

## **END OF PARTNERSHIP WITH COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY LONDON (CTL)**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

The following list has been prepared based on a number of enquiries received from CTL students during the last 5 days.

Following the termination of the partnership with the University of Wales Trinity Saint David by CTL on 16 November 2011, the University wishes to reaffirm that it will take steps to support students to complete the programmes of study that were offered by CTL on the basis that students would be eligible to register for awards from the University of Wales up to 16 November 2011.

Although the University understands that CTL remains committed to honouring its obligations under the legal contract that it has with each student, the University is prepared to consider applications from students who wish to transfer to the University.

If students wish to continue with their studies directly with the University, the following key facts need to be considered carefully:

- The University cannot provide assurances on compliance with UK immigration requirements. The University is liaising with the UK Border Agency (UKBA) but students who apply and successfully transfer to the University will almost certainly require a University CAS number and a new Visa. This is outside the control of the University.
- It is likely that students who transfer to the University will have to demonstrate compliance with minimum English language and maintenance requirements set down by the UKBA.

Students currently pay fees to CTL. The University expects that some students may wish to be considered for a transfer to the University from February 2012. Fees that need to be paid to CTL from 16 November 2011 and the date of transfer are a matter for each student to consider and the University cannot advise students on this issue. Students will be liable to pay fees to the University from the date of transfer to the University.

In addition, the University is currently liaising with the UKBA to ensure that its new London Learning Centre can accept international students from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) onto the courses which the University will run there. The transfer of students from CTL to the University depends on the successful outcome of this application.

All enquiries should be forwarded in the first instance to [London@tsd.ac.uk](mailto:London@tsd.ac.uk). All enquiries will be acknowledged and followed up as appropriate. The University will be closed from 23 December 2011 until 3 January 2012, but e-mail correspondence will be monitored during this period.

#### **General Questions**

##### **1. Has UWTSD terminated the partnership with CTL?**

No. The partnership with the University was terminated by CTL on 16 November 2011. The University will continue to honour its obligations to all students enrolled on a UWTSD programme up to this date.

## **2. How will the termination of the partnership between CTL and TSD affect me?**

The University will continue to support students who are enrolled on University programmes at CTL. The contract for completing programmes of study is still between CTL and each student. Students who wish to transfer to the University and enrol as University students will be given an opportunity to apply for a transfer. The next logical opportunity for this would be February 2012 after the completion of the January examinations. For those students who are currently writing up their dissertations, any transfer to the University would depend on ensuring that there is no disruption to the supervision arrangements that have been put in place by CTL. This would need to be discussed with each student.

Any arrangements are of course subject to immigration requirements which the University is currently discussing with the UK Border Agency. Please be assured that the University is actively taking steps to assist you.

## **3. Is CTL going to close?**

The University is not aware of any intention to close, but is not able to comment on the plans of CTL management.

## **4. Will the University be responsible for the completion of my course if CTL closes down?**

The University is committed to supporting students currently enrolled on UWTSD programmes of study. The University is willing to consider applications from students to register directly with the University from February 2012, or sooner if the circumstances make earlier consideration necessary. This will be determined on a case by case basis, and subject to meeting regulatory requirements, including immigration requirements.

All fees for UWTSD programmes have been paid to CTL. Where a student can provide evidence that the fee has been paid to CTL for the current or future terms, the University will consider honouring the commitment for that period without further cost to the student.

## **5. How is the University going to assist us in completing our studies? Please provide further information about the changes that will be taking place?**

The University will consider applications from students who wish to transfer from CTL in order to complete their studies from February 2012, subject to compliance with UKBA requirements. Students who transfer would receive tuition and support from University staff at the University's new Learning Centre in London.

If students wish to remain with CTL then the University will continue to support them as they complete their programme of study, although this will only be possible with CTL's cooperation.

## **6. What do I have to do to continue my studies with UWTSD?**

The University and CTL previously agreed to support current students even when the formal agreement between them was terminated. There is a contractual commitment between CTL and each student. However, if students wish to enrol with the University, then this option will be

considered by the University. This option will be available from February 2012, or sooner if necessary.

### **7. Will I need to move to Wales to complete my UWTSD programme?**

No, you can continue your programme at the University's own Learning Centre in London, where you will receive academic tuition and support from the University's own staff.

### **8. Can I continue my studies in Wales?**

Students are able to apply for places at the University's Welsh campuses and any application from a CTL student to study in Wales would be considered in the same way as all other applications to study in Wales. However, if students wish to become members of the University – and their application is successful - then there would be less disruption to current studies if the transfer is to the London Learning Centre of the University.

### **9. What options do I have if I want to continue my current UWTSD programme?**

Subject to satisfactory academic progress and immigration requirements, you may have the following options:

- Continue your academic studies at the University's own Learning Centre in London, which would be possible following a successful application, which would need to be made direct to the University;
- Transfer to another College or University, which would need to be discussed with CTL as you pay your fees to CTL and your contract is with CTL. The University would be able to provide a transcript to support such an application. Students should be aware that no University is under any obligation to accept students
- Continuation of studies with CTL

### **10. We are supposed to be taking exams in January 2012 – will this still happen?**

The University believes that CTL will be holding the examinations as planned in January 2012.

