JISC** demonstrate their commitment to collaboration and innovation in exploiting the potential of ICT for UK higher education.

AIMS

6. To achieve their vision **The Academy** and **JISC** agree to collaborate in those activities which advance their strategies, whilst being of mutual benefit to both organisations. In partnership, **The Academy** and **JISC** aim to:
 - i. Maximise the return on UK investment in ICT for higher education by developing joint programmes, to deliver the strategies of the UK funding councils.
 - ii. Inform the UK and international education agendas in the use of ICT by informing policy and standards.
 - iii. Exploit the unique opportunities offered by the national support networks of **The Academy** and **JISC**.
 - iv. Stimulate and inform strategic development by senior management dialogue and the active sharing of strategic information between **The Academy** and **JISC**.
 - v. Enable knowledge transfer to spread expertise and engender staff development between **The Academy** and **JISC**.

AGREEMENT

6. **Management:** There will be at least two (2) joint management meetings each year. These meetings will provide an opportunity for knowledge sharing and the identification of operational activity. Specifically these meetings will define any planned activities, to be managed by a lead organisation, agreeing anticipated deliverables and resources, both financial and human.
7. **Funding arrangements:** Mutual agreement from **The Academy** and **JISC** is required before any funds are released. Details of joint funded activity are defined in **Schedule A** of this Memorandum of Understanding and will be updated as appropriate.
8. **Membership:** Whilst retaining independent rights of veto, **The Academy** and **JISC** are entitled to nominate expert employees to observe their committees, working groups or advisory groups as appropriate to the aims of the Memorandum of Understanding.
9. **Knowledge Management:** **The Academy** and **JISC** are committed to the open sharing of intelligence and non-confidential information between their organisations.
10. **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Copyright:** Copyright and independent ownership rights will be decided upon initiation of each joint activity, where possible joint IPR will be arranged, otherwise ownership rights will be retained by the lead project organisation.

GENERAL

11. This Memorandum of Understanding serves to record the understandings between **The Academy** and **JISC** and is not intended to create any legal obligations.

12. This Memorandum of Understanding will guide the relationship between **The Academy** and **JISC** and will remain in effect for two (2) years from the date of signing. Either **The Academy** or **JISC** can terminate the Memorandum of Understanding by means of ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. The withdrawal of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the conclusions of projects established before that withdrawal. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by the written consent of either **The Academy** or **JISC**.
13. This Memorandum of Understanding will be subject to review at the approval of both parties.

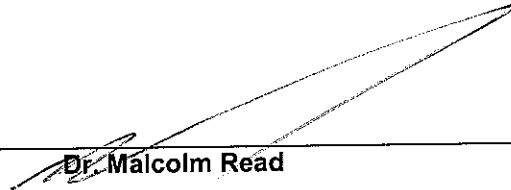
Signed in two copies, January 2005



Professor Paul Ramsden

Chief Executive

Higher Education Academy (The Academy)



Dr. Malcolm Read

Executive Secretary

Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)