### **11. What happens to my studies between now and February 2012?**

You should continue to attend classes at CTL until the Christmas break.

You should shortly receive the CTL examination timetable and attend examinations in January, as appropriate.

If you are currently writing your dissertation, you should maintain regular contact with your dissertation supervisor, as normally expected.

### **12. If we change institution, what happens to the modules we've already passed?**

If you apply and successfully transfer to UWTSD all progression certified by the University will still count towards your final award. If you apply to transfer to another UK institution it may be possible for you to transfer the credits that you have already successfully obtained at CTL to another

institution but this would be a matter for that institution. Institutions are not obliged to recognise and accept credits from any other institution.

**13. Will the changes taking place affect the end date of my course?**

The end date of each programme is subject to satisfactory academic progress. The University is committed to supporting students to achieve the required academic standards. Disruption that could have an impact on progress will be minimised, as far as this is possible for the University to guarantee, e.g. as already stated above the University cannot offer any guarantees with regard to the immigration requirements of the UK government.

**14. Where in London is the University's new Learning Centre?**

The exact location will be announced in due course, but it is within easy reach and convenient to all modes of public transport.

**15. I have completed my first term, but only have a provisional mark sheet from CTL – would it be OK to progress with this?**

Progression towards any University award will be dependent upon results that have been certified by the University.

**16. Can I complete the dissertation from my home location (outside Europe)?**

This may be possible but the University would need to ensure that appropriate supervision and library resources are available to you. Also, the University would only be able to consider this if you have opted to transfer to the University, and that your application to transfer has been successful.

**17. We haven't had an updated timetable of study from CTL regarding our dissertations – the only information we have is from July 2011 and is out of date.**

This needs to be discussed with the Principal of CTL in the first instance.

**18. I am not sure who the awarding body will be for my degree?**

University of Wales.

**19. Can I get contact details of a University representative? Who can I call / meet?**

Please continue to direct all enquiries to [London@tsd.ac.uk](mailto:London@tsd.ac.uk) in the first instance. The University will contact you again with further information on how the University will be best able to support you based on your own individual circumstances. The most important thing to do now is to ensure that we have the best contact details for you, including UK address and your Passport details. You should also tell us as much about your concerns as you can so that we can work out the best way of supporting you.

**20. What happens if I am not enrolled on a UWTSD programme?**

The University cannot assist you unless you are registered on a UWTSD programme. You will need to contact the Principal of CTL in relation to other programmes, such as the Edexcel programme, and seek an explanation.

**Visa Questions**

**21. How will leaving CTL affect my Visa status and CAS number?**

We appreciate that some students may be facing issues in relation to immigration rules and Visas. We are urgently liaising with the UKBA in order to try to find a way forward for students and will again provide further information when it is available.

**22. I have to fly home for Christmas – am I risking my re-entry to the UK because of the situation we are now facing?**

This would only be a problem if CTL cancels your CAS number. The University has no reason to believe that CTL would take such action.

**23. Do I have to apply for a new Visa if I change institution?**

Yes, although the University is now liaising with the UKBA to determine if this would be necessary given the current circumstances. Early indications suggest that a new Visa will be required. Applications for new Visas should be submitted when students are resident in the UK.

**24. Would you ask us for the IELTS test?**

We would have to demonstrate that you are sufficiently proficient in the English language if we approve a transfer application from you and have to issue you with a University CAS number, so yes. However, this evidence can be in the form of a valid IELTS or other UKBA-approved English language certificate.

**25. I have my CAS from TSD, but I'm not registered as a student. Can you explain?**

No. The University has not issued any CAS numbers to CTL students. We believe that the CTL licence number is F1G4EU9P1. If this appears on your acceptance letter, your CAS has been sponsored by CTL.

**Fee Questions**

**26. Will I have to pay fees to UWTSD once I am studying at the University and not at CTL?**

If you apply and you are accepted as a full UWTSD University student your financial agreement will be between you and UWTSD and any fees due will need to be paid directly to the University. Further details regarding fees will be made available in the New Year.

**27. Why do we have to pay another set of fees? I have already paid fees to the College and cannot afford to pay them again.**

If students are able to provide evidence of the fees paid to CTL for periods subsequent to January 2012, the University will consider whether or not to impose fees for the period covered by the fees paid to CTL. This will be reviewed on an individual basis.

**28. We have to pay CTL fees this December - what should I do? If I don't pay, they will exclude me and my stay in the country will become illegal.**

The University cannot advise you on this matter. The University is willing to consider applications from students who wish to transfer to the University's London Learning Centre from February 2012 after the January examinations. The fees charged by CTL are between CTL and those paying the fees and it is a matter for students to decide what they should and should not pay to CTL up to the termination of the partnership by CTL on 16 November 2011 and up to the date of a successful transfer to the University, if you choose this option.

**29. CTL have raised our re-sit fees by 200% and no one is giving us answers to our questions. AND I have to pay £600 for two re-sits – I still haven't paid any money because I'm not sure where it will go. I might be excluded from the College for this and I don't know if it will be fairly marked.**

The University has no information with regard to this claim and cannot comment on the specific circumstances that have been noted here. Please see earlier response confirming that fees paid for periods up to February 2012 are a matter between CTL and each student.

**University of Wales Trinity Saint David**